

"DISPELLING THE FEAR OF THE DEVIL:
Error, Sin, and Iniquity
in
Christianity and The URANTIA Book"
by
David Lawrence Robbins

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	Page 1
THE LUCIFER REBELLION	Page 3
THE DEVIL: ERROR, SIN, AND INIQUITY EVOLUTIONAL DOCTRINAL CORRELATION	Page 13
THE DEVIL: ERROR, SIN, AND INIQUITY EPOCHAL REVELATIONAL CORRELATION	Page 33
IN PERSPECTIVE	Page 62
BIBLIOGRPAHY	Page 64

INTRODUCTION

Urantia.

A tiny mote of driftwood afloat in the sea of infinity.

Urantia.

A life modification sphere located in the solar system of Monmatia, comparatively isolated on the outer edge of inhabited creation, far removed from the center of the superuniverse. A life modification world. Destined to deviate from the norm from the very start.

Urantia. Number 606 of the 619 inhabited worlds comprising the system of Satania, a system intended to include one thousand inhabited worlds eventually as a standard, basic unit of the supergovernment of our superuniverse. Satania is number 24 in the constellation of Norlatiadek, and Norlatiadek is number 70 in the local universe of Nebadon, a local universe embracing 100 constellations. And onward and inward we go. Nebadon, number 84 in the minor sector of Ensa, out of 100 local universes. Ensa, the third of 100 minor sectors comprising the major sector of Splandon, and Splandon itself the fifth of ten major sectors forming the superuniverse of Orvonton. There are six other superuniverses besides Orvonton. And there is Havona and Paradise. So immense, so awe-inspiring, and we haven't even mentioned the tremendous realms of outer space, in the process of formation beyond the borders of the grand universe.

Urantia.

Truly among the least of all creation until a being named Lucifer, a being more commonly referred to on Urantia as "the devil", set in motion a chain of events destined to culminate in the bestowal on this sphere of the local universe Creator Son, Michael.

Lucifer, the devil, initiated a devastating rebellion in the system of Satania, precipitating widespread confusion, profound

misery, and incipient deviation. To this day, many mortals on Urantia fear this being Lucifer. They literally dread his influence in their earthly lives.

But is there an influence?

That's the question.

And the answer is a fascinating tale involving cosmic rebels and "demons" and crafty intrigues, of minds warped and wonderfully loyal, of millions in turmoil and the evolutionary order of planets deranged, of Planetary Princes and a Bright and Morning Star, of seraphim and midwayers and mortals, and, above all, of one particular mortal, a humble carpenter of Urantia who single-handedly revealed the sophistries of the devil for what they truly were, who vanquished Lucifer and his minions and thereby answered our question once and for all time.

Should Urantians fear the devil?

Come.

Let us find the answer together.

THE LUCIFER REBELLION

Before we can elaborate on dispelling the fear of the devil, we must first understand the facts relative to the origination of the devil concept on Urantia and their subsequent distortion by Urantians; their incorporation into The Holy Bible and their relationship within the context of the concepts and beliefs comprising Christianity in past ages and today.

We begin, then, with the Lucifer rebellion.

"Lucifer was a brilliant primary Lanonandek Son of Nebadon. He had experienced service in many systems, had been a high counselor of his group, and was distinguished for wisdom, sagacity, and efficiency. Lucifer was number 37 of his order, and when commissioned by the Melchizedeks, he was designated as one of the one hundred most able and brilliant personalities in more than seven hundred thousand of his kind." The URANTIA Book, page 601.

"Lucifer was a magnificent being, a brilliant personality; he stood next to the Most High Fathers of the constellations in the direct line of universe authority." The URANTIA Book, page 601.

Lucifer was System Sovereign of the system of Satania. At the time of the outbreak of rebellion Satania included 607 inhabited worlds.

"The System Soverigns are true to their names; they are well-nigh sovereign in the local affairs of the inhabited worlds. They are almost paternal in their direction of the Planetary Princes, the Material Sons, and the ministering spirits. The personal grasp of the sovereign is all but complete. These rulers are not supervised by Trinity observers from the central universe. They are the executive division of the local universe, and as custodians

"of the enforcement of legislative mandates and as executives for the application of judicial verdicts, they present the one place in all universe administration where personal disloyalty to the will of the Michael Son could most easily and readily intrench itself and seek to assert itself." The URANTIA Book, page 393.

Over 700 of the Lanonandek Sons have rebelled in the local universe of Nebadon, but only three were System Sovereigns. Lucifer was the third System Sovereign to rebel and, to date, the last.

About two hundred thousand years ago Lucifer instigated the rebellion bearing his name with the declaration of the Lucifer Declaration of Liberty. The essentials of this vile assertion were:

"1. The reality of the Universal Father. Lucifer charged that the Universal Father did not really exist, that physical gravity and space-energy were inherent in the universe, and that the Father was a myth invented by the Paradise Sons to enable them to maintain the rule of the universes in the Father's name. He denied that personality was a gift of the Universal Father. He even intimated that the finaliters were in collusion with the Paradise Sons to foist fraud upon all creation since they never brought back a very clear-cut idea of the Father's actual personality as it is discernible on Paradise." The URANTIA Book, page 603.

"2. The universe government of the Creator Son--Michael. Lucifer contended that the local systems should be autonomous. He protested against the right of Michael, the Creator Son, to assume sovereignty of Nebadon in the name of a hypothetical Paradise Father and require all personalities to acknowledge

"allegiance to this unseen Father." The URANTIA Book, page 603.

"Most bitterly did he attack the right of the Ancients of Days--"foreign potentates"--to interfere in the affairs of the local systems and universes." The URANTIA Book, page 603.

"He contended that the executioners of the Ancients of Days could be debarred from functioning in the local systems if the native beings would only assert their independence. He maintained that immortality was inherent in the system personalities, that resurrection was natural and automatic, and that all beings would live eternally except for the arbitrary and unjust acts of the executioners of the Ancients of Days." The URANTIA Book, page 603 & 604.

"3. The attack upon the universal plan of ascendant mortal training. Lucifer maintained that far too much time and energy were expended upon the scheme of so thoroughly training ascending mortals in the principles of universe administration, principles which he alleged were unethical and unsound." The URANTIA Book, page 604.

Lucifer issued his manifesto at an annual conclave of Sautania when the hosts of Jerusem, the system capital, were gathered on the sea of glass.

