

Date: June 8, 1990

To: All Urantia Book Study Groups

From: The Pueblo Urantia Book Study Group

Subject: **Petition for Divine Administration**

Dear Fellow Readers:

The split between the Urantia Foundation and the Urantia Brotherhood and the resulting series of letters with numerous claims and counterclaims has prompted the members of the Pueblo Urantia Book Study Group of Colorado to look for a synthesis, using the Urantia Book as a guide. Individuals will be judged by the "Ancients of Days". It is our system that is failing. We feel this "split" between the Foundation and the Brotherhood begs for a new system, an improved system. A bad system has either something missing or out-of-place. What is missing is an organization based on divine principles. What is out-of-place is the balance of power. While the present system was relevant in the past it appears that changes are needed.

The need for a "new system" is fueled by two rapidly approaching events:

1. In approximately 40 years the copyright of the Urantia Book will automatically terminate allowing the text to become "common knowledge".
2. Sales of the Urantia Book will, at approximately the same time, likely reach 1,000,000 copies, marking the time of much publicity accorded all books at that milestone.

The purpose of this petition is to appeal to the emerging leaders of the Urantia movement. The attached is a proposal for a new form of government based on the principles expressed throughout the Urantia Book.

If you, as individuals or as Study Groups, agree or disagree with this concept, we would like to hear from you before or at the International Conference at Snowmass. Please share this letter and ideas. If sufficient interest is expressed, then steps will be taken to voice our concerns and suggestions to the existing leadership. We believe in divine principles, and know that the future leaders of the movement will ultimately allow these principles to prevail.

Thank you for your time and responses.

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A PETITION FOR DIVINE ADMINISTRATION

PHILOSOPHY

The following ideals were gathered to support the creation of a future administration to guide the Urantia movement based on divine principles.

What is "divinity"?

Divinity is the characteristic qualities of the persons of Deity; qualities that are unifying and co-ordinating. Divinity can be expressed imperfectly in time and space, and is comprehended by us on the impersonal levels of power, justice, and sovereignty (p. 3).

By the time we are mustered into the Corps of the Finality, we are thoroughly trained to the limits of our capacity in divine principles of universe administration. But why? Why, asks the writer of Paper #31, are the Gods so concerned with training us in the ways of universe management?

One speculation concludes that the ascension career is a grand rehearsal; a rehearsal for a drama to take place on the stage of outer space levels. Regardless of the reason, the fact remains we are being thus trained. Why not begin NOW?

Because we have private property (copyright of the Urantia Book), some type of administration/government is necessary (p. 783). If this government is to follow the divine model, it must grow, develop, and evolve. A static administration/government indicates decay. Only those organizations that move forward persist (p. 804). The evolution of government is accomplished in 4 ways: (1) by constantly improving channels of administration; (2) by adjusting to current needs; (3) by improving the distribution of power; and (4) through the choosing of wise leaders (p. 799).

The success of implementing a divine administration may be conditioned upon the election of leaders who are technically trained, intellectually competent, socially loyal, and morally fit (p. 802); leaders who have experienced that "co-operation is better than competition" (p. 805). Why not develop a "school of statesmanship"? In the years to come, perhaps all our leaders of high office will be graduates from this school.

We must confer power on these leaders. But, as we are told on page 797, the concentration of power is the biggest struggle of evolutionary governments. However, most of this authority is depersonalized through the use of cabinets, advisors, or commissions (there are 61 trillion advisors and 18 trillion commissions on Uversa, p. 278, 279). This could open the way for each individual reader, who so chooses, to be a part of this divine administration.

The problem is that we have used only man-made forms of government, with little or no revelatory input. Loyalties are hard to change because of the inertia-resistance built at each scaffolding stage (p. 1488). To overcome this, an understanding of sovereignty is needed. True sovereignty exists on 2 levels only; the part and the whole. The part can be seen as the study groups, and the whole as all the believers of this revelation. And, unless we subject ourselves to a supersovereign constitution, an individual or group will always attempt to gain power and authority (p. 1487).

Let us create a new system of government, adopt a singular constitution, and develop divinely guided administrative procedures. Laws need to be designed for the greatest possible co-ordination of the whole without infringing on the moral will of the individual.

MODEL

An "organic model" for improving the governing system of the Urantia movement is based on examples set forth in the Urantia Book. It is encouraged in the Book (Pages 517, 797, 798, 799) as the most preferred form of self government throughout the universes (especially among nonperfect beings). The principle of an "organic model" is that the "parts" function for the benefit of the "whole", and continues to change, grow, and evolve. The Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches are the primary parts of the "model".

1. Executive Branch: To oversee and co-ordinate the activities of the movement. (p. 178, 198, 209, 212, 390, 427, 434, 511, 809)
 - a. President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, together with a "cabinet" composed of chairmen of various "committees".
 - b. Administrative Assistants: Aids in execution of details of executive work (p. 434).
 - c. Advised by supercabinet composed of all ex-chief executives (p. 809).
2. Legislative Branch: To formulate and process rules and regulations, originate committees, speak and act in behalf of the membership at large, etc. (p. 179, 211, 213, 370, 373, 391, 433, 434, 487, 488, 513)
 - a. Senators: One elected from each state or region/district internationally by active members of Study Groups. Possibly meet once per year.

- b. Representatives: Elected from each state or region/district internationally by active members of Study Groups, number to be based on the number of Study Groups. Possibly meet once as a body every three years at the Triennial convention.
 - c. A possible Third House would include a variety of advisory and research assemblies (p. 373).
3. Judicial Branch: To oversee all legal matters in the movement, including protection of the copyright; to monitor the progress of representative government. (p. 180, 372, 411, 414, 432, 434, 810)
- a. Members to be chosen by the Executive Branch and approved by the Legislative Branch.
 - b. Traveling Courts: Conciliators to mediate conflicts.
 - c. Justice Guides: To help with adjudications.
4. Council of Elders: To advise all branches of government

Terms of office would be formulated so that individuals would not be leaving office at the same time. It would be worthy of consideration to elect/appoint major office holders in pairs, male and female.

There are a number of references in the Urantia Book regarding "suffrage" (p. 515, 818 for example). Suffrage is universal but vote is differential (except for executive) and is based on three factors: 1. Wisdom; 2. Insight; and 3. Socialization. It may be that this voting method should be considered in the new system.

This is just a beginning, a suggestion to improve the operation of the movement, and a means of involving all readers and believers. It will take a considerable amount of effort. It will require many individuals to submit to a "supersovereignty".

Let us go forward, and ever be reminded of our double responsibility of duty to God and duty to man - while accepting a third obligation, the obligation of service to the brotherhood of God-knowing believers (p. 1930).

NOTE: All page notations are from the Urantia Book.