In the USA today the professional football championship game takes place. Readers might remember at the start of playoff elimination rounds I predicted two teams, Patriots and Saints. They were soon eliminated (San Francisco's Forty Niners will face the Kansas City Chiefs in Miami Florida) I also recommended NOT making bets or wagers with that suggestion, which became excellent advice.

The sport is extremely popular in the USA, Canada and elsewhere. Today's championship game is treated almost like a national holiday. Volume and intensity of attention are what skew predictions. Even though The Committee suggested an eventual championship game pairing as a result of my question, the plan at that moment they also said at the same "time", can change.

Well, well, well...that's not a prediction, is it? Yes and no, which underscores the distance we've yet to travel along roads of understanding. I speak mostly for myself.

We resist "incorrect" predictions but love accurate ones. We look back at the timeline sequence of events which lead to the spot upon which we stand. Turning back to the future…("back to the future") we know how in a month or two, we'll be able to stop, reverse gaze to examine the most recent one or two month segment of the line behind us which leads us to very early March or April, just as we can also look at the portion of the line behind that, leading here & now to early February.

Because we can see a line behind us, it's easy —but incorrect— to envision "the" line going forward, extending into the future from our current spot. Well, well, well…we know that's not true. We have capability & capacity to act, to choose & to go different ways, many places and see diverse results.

The more people involved, the greater the pressures, forces or effects upon events towards which energy is directed. Does this mean a prediction should NOT be offered when requested? How condescending and arrogant, to think I need to hold people's mental hand. A prediction means 2 things: it forecasts the positive, so keep it up and there things shall go OR it's disliked; change course.

I received a very troubling and disturbing message from a reader after the incorrect French elections forecast. As some readers might remember, I first said Marine LePen would not become the French leader but then changed that prediction. Monsieur Macron was elected, but
the way things are going, it looks as if LePen might have been better? The reader made a huge bet which still hurts to know, and now had to face a spouse on top of that. I put myself in both positions and cringed…..

Many lines straight forward, diagonally forward, lateral or sideways —the half plane— are possible BUT the one, single line behind is also ONLY one of many we do not see. The other half plane we believe is only a line, just a single path. It’s a half plane of nearly infinite possibilities both ahead AND behind.

Human inability to see the other paths we might have, could have & would have taken and MAY STILL PURSUE (in another life) is the condition of our presence and experience on Earth.

Whether seeing this half plane "behind us" or considering the one in front, both naturally lead to wondering what we know yet remains unseen. From here sprouts a weed called the "higher" self, as if we're lower than ourselves in some way. This self-deprecating, self diminishing attitude, offered up with the best of misguided intentions, boatloads of goodwill, good faith and high hopes always, distracts us from reality.

**Go 49ers!!!**

A California gold rush in year 1849 brought an influx of visitors and soon, intense population growth to San Francisco. The nickname for such folks was a Forty Niner, a person who migrated to California that year, which became a state in 1850 partly because of newcomers. They swelled the city to many times its previous size, making it the largest urban center along the USA's Pacific Coast, a status it retained for decades, until its destruction in 1906 from a massively powerful earthquake.