Gabriel, the Bright and Morning Star, the chief executive of the universe of Nebadon, the first to whom Lucifer openly displayed disloyalty, was on hand during this entire time. He explained that:

"all beings would be left free and unmolested in their choice; that the "government of the Sons for the Father desired only that loyalty and devotion which was voluntary, wholehearted, and sophistry-proof." The URANTIA Book, page 605.

"The Lucifer rebellion was system wide. Thirty-seven seceding Planetary Princes swung their world administrations largely to the side of the archrebel." The URANTIA Book, page 607.

"All secession propaganda had to be carried on by personal effort because the broadcast service and all other avenues of interplanetary communication were suspended by the action of the system circuit supervisors." The URANTIA Book, page 607.

"In many respects this rebellion was the most widespread and disastrous of all such occurrences in Nebadon. More personalities were involved in this insurrection than in both of the others." The URANTIA Book, page 608.

Numerous orders were affected by the rebellion. Lanonandek Sons, some of the Life Carriers, Morontia Companions, Mansion World Teachers, seraphim, cherubim and sanobim, Material Sons and mortals all fell victim to the deceivers sophist arguments.

What about our planet, Urantia?

"Very little was heard of Lucifer on Urantia owing to the fact that he assigned his first lieutenant, Satan, to advocate his cause on your planet. Satan was a member of the same primary group of Lanonandeks but had never functioned as a System Sovereign; he entered fully into the Lucifer insurrection. The "devil" is none other than Caligastia, the deposed Planetary Prince of Urantia and a Son of the secondary order of Lanonandeks. At the time Michael was on Urantia in the flesh, Lucifer, Satan, and Caligastia were leagued together to effect the miscarriage of his bestowal mission. But they signally failed." The URANTIA Book, page 602.

It should be noted that, while The URANTIA Book refers to Caligastia as the "devil", Manovandet Melchizedek, the author of the paragraph just quoted, is probably referring to the fact that the majority of malignant rebel machinations fostered on Urantia were perpetrated by Caligastia. A thorough perusal of The Holy Bible, in varied versions, The Apocrypha, The Book of Enoch, The Koran, and other traditional religious records, will fail to turn up even one mention of Caligastia by name.

Actually, Lucifer himself receives scant mention in Urantian religious writings. In The Bible he receives only one mention, and a number of religious scholars will dispute even this one. From Isaiah, 14:12, comes the following, translated as closely as possible into English from the earliest known version :¹

"How did you come to fall from the heavens, .

Daystar, son of Dawn?

How did you come to be thrown to the ground,

you who enslaved the nations?"

The Jerusalem Bible, page 1165.

The Latin translation of "daystar", or "morning star" as some versions have it, is Lucifer. The fathers of the Catholic church interpreted "Daystar" as being the actual name of a being, and thus Lucifer receives his only mention, and then only in the Vulgate version, a Latin version prepared by St. Jerome at the end of the 4th century, and also in The King James Bible. Many contemporary translations, however, do not incorporate Lucifer into their rendering of Isaiah 14:12. They use "Daystar" or "Morning Star".

1. In 1947 the Book of Isiah(except for two small parts) was discovered by a boy in a cave northwest of the Dead Sea. The priceless parchment had been wrapped in cloth, covered with pitch, and was placed in an earthenware jar. The experts agree that this treasure was written during the first century B.C., about 1,000 years before the oldest manuscript known manuscript of any biblical book.

It is somewhat ironic that Lucifer's only Biblical mention should be the oblique result of theological semantics on the part of the "one holy catholic and apostolic Church". (From the Catholic Profession of Faith).

Further:

"The fathers of the church however interpreted it(Is. 14:12) as a description of the defeat of the rebellious angels, the name Lucifer being given to the presumed chief of the rebellion." THE COMBINED BIBLICAL DICTIONARY AND CONCORDANCE FOR THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE, page 131.

So, we might well ask, as far as the Bible is concerned, who the devil is the devil?

Satan, although some writers and theologians ascribe the term to Lucifer as well. Still, for all practical intents and purposes, when the Bible, in any version, makes mention of the devil, it is referring specifically to Satan.

Back to the prosecution of the rebellion on Urantia.

For some 300,000 years Caligastia, the Planetary Prince of Urantia, had been ruling the administrative affairs of this planet when he was visited by Satan. Satan informed Caligastia of the "Declaration of Liberty", and Caligastia promptly agreed to betray the planet under his responsibility. Shortly thereafter, Caligastia had his assistant, Daligastia, proclaim him as the God of Urantia, and the rebellion was in full swing.

Urantia found itself suddenly isolated; the system circuits were cut off at the outbreak of rebellion.

The work of 300,000 years was ruined. Mankind regressed to its old biologic level.

2. (From previous page) The Vulgate was a Latin translation of the scriptures and it became the standard Bible used in the services of the Roman Catholic church. As a historical note, it was this (next page)

The history of the rebellion is chronicled in touching detail in The URANTIA Book. Several important events and facts are worthy of presentation at this time, however.

"It was over two years of system time from the beginning of the "war in heaven" until the installation of Lucifer's successor." The URANTIA Book, page 608.

"With the arrival of Lanaforge the archrebels were dethroned and shorn of all governing powers, though they were permitted freely to go about Jerusem, the morontia spheres, and even to the individual inhabited worlds. They continued their deceptive and seductive efforts to confuse and mislead the minds of men and angels." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

"Thus were these archrebels allowed to roam the entire system to seek further penetration for their doctrines of discontent and self assertion. But in almost two hundred thousand Urantia years they have been unable to deceive another world." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

"Lucifer and Satan freely roamed the Satania system until the completion of the bestowal mission of Michael on Urantia. They were last on your world together during the time of their combined assault upon the Son of Man." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

The projected plan of evolutionary development was thrown askew on Urantia by the Lucifer rebellion. The deviate Caligastia deranged the entire course of human history to date, and the sphere is still grappling with the repercussions of his sinful acts. While it was Caligastia who directly, or indirectly, adversely influenced the course of history on Urantia, it is Satan who has

2. (Cont.) version that was first printed in book form in the year 1450, using the movable type invented by Johann Gutenberg. Experts think that up to 50 copies of this Gutenberg Bible still exist. Only 3 perfect copies are still around (so far as we know) and one is in the U.S. Library of Congress.

received the credit, in the minds of most Urantians, for the evil and sin flourishing on this planet. It is Satan who is mentioned in "sacred" writings again and again, and most contemporary theologians equate Satan with the traditional Urantian devil. The two terms have well nigh become synonymous in Urantian thinking.

