

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

In the Care Of

When babies are very young, they seem to take constant watching (especially “first-borns”); but, in fact, parents actually come and go from their children’s presence very often in those first few months of life. In spite of this, at some point in time, each child comes to “know” his parent, and afterwards, needs the assurance of that parent’s presence. Unfortunately, constant eye contact is not always possible.

Perhaps that’s why I learned to “talk” to my children, even when I was in a different room. The familiarity of my voice seemed to help them overcome the fear of my being out of sight. And, after all, I did come back into their sight...and they learned to trust in that.

Even so, there came a time when I had to leave their presence for an even longer period of time. I got a baby sitter—someone I trusted—gave that person instructions on the care of my children, my telephone number in case of an emergency, and left my children in that person’s care until I returned.

How familiar it all seems...for God was very much a part of caring for his “first-born”, and even when He stepped “into another room” and was invisible to this child, He still spoke to him...through the prophets.

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And when He returned, in the form of Jesus, we learned to trust in Him.

And even though He had to leave, again...for a longer period of time...he didn't lie to us, but reassured us as he turned to go out the door:

"A little while you will see me no more; again a little while, you will see me." [John 16:16]

"I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you." [John 14:18]

And He left us in the care of someone to be trusted...for who can be trusted more than

"the Spirit of truth" [John 14:17]

until He comes again to sweep us up into His arms.

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