

A Review of the Urantia Book

by Marcus Bach PhD

Do people believe it? -- Many who read the UB find that it resonates with their own sense of truth, and clarifies some truths that they had previously only partially grasped. Many have attempted to put some of these truths to work in their lives, and the results have strengthened their belief in what they have read.

There will need to be more research done before the book is considered, as you say "an authentic history of our planet Earth." Nonetheless, I found it to be a most persuasive and rational attempt at an explanation of creation both in scientific and mythological terms. The Old and New Testaments of the Bible have never professed to be used as a scientific explanation of the nature of life or life as nature.

If it is a hoax, it is incredible. I learned at the meeting I attended in 1963 that the history of the URANTIA® Foundation can be traced to a meeting held in 1933 by a group of eminent businessmen who were interested in and concerned about religion and life. They formed the URANTIA® Foundation whose purpose it would be to explore religion's role in the evolution of life and the interrelation between spiritual endeavors and scientific pursuits.

I cannot imagine that anyone, an individual any group, would spend seven years in research and writing to create a hoax nor would anyone with the wisdom and insight of the authors stoop to a deliberate fabrication. Only time will tell as to whether The URANTIA Book is a "true manifest message of God." In my own recall of The Urantia Book, I felt a special personal kinship with whomever wrote the closing chapters which emphasize the life and time of Jesus Christ. It was like a journey with Him as He went about His duties, moved among the people, and lived out the dramatic destiny of His life, death, and resurrection.

About the author:

Dr. Marcus Bach received his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and served as associate director and professor in the School of Religion at the University of Iowa. He has contributed to the *Encyclopedia Americana*, *Theatre Arts*, *the Reader's Digest*, and many other periodicals. His twenty-six books include *Major Religions of the World*, *Had you Been Born in Another Faith*, *The Unity Way*, *The World of Serendipity*, and *The Power of Total Living*. His latest title is *Who Stole My Utopia*. Dr. Bach is founder and director of The Fellowship for Spiritual Understanding. He and his wife live in Palos Verdes Estates, California.