Briefly, let's look at the history of the rebellion on this sphere.

As a result of the rebellion, Urantia was put under quarantine, isolated from her sister inhabited spheres. Why would the celestial supervisors deliberately cut off an entire planet from outside contact?

"Concerning God's presence in a planet, system, constellation, or a universe, the degree of such presence in any creational unit is a measure of the degree of the evolving presence of the Supreme Being. It is determined by the en masse recognition of God and loyalty to him on the part of the vast universe organization, running down to the systems and planets themselves. Therefore it is sometimes with the hope of conserving and safeguarding these phases of God's precious presence that, when some planets (or even systems) have plunged far into spiritual darkness, they are in a certain sense quarantined, or partially isolated from intercourse with the larger units of creation. And all this, as it operates on Urantia, is a spiritually defensive reaction of the majority of the worlds to save themselves, as far as possible, from suffering the isolating consequences of the alienating acts of a headstrong, wicked, and rebellious minority." The URANTIA Book, page 46.

For nearly two hundred thousand years Caligastia, his assistant Daligastia, and the other rebel creatures on Urantia, fostered their devious schemes aimed at subverting the will of the Father and the rule of Michael of Nebadon.

Their coup d'etat was quite probably the subversion of the Adamic mission on Urantia. As any student of the revelation knows, two Material Sons, designated Adam and Eve, came to Urantia with the intent of biologically uplifting the races and establishing a center for progressive culture.

"Caligastia offered crafty and effective opposition to the Adamic mission; and notwithstanding that the Melchizedek receivers of Urantia had duly warned both Adam and Eve concerning the planetary dangers inherent in the presence of the rebellious Planetary Prince, this archrebel, by a wily stratagem, outmaneuvered the Edenic pair and entrapped them into a violation of the covenant of their trusteeship as the visible rulers of your world. The traitorous Planetary Prince did succeed in compromising your Adam and Eve, but he failed in his effort to involve them in the Lucifer rebellion." The URANTIA Book, page 583.

Before the bestowal of Michael on Urantia, Caligastia and his followers wreaked great mischief and wrought widespread confusion. One of the techniques they employed has become known on Urantia as "demonic possession", the subject of a best selling book and movie of recent years entitled "The Exorcist".

"But before the days of Christ Michael on Urantia---before the universal coming of the Thought Adjusters and the pouring out of the Master's spirit upon all flesh---these rebel midwayers were actually able to influence the minds of certain inferior mortals and somewhat to control their actions." The URANTIA Book,

page 863..

With the bestowal of Michael on Urantia, the rebel leaders, Lucifer and Satan, joined Caligastia on Urantia and strove their utmost to wreck Michael's bestowal.

"The archdeceiver has never been on Urantia since the days when he sought to turn back Michael from the purpose to complete the bestowal and to establish himself finally and securely as the unqualified ruler of Nebadon." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

He failed.

The beautiful bestowal of Michael on Urantia is superbly detailed in the fifth epochal revelation, including the recital of his dramatic victory over the rebels.

The key to dispelling the fear of the devil lies within the nature of Michael's triumph, and evolutionary man, after laboring under a form of cosmic paranoia for centuries upon centuries, is spiritually eager for the means of unlocking the doors of inhibiting dread and ready to stride forth a courageous, consecrated, and illuminated faith son or daughter of the Universal Father.

THE DEVIL: ERROR, SIN, AND INIQUITYEVOLUTIONAL DOCTRINAL CORRELATION

Before we can explore the effective means for dispelling the fear of the devil, it is necessary to examine certain concepts relative to the Lucifer rebellion, the history of Christianity, the relationship of man to his Maker, and the commonly accepted relation of mankind to the devil, concepts intrinsically entwined with contemporary man's understanding of, and opposition to, the "Seducer of souls."

First, it bears noting that Christianity is not the only religion to incorporate the devil into its doctrine.

"In the Judeo-Christian tradition Luciel, the Daystar, the angel of light, is named Lucifer. The ancient Persians called him Ahriman, the Egyptians, Apap, the old Teutons, Loki, and he was Tiamet of the Babylonians, Siva of the old and the new Hindu religion, (or Manyu, "wrath,") and Beelzebub of the Chaldeans, and Pluto, the god of The Underworld, of the Greeks and the Romans. In all traditions he fell from Heaven because of the sin of pride and disobedience and rebellion, and became the slave and master of men, tempting them to eternal death and perdition. He has as many names as God, in dead and living religions, but, like God, his nature never changes, nor his objective." DIALOGUES WITH THE DEVIL by Taylor Caldwell, page 7.

(Actually, Ms. Caldwell is incorrect in one respect.

"Beelzebub was the leader of the disloyal midway creatures who allied themselves with the forces of the traitorous Caligastia." The URANTIA Book, page 602.)

Any student of The Holy Bible will testify to Satan's prolific presence, from the very first book of the Bible, Genesis, to the very last, Revelation.

It is helpful if we briefly chronicle several relevant Biblical references to Satan and his alleged dealings with humankind. But before we do this....(Turn to page 14-A) *****

In Genesis, it is Satan the serpent who reputedly persuades Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. She, in turn, induces Adam to partake also, and, according to a number of Christian theologies, man's fall from grace is assured. The first, original, sin has been committed.

"The Bible says, "Wherefore as by one man's sin entered into the world and death by sin and so death passed on all men for all have sinned." Adam rebelled against God. His bloodstream became poisoned and every one of us as sons and daughters of Adam have blood poisoning and that's the problem with the world tonight--blood poisoning. Our blood has been poisoned by a disease called sin, and it ultimately ends in death." THE CHALLENGE by Billy Graham, page 17.

Satan continued to oppose the will of God and ensnare men. He incited David to count his people, thereby arousing the wrath of God. 1 Chronicles 21:1. (Compare this to 2 Sam 24:1, where it states that it was the Lord who incited David to count Israel and Judah.) (After David did so, he was punished in this version, too. "Some days you just can't win for losing!")

Perhaps one of the most important and meaningful mentions Satan receives in the Bible is the account of his attempt to turn Job against the Lord.

"Study the Book of Job just to discover how many wrong ideas of God even good men may honestly entertain; and then note how even the painfully afflicted Job found the God of comfort and

.....let's take just a minute and briefly view the origin of sin as recounted in the fifth epochal revelation.

