

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

Time Out

I was cooking dinner one evening and, as usual, was running a bit late, when my son entered the kitchen in search of something to eat.

“When’s dinner gonna be ready, Mom? I’m hungry!” he commented as he rifled through the refrigerator. And rather than admit that it was going to be later than he thought, I decided to engage his mind and divert his stomach...

“How would you picture a system without ‘time’?” I asked abruptly, as I stirred the stew.

“Huh!” he answered...and, then, after a moment’s thought, replied “You could take forever cooking dinner and I still would be hungry!” (So much for diversion.)

“Well,” I continued “What would it be like if you went from a ‘time-zone’ into one without time?” And I threw a couple of carrots into the pot.

“Hmm...(his mind began to engage)...if you were asleep when you entered it, you’d sleep forever, unless...(not fully ‘into’ it)...the ship you were in brought you back to the time-zone; because,” he added “if you were asleep, you wouldn’t be able to bring yourself back.”

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

And in went the potatoes, unnoticed.

“And if you were awake when you entered, you would ‘see’ forever,” he continued, “but if you were asleep or had your eyes closed, it’d be dark forever.”

The dinner was now quite forgotten by the both of us.

“But, could you travel through ‘no-time’?” I asked. “Because traveling takes time...and implies distance,” I added. “Therefore, when you entered this No-Time Zone, wouldn’t you just...‘be’?” And I was reminded of God’s answer to Moses’ question about His name...

“I AM WHO I AM.’ And He said, ‘Say this to the people of Israel. I AM has sent me to you.’” [Ex: 3:14]

and Jesus’ reply to the question of His identity:

“Truly, truly I say to you before Abraham was, I AM.” [John 8:58]

So, maybe it’s not so important what you are doing at any given instant of time, but who you *are*. You’d still be unique...but a kind of oneness would exist, because in a No-Time Zone, it’d take no time at all to be anywhere...and everywhere!...(and anywhere implies in the Time-Zone, as well); for,

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

“the Father and I are one.” [John 10:30]

said Jesus...no distance between them, right here on earth.

But, now it was “time” for our discussion to end; and much to the surprise of both of us, the dinner, which could have taken forever to prepare had somehow gotten done in...(Do I dare say it?)...no time at all.

(June 3, 1980)