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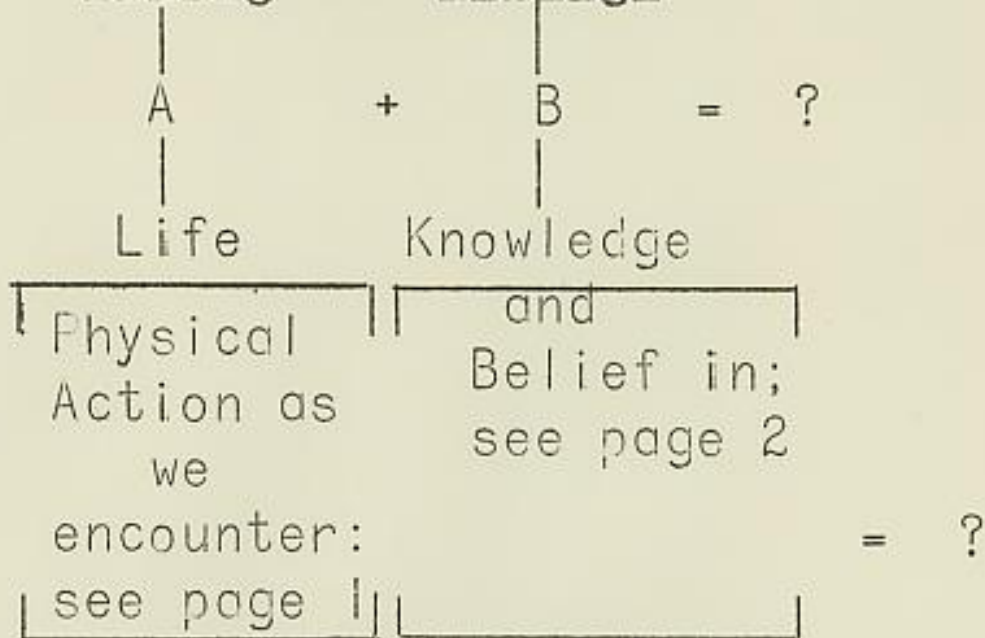
LIVING  
THE  
MESSAGE

Dorothy Elder

April 5, 1970

*References and other material quoted  
Direct quotes and all other material from the  
Orantia Book (Copyright © 1955 Orantia Foundation)*

## Living The Message



$$\boxed{\text{ACTION} + \text{BELIEF}} = ?$$

see page 2

Text: Urantia Book  
Page 1114:

### Faith and Belief

Belief has attained the level of faith when it motivates life and shapes the mode of living. The acceptance of a teaching as true is not faith; that is mere belief. Neither is certainty nor conviction faith. A state of mind attains to faith levels only when it actually dominates the mode of living. Faith is a living attribute of genuine personal religious experience. One believes truth, admires beauty, and reverences goodness, but does not worship them; such an attitude of saving faith is centered on God alone, who is all of these personified and infinitely more.

Belief is always limiting and binding; faith is expanding and releasing. Belief fixates, faith liberates. But living religious faith is more than the association of noble beliefs; it is more than an exalted system of philosophy; it is a living experience concerned with spiritual meanings, divine ideals, and supreme values; it is God-knowing and man-serving. Beliefs may become group possessions, but faith must be personal. Theologic belief can be suggested to a group, but faith can rise up only in the heart of the individual religionist.

Faith has falsified its trust when it presumes to deny realities and to confer upon its devotees assumed knowledge. Faith is a traitor when it fosters betrayal of intellectual integrity and belittles loyalty to supreme values and divine ideals. Faith never shuns the problem-solving duty of mortal living. Living faith does not foster bigotry, persecution, or intolerance.

Faith does not shackle the creative imagination, neither does it maintain an unreasoning prejudice toward the discoveries of scientific investigation. Faith vitalizes religion and constrains the religionist heroically to live the golden rule. The zeal of faith is according to knowledge, and its strivings are the preludes to sublime peace. (page 1114)

Action + Belief = Faith

Living the Message = Faith

## A

What we Know we are going to encounter while living this life on Urantia:

1. Desires, inherited pulls of the flesh -- Human physical desires
2. Materialism -- the age we live in
3. Fear -- inherited trait of evolutionary man
4. Needs of survival -- daily needs of the body -- food, shelter, clothing
5. Duties, responsibilities of a family  
-- as a parent  
-- as a youth
6. Intellectual pulls -- curiosity, knowledge, desire to achieve goals
7. Temptation: not doing the father's will
8. Disappointment -- failure
9. Sadness -- (1) the results of the accidents of time,  
(2) the sorrows of losing loved ones, etc.

10. Boredom
11. Handling the "good life;" excess abundance of wealth;  
easy living
12. Selfishness
13. Being wrongfully judged; resulting in harboring hate, pre-  
judice, revenge
14. Being afraid to MATURE
15. Facing the problem solving of the day to day existence;  
decision making: always, a choice
16. Loving, the giving of one's self in service to man and God
17. Human relationships: the personal and social ministry to  
others: -- COMMUNICATION --
18. Inspiration -- this, also we will encounter: human and  
heavenly

## B

The Message: Knowledge of, Belief in:

- \* The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man
- \* Recognition of Truth
- \* The Willingness to choose the will of the Father: In  
all matters, to say: "Thy Will Be Done"
- \* The life of Jesus is the message. (Read the Urantia Book  
for complete reference to "The message")

Action + Belief = ?