"As the savage mind evolved to that point where it envisaged both good and bad spirits, and when the taboo received the solemn sanction of evolving religion, the stage was all set for the appearance of the new conception of sin. The idea of sin was universally established in the world before revealed religion ever made its entry. It was only by the concept of sin that natural death became logical to the primitive mind. Sin was the transgression of taboo, and death was the penalty of sin.

"Sin was ritual, not rational; an act, not a thought. And this entire concept of sin was fostered by the lingering traditions of Dilmun and the days of a little paradise on earth. The tradition of Adam and the Garden also lent substance to the dream of a onetime "golden age" of the dawn of the races. And all this confirmed the ideas later expressed in the belief that man had his origin in a special creation, that he started his career in perfection, and that transgression of the taboos---sin--- brought him down to his later sorry plight." The URANTIA Book, page 975.

This belief was to eventually be incorporated into Christianity, as we shall see as we continue our study of the biblical perspective on Satan and sin.....

(Please turn back to page 14)

"salvation in spite of such erroneous teachings. At last his faith pierced the clouds of suffering to discern the light of life pouring forth from the Father as healing mercy and everlasting righteousness." The URANTIA Book, page 1664.

"A high point in Satan's ambitious attempts in his fight against God, and what appeared to Satan to be success, was reached when the king of the Third World Power of Bible history, Babylon, took Jerusalem, overturning the rulership of King Zedekiah of the line of David, and destroyed the temple of Jehovah, desolating Jerusalem and Judah. Ezek. 21:25-27." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1451.

Satan did everything he could to ruin Michael's mission, and we will consider crucial aspects of that epic confrontation later on.

A large number of Urantians believe that Satan is alive and well on the planet earth. In fact, a contemporary writer by the name of Hal Lindsey has sold millions of copies of a book bearing that very title.

"After Jesus' death and resurrection, Satan continued to wage a bitter fight against Christ's followers. The account in the book of Acts and in the letters of the Christian Greek Scriptures furnish numerous proofs of this." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1452.

Finally, we come to Revelation.

"When in temporary exile on Patmos, John wrote the Book of Revelation, which you now have in greatly abridged and distorted form. This Book of Revelation contains the surviving

"fragments of a great revelation, large portions of which were lost, other portions of which were removed, subsequent to John's writing. It is preserved in only fragmentary and adulterated form." The URANTIA Book, page 1555.

Nevertheless, many Urantians view the Book of Revelation as an indicator of things to come; as a prophecy concerning the final confrontation between Satan and Jesus Christ.

"Revelation's twentieth chapter describes Satan's binding and abyssing for a thousand years, at the hands of a great angel (doubtless Jesus Christ, who has the key of the abyss and who is the "seed" to bruise Satan's head; compare Revelation 1:18). Satan's final effort culminates in permanent defeat. The prophecy says that he is to be let loose for "a little while" as soon as Christ's thousand-year reign is ended, and that he will lead rebellious persons in another attack upon God's sovereignty; but he is hurled (along with his demons) into the lake of fire and sulphur, everlasting destruction. Rev. 20:1-3, 7-10. Compare Matthew 25:41." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1452.

The majority of contemporary Christians view Revelation as a future event, not as past history. Later on we will examine Satan's current status.

Before we study man's concepts of error, sin, and iniquity derived from his comprehension of his relationship to God and the Devil, we will listen to the viewpoints of varied Urantians, of all ages and vocations, of race and denominational influence, and appraise their beliefs concerning the "Adversary of all that lives."

INSERT TAPE:

Listen to tape of contemporary Urantians beliefs and feelings concerning Satan and his influence in their lives.

If the sampling of opinions concerning the influence of Satan on this sphere is fairly representative of the beliefs of the majority of "average", revelation ignorant Urantians, then it is manifestly apparent that they see Satan as a force to be contended with during the course of their nativity experience.

A word or three here about "Satan worship" would be appropriate.

First, though, keep this quote in mind as we discuss this topic:

"Caligastia, your apostate Planetary Prince, is still free on Urantia to prosecute his nefarious designs, but he has absolutely no power to enter the minds of men, neither can he draw near to their souls to tempt or corrupt them unless they really desire to be cursed with his wicked presence." The URANTIA Book, page 619.

The latter section of that quote bears repeating:

"neither can he draw near to their souls to tempt or corrupt them unless they really desire to be cursed with his wicked presence." The URANTIA Book, page 619.

And, again, note this:

"Caligastia has been comparatively impotent since the cross of Christ." The URANTIA Book, page 610.

Notice Manovandet Melchizedek's use of the term "comparatively". Not completely impotent, but "comparatively".

With this in mind, we will not look at some quotes from a book mentioned earlier.

"Satanic cults are expanding in every major city in the United States. "We have received reports from other California cities which show the existence of three Satanist groups in Berkeley,

"two of them communes, one in Big Sur, one in Venice, five in San Francisco, and one in San Diego. The number of Satanist circles gathering in Los Angeles County is indeterminate."

SATAN IS ALIVE AND WELL ON PLANET EARTH, by Hal Lindsey, page 6 & 7.

And listen to this:

"Satanism is not only present in Europe, but in the United States as well. In fact, the United States probably harbors the fastest-growing and most highly organized body of Satanists in the world." THE SECOND COMING, by Arthur Lyons.

"In the "churches" entangled in Satan worship the rites are opposite from those of a Christian church. Every desecration of Christianity is emphasized, from the upside-down cross to the flagrant use of sex and sexual stimuli. In Hollywood the altar was a glass tank filled with formaldehyde, containing the body of a dead body. Lyons reported that the "high priest" had a hypnotic effect upon a teen-age girl. The ritual in which she became involved was so debasing he couldn't describe it." SATAN IS ALIVE AND WELL ON PLANET EARTH, by Hal Lindsey, page 7.

"Many people would be revolted by the so-called churches which openly worship Satan. The most widely publicized establishment of this kind is the First Church of Satan in San Francisco, headed by Anton LaVey, the High Priest.

"The bald, narrow-eyed LaVey was quoted as saying, "The Satanic Age started in 1966. That's when God was proclaimed dead, the Sexual Freedom League came into prominence, and the hippies developed as a free sex culture." SATAN IS ALIVE AND WELL

ON PLANET EARTH, by Hal Lindsey, page 6.

