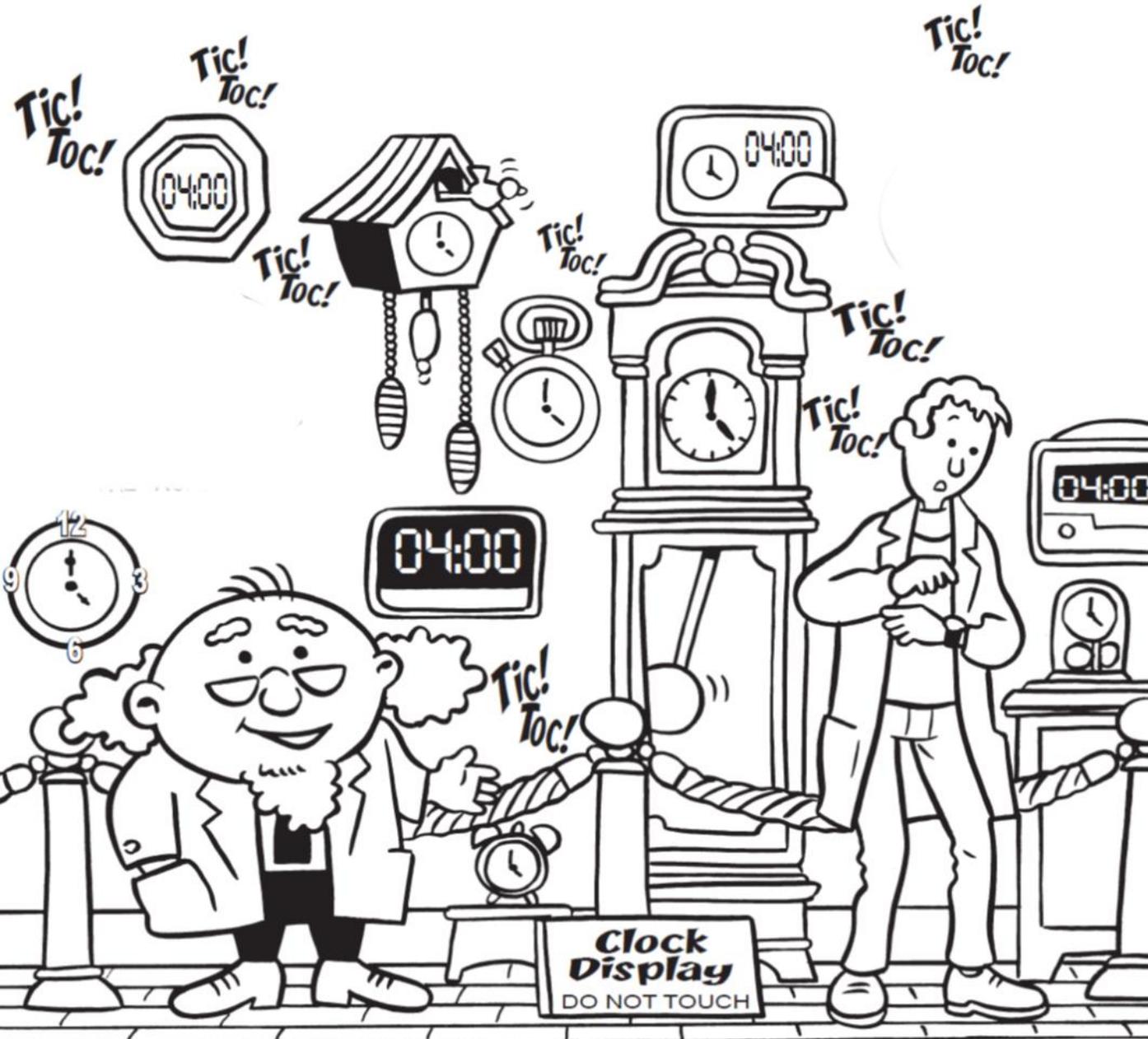


# Perspectives

Two types of clocks make a good illustration of the way people tend to see things versus the way God sees things. The digital clock tells the hour, minute, and sometimes the second or even fraction of a second in easy-to-read digital format. That's like the way people often see things in terms of the present only. A clock with hands—what is now commonly called the analog clock—shows the full time cycle, similar to how God sees the whole scope of eternity.



The digital clock is like seeing one tree, whereas the analog clock is like seeing the whole forest. On the digital clock you can't see the forest for the tree; past and future are obscured by the present. But on the analog clock you can see that tree in relation to all the others; you can see at a glance how long it's been since any moment in the past, as well as how long it will be till you're at any moment in the future.

The Bible can be compared to an analog clock. Just as the analog clock gives you a better picture of where your day stands by putting the moment in perspective with time spent and time remaining, the Bible gives you a better perspective on your life by putting it in perspective with the big picture—Creation to eternity.

It takes more time and effort to learn to read an analog than it does to learn to read a digital, but it's a good investment because the analog tells you so much more. It takes study to understand the Bible. That takes a certain commitment and requires more effort than simply taking each moment as it comes, but it's a much wiser approach to life.

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