

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

The Unity of God

I sat on a rock and could see a wide river;
It changed as it moved with the course and its flow.
But with the mind's eye say an unchanging system,
For water is basically still H₂O.

Change that exists in an unchanging system,
A river that flows from the hill to the sea
And time that's a part of a timeless equation,
Where "one" is the constant of God's unity.

A tree in its garden each year grows and grows;
And, as it does, adds one more ring to its core.
The leaves and its fruit form a changing equation;
Yet still what we see is a "fig sycamore."

Change that exists in an unchanging system,
A tree, broadly speaking, that's simple a tree,
And time that's a part of a timeless equation,
Where "one" is the constant of God's unity.

In math, certain systems are made up of letters.

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

Equations have letters that numbers they name.

If an "a" plus a "b" is equal a constant,

Then the letters that change still add up to the same.

Change that exists in an unchanging system,

Numbers and letters in higher degree,

And time that's a part of a timeless equation,

Where "one" is the constant of God's unity.

Looking behind me, I've changed through the years,

But sometimes the change is a hard one to see;

For though I've grown older, it's happened so slowly,

That each time I look, what I see is just me.

Change that exists in an unchanging system,

Creations of God in His image to be,

And time that's a part of a timeless equation,

Where "one" is the constant of God's unity.

This poem could go on forever, it seems;

Each verse might be different to read,

But the over all pattern that gives it its meaning

Is an unchanging system, indeed.

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

Change that exists in an unchanging system,
Verse after verse with a sameness to see,
And time that's a part of a timeless equation,
Where "one" is the constant of God's unity.

(August 13, 1980)