News items constantly appear detailing horrendous acts perpetrated by Satanists. Police in the Los Angeles area have reported a sharp increase in Satanism in their city, if police blotters are any indication. They have reportedly talked with cult members who admitted killing animals, pouring the blood into cups or caldrons, mixing in drugs, then drinking the brew as part of their ritual. One police report concerned a case where reputed Satanists, as required by one of their rituals, had skinned a dog without killing it. An officer described it "as one of the most pitiful sights I've ever seen."

One police officer, Commander Bob Vernon of the Los Angeles Police Department, stated an observation worth mentioning:

"They believe in the spirit world and will readily tell you that the Devil is very real to them."

A Los Angeles highway patrolman picked up a man who, informants had said, killed another man and ate his heart. While the officer was frisking the suspect he discovered knuckles from a human hand in his pocket. The man later explained that he was a member of a Satanic cult.

We need hardly elaborate on the infamous Charles Manson case. Suffice it to say that these deviates admitted to indulging in various types of Satanism and witchcraft.

The question naturally arises: Can we attribute any of this reportedly growing Satanic activity on Urantia to the influence of Caligastia? What do you think? We'll examine this again in a later section.

So far in this discussion, we have limited ourselves to an examination of the factual aspects of the devil, a synopsis of the rebellion as presented in The URANTIA Book and The Holy Bible. Now it is time to study the personal aspects of this issue, the concepts called error, sin, and iniquity as understood by Christians and by those familiar with the fifth epochal revelation.

First, let's look at the biblical presentation of these themes, a presentation inherent in their formulation by a multiplicity of Christian denominations.

A thorough perusal of of the biblical doctrines of various denominations has revealed a fascinating fact; references to error and iniquity are singularly sparse or completely lacking. For the purposes of this seminar presentation, a Catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian, Mennonite, Jehovah Witness, and Jefferson bible and concordance were studied and diligently compared as to content and theme relative to our subject. Not one presented any elaboration on error, and only two made any mention to iniquity, even then only as part of biblical quotations. Conversations with a Catholic priest and a Baptist minister further emphasized that our contemporary Christian denominations tend to pass over the subjects of error and iniquity, to subjugate them to the dominant theme of sin, to incorporate them into the doctrine of sin to such an extent that error and iniquity tend to lose their separate identity. This, as we know, is not the case in the fifth epochal revelation. We will look at their delineation in The URANTIA Book after covering the subject of sin as illustrated in scripture and conceived by Christians.

Sin is one of the dominant themes in all contemporary theologies. The understanding of the nature of sin is considered crucial to man's appreciation of his place in the scheme of things, to his comprehension of God and Satan and human history.

We have all heard of the doctrine of "original sin", that first sin of mankind, attributed to Adam and Eve. There are several denominations that subscribe to the theory that sin was actually extant before the "fall" of Adam and Eve.

"Sin was introduced first on the spirit plane before its introduction on earth. For unknown ages full harmony with God prevailed in the universe. Disruption came through a spirit creature referred to simply as the Resister, Adversary (Heb., Satan; Gr., Satanas; Job 1:6; Rom. 16:20), the principal False Accuser or Slanderer (Gr., Diabolos) of God. (Heb. 2:14; Rev. 12:9) Hence, the apostle John says: "He who carries on sin originates with the Devil, because the Devil has been sinning from the beginning." 1 John 3:8.

"John's words show that, once having introduced sin, Satan continued his sinful course. Hence, any person that "makes sin his business or practice" reveals himself to be a 'child' of the Adversary, spiritual offspring reflecting the qualities of his "father". John 8:44; 1 John 3:10-12." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1504.

And, in Genesis, as contemporary theologians are quick to point out, the serpent(which, by the way, some consider to have been Satan disguised and others a vehicle of Satan and still others Satan himself) came to Eve and proceeded to intice her to commit sin, the serpent already arrayed against God in his heart and clearly a rebellious creature before Eve and Adam

even contemplated disobeying God's will.

To stress some of the salient features of the supposed "fall" of man: the serpent, by all accounts, tricked Eve into partaking of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Eve, in turn, gave Adam some of this fruit to eat. God had given them prior permission to partake of the fruit of every tree of the Garden except this one.

"Eating was normal, proper, and Adam had been told to "eat to satisfaction" of what God gave him. (Gen. 2:16) But God now tested Adam by restricting his eating of the fruit of this one tree, God thus causing the eating thereof to symbolize that the eater comes to a knowledge that enables him to decide for himself what is "good" or what is "bad" for man." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1505.

All accounts agree that Eve sinned first, although they differ on the degree of her sin as compared to Adam's. Eve was tricked, duped, influenced by Satan to break God's command. But Adam, on the other hand, deliberately joined her in sin.

"And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being quite deceived, fell into transgression". 1 TIMOTHY 2:14.

"Adam gave in without a fight! There was not one word given directly to the man, not one temptation. He walked into transgression with his eyes wide open. It seems that he simply chose to stay with Eve rather than continue with God." SATAN IS ALIVE AND WELL ON PLANET EARTH, page 47.

"Adam later partook of the fruit when it was offered to him by his wife. The apostle shows that man's sinning differed from that of his wife in that Adam was not deceived by the tempter's propaganda, hence put no stock in the claim that eating

"of the tree could be done with impunity. Adam's eating, therefore, must have been due to desire for his wife, and he 'listened to her voice' rather than to that of his God. (Gen. 3:6) He thus conformed to her ways and will, and, through her, to those of God's adversary. He therefore 'missed the mark', failed to act in God's image and likeness, did not reflect God's glory, and, in fact, insulted his heavenly Father." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1505.

As the quote from Billy Graham indicated earlier, man has rebelled against his Maker. Man's blood is now tainted by the stigma of rebellion. And this bad blood continues to be passed down from one generation to another, right up to the current era. "The most mysterious substance of the body is the blood, and the Bible says it's the life of the flesh. Without blood you cannot live. You have to have blood. I wish we had time to go into it a little bit further tonight as to what blood really is to your body. But the Bible says all of us are related by blood to Adam and the Scripture says God has made of one blood all nations that dwell on the face of the earth. All of us here tonight, whether your're black, white, yellow, red, rich, poor, whatever language you speak, we're all related to Adam by blood. It is Adam's blood that courses in every man's veins, whoever he is, whatever he is. And this blood that you have in your body carries with it a sentence of death.

"Death comes. All of us are going to die. The life of the flesh is in the blood, but something's wrong with the blood.

