

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

A Law Is a Law Is a Law

Somewhere back in the pre-dawn of my own ancient history, I remember learning a law that stated

Every action has an equal and opposite reaction.

Now, I must not have fully understood the intricacies of this statement, because for some reason, I decided that it didn't apply if I go mad enough to give someone a punch. After all, if I pushed someone and they shoved back, with an equal and opposite force, why was I always on the ground looking up? (I had much to learn about "equals" and "opposites"...and, I suppose, doing unto others as I would have them do unto me.)

But, eventually, when I grew older, I happened to take a physics course and learned, in the process, that the law of "actions and reactions" really did apply to my case of "push and shove." My instructor proved it to me in the only way that my doubting Thomas mind could accept (that is, mathematically), and in spite of all my earthly experience to the contrary, I was finally convinced of the truth...though it still is hard to visualize.

I suppose there are some things that we have to accept on faith for awhile.

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But, the whole process of being here on earth and learning physical laws reminds me of some giant classroom that God has created...where we are gradually led to an understanding of the “higher” laws through a manipulation of our physical environment (much like a child who is led to higher mathematics, first through the manipulation of his toy blocks); for,

“whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospels will save it.” [Mark 8:35]

reminds me a lot of the law of “actions and reactions.” It’s just as hard, for me, to visualize...at least, from an earthly standpoint; but an expert Teacher said it was so and proved it to His doubting Thomas, as well.

I guess I shouldn’t be surprised, though; He was, after all, giving an advanced course on “The Law.”

(March 25, 1981)