Urantia Book:

Page 1113: 7 to  
Page 1115: end of 8

8: Faith and Belief

The text of this talk, Living the Message, is based on, and wholly contained in, the four paragraphs of section 8 on pages 114 and 115. (See pages 1 and 2 of this paper.)

Conclusion:  
 Living the Message  
 or  
 Action plus Belief = FAITH  
 or  
 The sum total of  
 Personal Experience

Living the message is attained when you step beyond your belief.

You don't live the message until you are able to take that big step beyond your Belief and your knowledge of the message and act it out. When you act it out your belief becomes a personal experience and that is FAITH.

Living the Message is Practicing your Faith, and  
 "Practice makes Perfect"

"Living the message" is, simply, faith.

The more you practice it, the more you experience faith. And experiencing faith is the sum total of the true reality of living. -- And it requires "courage and daring."

#### REFERENCES

##### I. Living: an over-all guide to living

A collection of references from the Urantia Book:

1. Jesus' 8th and 10th decision made after his Baptism; page 1520 - 1523
2. Jesus: "I look beyond the act . . ."; page 1576: Jesus: ". . . the father in heaven judges by intent." Lesson on judgment and mercy.
3. The need for diversion and relaxation in our daily lives; page 1610
4. Religion is a personal experience; page 1629
5. The rule of living: the six levels of meanings Jesus taught Apostles about his admonition to "do to others that which you desire others to do to you"; 4: page 1650 4 to page 1651 3.
6. Jesus' teaching regarding the purpose of Affliction; page 1661:5 - 1662 2

7. The charm of Jesus' personality; page 1672
8. Anger: comments on the well-balanced character; page 1673:4:2
9. Lesson regarding Contentment; page 1674:5
10. Jesus: "This world is only a bridge; --" page 1735:2:1
11. Temptation: Jesus' Teaching at Tyre; page 1737:5 to page 1741
12. Forgiveness; page 1762:1 -- 1764
13. Jesus' instruction for teachers and believers; page 1765:3  
-- The Positive nature of the religion of Jesus
14. Rodon of Alexandria  
page 1772: Problem solving and worshipful meditation  
page 1775: The Art of Living  
page 1778: Lures of Maturity  
The Balance of Maturity  
page 1780: The meaning of Failure
15. "Almost every human being has some one thing which is held on to as a pet evil, etc." page 1802: 3
16. Wealth; page 1803:3
17. Trust and Spiritual awareness; page 1819
18. The answer to prayer; page 1848
19. The Great Commandment; page 1901
20. "Learn to be faithful even in prosperity."  
"Tempt not the angels of your supervision." page 1929
21. ". . . love one another even as I have loved you . . ." page 1944
22. Comments on the Golden Rule; page 1949
23. "Let not your hearts be troubled;" page 1953
24. Guidance given to the Apostles by Jesus during one of his morontia appearances. (Advice we can all heed!) page 2047
25. "Religion as a personal experience"  
Morality and Religion  
"The father is living love."  
pages 2092 and 2093

II. The "Day by Day" experience of Living: How to make it easier!

(References from the Urantia Book)

1. "Practice Makes Perfect"
  - a. Give daily prayers of worship and thanks-giving (page
  - b. Slow the pace: "Think Twice!" Constantly be in training: train the reflexes and reactions (mental and physical) to CONFORM to the correct choice, the spiritual right action. (page
  - c. View the universe as a "friendly universe" -- not as from the outside, but as a participant in universe affairs -- as a cosmic citizen (page
2. Accept in Good Humor the present duties and responsibilities page
3. Live the "Golden Rule" in your relationships with all people: "The Brotherhood of All Men"
4. Keep a happy face: page 1455: Jesus' "kingly countenance"
5. Use the correct method in teaching if the opportunity comes up: "Never did He attack their errors." -- page 1456
6. Examine our Motivation in life, page 1423: last
7. Techniques of Teaching: page 1428
8. " -- You can not escape Duty" Jonah and the Whale: page 1436
9. "Wait Upon Time" -- tomorrow is in the hands of God - page Patience
- \*10. "Humor is the Divine antidote for Exaltation of Ego: page 549: 2
11. Reject Fear: taught in the 23rd Psalm; also
12. Read page 553: last lines: "If your own mind does not serve you well, you can exchange it for the mind of Jesus of Nazareth, who always serves you well."
13. Service: The Will to Serve  
 page 555: very important  
 page 555:7 2-3-4 -- ". . . Will you rise indomitably to try anew??  
 This is a very important message for all of us: Read over and over!!

14. A key for all of us:  
Morontia Mota: page 556  
These 28 illustrations of human philosophy which parallel  
Morontia Mota are the best and invaluable guide to  
living "Day by Day"
15. Finally:  
Papers 126, 127 and 128:  
These will serve us all as a living guide. Here we see how  
Jesus lived and reacted to life during the great human period  
of testing he was to undergo.