"But there's another death because there's a spiritual application. The blood is only a symbol of life. When it is shed, death occurs. It also brings about a spiritual death that is very real. A separation from God that Jesus called "hell".

"With all that this means, whether it's symbolic or literal, it's terrible and it's a penalty because of the sin that is in our bloodstream.

"Christ died on the Cross to set you free; shed His blood to set you free. Only Christ can bring deliverance in this world and the world to come." All of the above quotes are from THE CHALLENGE by Billy Graham, pages 17 & 23.

Graham goes on to elaborate upon a doctrine central to many Christian theologies; the shedding of the blood of Christ to redeem man from sin, Christ becoming the living sacrifice who would rectify the human race with the Lord, appease the divine wrath and open the channel of divine mercy.

With that in mind:

"Such beliefs are utterly repulsive to the celestial beings and the divine rulers who serve and reign in the universes. It is an affront to God to believe, hold, or teach that innocent blood must be shed in order to win his favor or to divert the fictitious divine wrath." The URANTIA Book, page 60.

All of this brings us back to our discussion of sin as maintained by the majority of Christian religions of today. Indeed, if there is any one point on which the many Christian denominations concur, it is the nature of, and cure for, sin.

Study reveals that contemporary Christianity considers as sin any act, thought, or belief contrary to the will of God.

"Sin put man out of harmony with his Creator. It thereby damaged, not only his relations with God, but also his relations with the rest of God's creation, including damage to man's own self, to his mind, heart and body. It brought consequences of enormous evil upon the human race." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1505.

To complicate this picture even more, many denominations hold that Adam and Eve were perfect in all their ways, enjoying a life of perfected existence in the perfect creation, the Garden of Eden. Adam's sin plunged the human race from a condition of perfection into abysmal darkness. Mankind fell from divine grace. This doctrine is most generally designated as The Fall of Man.

"Since "there is no man that does not sin" (2 Chron. 6:36), all of Adam's descendants can properly be termed "sinners" by nature". AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1508.

Mankind has, ever since, been attempting to cleanse themselves of sin, and the only way to do this is through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, your personal savior.

"At the center of the story is a free decision of man, which, on account of his continuance in his children, influences the whole course of history. Through the first man's transgression sin came into the world: from this point it made its way into his descendants to bring them to death." THE COMBINED BIBLICAL DICTIONARY AND CONCORDANCE FOR THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE, page 61.

Sin is an all-embracing creed in the Christian theology.

There are errors, mistakes, and foolishness, minor deviations to be sure, but still classed under the category of lesser sins. There is sin against God and there is sin against Christ, there is sin against men and sin against the angels. There is sin against one's own body and soul, and there is sharing in the sins of others.

One great Christian bible scholar presented the shortest definition of sin on record. He said it is simply: "I will".
THE INVISIBLE WAR, by Donald Barnhouse.

So how, in the minds of Christians, does one achieve liberation from sin?

Through remission of sins and faith in your savior.

Here's one account:

"God in effect 'credits' righteousness to the account of those living according to faith. In so doing, God correspondingly 'covers over', 'wipes out' or 'blots out' the sins that would otherwise be charged up against the account of such faithful ones. (Compare Psalm 32:1,2; Isaiah 44:22; Act 3:19) Jesus thus likened "trespasses" and "sins" to debts. (Compare Matthew 6:14; 18:21-35; Luke 11:4)" AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1510.

Ransom and redemption play important roles:

"Mankind's need for a ransom came about through the rebellion in Eden. Adam sold himself to do evil for the selfish pleasure of listening to his wife's voice and of keeping continued company with the sinful transgressor, and to share the same condemned standing with her before God. He thereby sold himself and his descendants into slavery to sin and to death, the price that God's

"justice required. (Rom. 5:12-19; compare Romans 7:14-25)

Having possessed human perfection, Adam lost this valuable possession for himself and all his offspring.

"The Law, which had a "shadow of the good things to come," provided for animal sacrifices as a covering for sin. This, however, was only a symbolic or token covering, since such animals were inferior to man; hence, it was "not possible for the blood of bulls and of goats to take sins away," as the apostle points out. (Heb. 10:1-4) Those pictorial animal sacrifices had to be without blemish, perfect specimens. (Lev. 22:21) The real ransom sacrifice, a human actually capable of removing sins, must therefore also be perfect, free from blemish. He would have to correspond to the perfect Adam and possess human perfection, if he were to pay the price of redemption that would release Adam's offspring from the debt, disability and enslavement into which their first father Adam had sold them. (Compare Romans 7:14; Psalm 51:5) Only thereby could he satisfy God's perfect justice that requires like for like, a 'soul for a soul'. (Ex. 21:23-25; Deut. 19:21)

"The strictness of God's justice made it impossible for mankind itself to provide its own redeemer or goel. (Ps. 49:6-9) However, this results in the magnifying of God's own love and mercy in that he met his own requirements at tremendous cost to himself, giving the life of his own Son to provide the redemption price." AID TO BIBLE UNDERSTANDING, page 1373.

"Jesus came to give his life as a ransom for men (Mark 10:45; Matt. 20:28; 1 Tim. 2:6). This means that his death was to be the instrument of liberation, for through it the sins of all would be expiated (Rom. 3:25). So Jesus is redeemer, for through his

"death and the resurrection, from which it is inseparable, he conquered sin and death(Col. 1:14; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:15) and made us his own (1 Cor. 6:20; 7:23), so that we are now the Lord's (1 Cor. 8:6) and the sons of God (Gal. 4:4-7). THE COMBINED BIBLICAL DICTIONARY AND CONCORDANCE FOR THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE, page 189.

A majority of Christians hold that Jesus died for us, that he became the savior and salvation for all mankind and, more than that, Jesus became the personal Savior for every Christian. If a Christian repents of all sin, confesses to all wrongdoing and asks forgiveness, and if that selfsame Christian exercises faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, not only is this Christian "saved", but this Christian has, in his personal life, defeated Satan, even as the Christ did.

"The devil was not compensated but defeated, bound and rendered powerless(by the crucifixion). His empire came to an end through the work of Jesus. With these expressions the New Testament wishes to bring home to Christians how arduous a task the redemption was, how great a sacrifice, seeing that it cost Jesus his life, and so how great a love he had for men. His death, his blood were the instruments of redemption, the means through which he brought about the expiation for sin and brought humanity back to life-bestowing intimacy with God." THE COMBINED BIBLICAL DICTIONARY AND CONCORDANCE FOR THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE, page 189.

