

he did not have the concept that could bind them together. The first thing he knew is that everything falls down if it's not held up. That's one of the first thing a little child learns -- that if he's notheld up he will fall. Some say the fear of falling is the earliest fear that develops in a human being. Everything falls down. We all know that even though many children imagine they can fly! They get up on buildings thinking they can fly, and sometimes have lost their lives doing it. Everything falls down.

There's another fact available to ancient man if he thought and observed the data. Most didn't but a few did. That is that the earth is round. In the ^{earliest} ~~xxxxxxx~~ times thoughtful people if they stood on a mountain saw that ~~what~~ they saw was circular. If it was more or less flat they saw it was circular. Not square. The natural interpretation for that is that the earth is round. If they saw a boat going off over the water, as they looked at it they would see the lower part of it disappear while they could still see the upper part. The only reasonable explanation for that would be that the surface of the water was curved. So the roundness of the earth was well known to a certain number of intelligent thinkers from very early days. But one reason why this did not become accepted by the majority of the people was the fact that the two ideas seemed to contradict each ~~xxxx~~ other. You fall down, yet the earth is round. How can it be round? Everything on the other side would fall right off if it was round. Because everything falls down. When Columbus spoke of trying to sail around the world, people said, It's ridiculous -- you get to the edge of the earth, you'll fall off because everything falls down! To us today that sounds silly, but it actually wasn't silly.