

# THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

## Poetic Justice...or...The Mixmaster and Einstein's Theory of Relativity

There was a time when I wouldn't have thought that a boring conversation, a Mixmaster and Einstein's Theory of Relativity had anything in common with scripture, let alone with each other...but, now? Well, maybe I'd better start at the beginning.

- I was talking to someone on the telephone and noticed an interesting phenomena: (a) when I allowed myself to inwardly "groan" at this invasion of my time, the "time" dragged on forever; BUT, (b) when I paid close attention to what was being said (and consequently, moved away from the center of my own concerns), the time sped by very quickly.
- I was mixing a cake with a portable mixer and noticed that: (a) when I held the mixer in the center of the bowl, the bowl stood still; BUT, (b) when I moved it away from the center, the bowl moved faster and faster.

And I was reminded that,

- Einstein showed: lots of things (which, thank the Good Lord, I won't discuss at the present); BUT (b) when a rocket ship moved away from (the center of) the earth, with a velocity approaching the speed of light, the people in the rocket ship would find (on their return to earth) that time had gone by much faster on earth than it had on the rocket ship.

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In each of the above examples, a “moving away from center” produced a change in one’s perception of things (“time,” among others...because even the velocity of the bowl is related to time: velocity is measure in miles-per-hour; therefore, velocity is the distance covered in a certain amount of time.)

Jesus said,

*“If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”* [Matt. 16:24]

In other words,

- anyone who moves in the direction of Jesus must move closer to God, and
- anyone who moves closer to God must begin to see things from God’s point of view, and
- God perceives time as “...*one day is as a thousand years.*” [Psalm 90:4, II Peter 3:8]

Therefore, “moving away from center” (in the direction of Jesus) produces a change in one’s perception of things (“time,” among other things). And, voila, the mixer...Einstein...the “bore”...and even the scripture interrelate. But why? Well, maybe we’d better go back to the beginning, again, because

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*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* [Gen 1:1]

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