Thus many contemporary Christians believe that if they are "redeemed from sin", or "saved", or "born again", and have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, they negate any Satanic influence

in their lives. But bear in mind that a majority of Christians believe that the devil is a definite spiritual reality pervading our material world, and although they might be upright, God-fearing Christians, they still need to maintain their vigilance, to ever be on their guard, because the evil one will continually attempt to subvert and destroy their faith, to turn them from their God and send them down the road of perversity and perdition, straight to hell itself. (As a sidenote, it should be mentioned that a number of Christian denominations do not accept the existence of Hell. They believe that, literally, the wages of sin is death.)

It should be manifestly apparent to everyone by now that this system of belief leaves the contemporary Christian in a peculiar quandry. He or she has been reborn as a faith son of God and their salvation is assured through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Still, the Bible teaches, and many religious authorities maintain, that this is only "half the battle", that they must "keep a watch in the night", "lest Satan come and steal their very souls". This teaching is hardly conducive to peace of mind and absolutely impairs any possible belief in an orderly, justice dominated and love permeated cosmos. Man was intended to feel at home in the universe, and it is well nigh impossible to view your home in the proper perspective if you fear that the dreaded Devil, "the Fallen One, the Dark Shadow, the Destroyer, the Adversary of all that lives, the Seducer of souls, the Evil of Evils, the Progenitor of Lies, the Emperor of demons," is watching your every move and enticing you to commit that one fatal

mistake that will consign you to a raging, burning inferno for all eternity.

In conclusion, then, if a Urantian is an average, traditionalized, contemporary Christian, this person never truly attains the state of complete release from his or her "fear of the devil". They see Satan as still being the "prince of this world", as manipulating millions to achieve his own fiendish designs. The best they can hope for is an assurance that their faith in God and Jesus will be their armor, effectively turning aside Satan's barbed thrusts at their soul and seeing them safely to "the other side".

But they are never completely stripped of their fear of the devil.

And therein lies a great sadness, for a fear of the devil can inhibit spiritual growth and prevent progress, it can shunt the development of character, and destroy happiness.

"Fear and shame are unworthy motivations for religious living." The URANTIA Book, page 1572.

Unfortunately:

"Fear has always been the basic religious stimulus. Fear fashions the gods of evolutionary religion and motivates the religious ritual of the primitive believers. As civilization advances, fear becomes modified by reverence, admiration, respect, and sympathy and is then further conditioned by remorse and repentance." The URANTIA Book, page 1004.

So exactly how do we go about dispelling the fear of the devil? If the Bible does not hold the true answer, and if

contemporary Christianity is wallowing in a quagmire of conflicting doctrines and confused dogma, where do we find the answer, the key, to dispelling the fear of the devil?

You know the answer.

You hold it in your hands in the form of the fifth epochal revelation and you hold it in your being in the form of the indwelling fragment of the Universal Father, the Thought Adjuster.

There definitely is a legitimate means to dispel the fear of the devil and we will examine it in our next section.

THE DEVIL: ERROR, SIN, AND INIQUITY

EPOCHAL REVEIATIONAL CORRELATION

Before we assay to answer the dominant question of this paper, we will look at the topics of error, sin, and iniquity as presented in the fifth epochal revelation. Their understanding will facilitate comprehension of the key to our question. We will also amplify certain pertinent facts concerning the current status of the rebels, both in the system and on this sphere.

The URANTIA Book does not lump all deviation from God's will into the single, generalized category and concept of sin. The revelation takes pains to define each degree of attitude towards the Father.

"There are many ways of looking at sin, but from the universe philosophic viewpoint sin is the attitude of a personality who is knowingly resisting cosmic reality. Error might be regarded as a misconception or distortion of reality. Evil is a partial realization of, or maladjustment to, universe realities. But sin is a purposeful resistance to divine reality---a conscious choosing to oppose spiritual progress---while iniquity consists in an open and persistent defiance of recognized reality and signifies such a degree of personality disintegration as to border on cosmic insanity." The URANTIA Book, page 754.

And, again:

"sin is a deliberate transgression of the divine will; evil is the misadaptation of plans and the maladjustment of techniques resulting in universe disharmony and planetary confusion." The URANTIA Book, page 842.

"Sin must be redefined as deliberate disloyalty to Deity.

"There are degrees of disloyalty; the partial loyalty of indecision; the divided loyalty of confliction; the dying loyalty of indifference; and the death of loyalty exhibited in devotion to godless ideals." The URANTIA Book, page 985.

"The sense of the feeling of guilt is the consciousness of the violation of the mores; it is not necessarily sin. There is no real sin in the absence of conscious disloyalty to Deity." The URANTIA Book, page 985.

And, finally, with this next quote from the Master, we not only can perceive the nature of each errant attitude, but we will also begin to realize the answer to our question: How do we dispel the fear of the devil?

"Do not make the mistake of confusing evil with the evil one, more correctly the iniquitous one. He whom you call the evil one is the son of self-love, the high administrator who knowingly went into deliberate rebellion against the rule of my Father and his loyal Sons. But I have already vanquished these sinful rebels. Make clear in your mind these different attitudes toward the Father and his universe. Never forget these laws of relation to the Father's will:

"Evil is the unconscious or unintended transgression of the divine law, the Father's will. Evil is likewise the measure of the imperfectness of obedience to the Father's will.

"Sin is the conscious, knowing, and deliberate transgression of the divine law, the Father's will. Sin is the measure of unwillingness to be divinely led and spiritually directed.

"Iniquity is the willful, determined, and persistent transgression of the divine law, the Father's will. Iniquity is the

"measure of the continued rejection of the Father's loving plan of personality survival and the Sons' merciful ministry of salvation.

"By nature, before the rebirth of the spirit, mortal man is subject to inherent evil tendencies, but such natural imperfections of behavior are neither sin nor iniquity. Mortal man is just beginning his long ascent to the perfection of the Father in Paradise. To be imperfect or partial in natural endowment is not sinful. Man is indeed subject to evil, but he is in no sense the child of the evil one unless he had knowingly and deliberately chosen the paths of sin and the life of iniquity. Evil is inherent in the natural order of this world, but sin is an attitude of conscious rebellion which was brought to this world by those who fell from spiritual light into gross darkness.

"You are confused, Thomas, by the doctrines of the Greeks and the errors of the Persians. You do not understand the relationships of evil and sin because you view mankind as beginning on earth with a perfect Adam and rapidly degenerating, through sin, to man's present deplorable estate. But why do you refuse to comprehend the meaning of the record which discloses how Cain, the son of Adam, went over into the land of Nod and there got himself a wife? And why do you refuse to interpret the meaning of the record which portrays the sons of God finding wives for themselves among the daughters of men?

"Men are, indeed, by nature evil, but not necessarily sinful. The new birth---the baptism of the spirit---is essential to deliverance from evil and necessary for entrance into the kingdom

"of heaven, but none of this detracts from the fact that man is the son of God. Neither does this inherent presence of potential evil mean that man is in some mysterious way estranged from the Father in heaven so that, as an alien, foreigner, or stepchild, he must in some manner seek for legal adoption by the Father. All such notions are born, first, of your misunderstanding of the Father and, second, of your ignorance of the origin, nature, and destiny of man.

"The Greeks and others have taught you that man is descending from godly perfection steadily down toward oblivion or destruction; I have come to show that man, by entrance into the kingdom, is ascending certainly and surely up to God and divine perfection. Any being who in any manner falls short of the divine and spiritual ideals of the eternal Father's will is potentially evil, but such beings are in no sense sinful, much less iniquitous."

The URANTIA Book, page 1660 & 1661.

And bear in mind:

"Confusion, being puzzled, even sometimes discouraged and distracted, does not necessarily signify resistance to the leadings of the indwelling Adjuster. Such attitudes may sometimes connote lack of active co-operation with the divine Monitor and may, therefore, somewhat delay spiritual progress, but such intellectual and emotional difficulties do not in the least interfere with the certain survival of the God-knowing soul. Ignorance alone can never prevent survival; neither can confusional doubts nor fearful uncertainty. Only conscious resistance to the Adjuster's leading can prevent the survival of the evolving immortal soul."

The URANTIA Book, page 1206.

Before we elaborate further on the theme of utilizing your faith to dispel any residual dread of the iniquitous one, we shall chronicle crucial facts relative to the current status of the rebels and the Lucifer rebellion and their affect, if any, on our sphere and in our daily lives.

We mentioned earlier that Lanaforge, Lucifer's successor, was installed just over two years after the proclamation of the Lucifer Declaration of Liberty. The rebels were dethroned and stripped of any governing powers. It should be noted that on Urantia, Caligastia's replacement was not named until shortly before the presentation of the revelation:

Machiventa Melchizedek "only just recently having been elevated to the position of personal ambassador on Jerusem of the Creator Son, bearing the title Vicegerent Planetary Prince of Urantia". The URANTIA Book, page 1025.

"Recent rulings handed down from the Most Highs of Edentia, and later confirmed by the Ancients of Days of Uversa, strongly suggest that this bestowal Melchizedek is destined to take the place of the fallen Planetary Prince, Caligastia. If our conjectures in this respect are correct, it is altogether possible that Machiventa Melchizedek may again appear in person on Urantia and in some modified manner resume the role of the dethroned Planetary Prince, or else appear on earth to function as vicegerent Planetary Prince representing Christ Michael, who now actually holds the title of Planetary Prince of Urantia." The URANTIA Book, page 1025.

"Lucifer and Satan freely roamed the Satania system until

"the completion of the bestowal mission of Michael on Urantia."
The URANTIA Book, page 609.

"The bestowal of Michael terminated the Lucifer rebellion in all Satania aside from the planets of the apostate Planetary Princes." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

We must again emphasize a part of that sentence, "aside from the planets of the apostate Planetary Princes".

And, again:

"Subsequent to their effort to corrupt Michael when in the bestowal flesh, all sympathy for Lucifer and Satan has perished through all Satania, that is, outside the isolated worlds of sin." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

"outside the isolated worlds of sin". Again we have a reference to the fact that, technically speaking, the Lucifer rebellion is still raging on the thirty-seven worlds affected by the traitor's doctrines. And note the fact that sympathy for Satan is recorded as still prevalent on the rebel worlds.

(At this juncture in your perusal, if you can locate a copy, position yourself in front of your favorite stereo and listen to the words of the Rolling Stones 'Sympathy for the Devil'.)

To continue:

"Upon Michael's becoming the settled head of the universe of Nebadon, Lucifer was taken into custody by the agents of the Uversa Ancients of Days and has since been a prisoner on satellite number one of the Father's group of the transition spheres of Jerusem." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

"Michael, upon assuming the supreme sovereignty of Nebadon, petitioned the Ancients of Days for authority to intern all

"personalities concerned in the Lucifer rebellion pending the rulings of the superuniverse tribunals in the case of Gabriel vs. Lucifer, placed on the records of the Uversa supreme court almost two hundred thousand years ago, as you reckon time. Concerning the system capital group, the Ancients of Days granted the Michael petition with but a single exception: Satan was allowed to make periodic visits to the apostate princes on the fallen worlds until another Son of God should be accepted by such apostate worlds, or until such time as the courts of Uversa should begin the adjudication of the case of Gabriel vs. Lucifer." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

"Satan could come to Urantia because you had no Son of standing in residence---neither Planetary Prince nor Material Son. Machiventa Melchizedek has since been proclaimed vicegerent Planetary Prince of Urantia, and the opening of the case of Gabriel vs. Lucifer has signalized the inauguration of temporary planetary regimes on all the isolated worlds. It is true that Satan did periodically visit Caligastia and others of the fallen princes right up to the time of the presentation of these revelations, when there occurred the first hearing of Gabriel's plea for the annihilation of the archrebels. Satan is now unqualifiedly detained on the Jerusem prison worlds." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

"Since Michael's final bestowal no one in all Satania has desired to go to the prison worlds to minister to the interned rebels." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

And now note this relevant excerpt from a book entitled DIALOGUES WITH THE DEVIL, by contemporary popular author and avowed Christian, Taylor Caldwell:

"Through all traditions the idea of Lucifer's ultimate redemption runs steadily, though in Christian theology that tradition was denounced as a heresy in the fifth century A.D. Nevertheless, it persists. The ancient traditions entertain the possibility of the eventual remorse of the spirit of Evil and its reconciliation with God. Who is to say?"

End of quote.

Back to the current status of the rebellion.

"Early in the days of the Lucifer rebellion, salvation was offered all rebels by Michael. To all who would show proof of sincere repentance, he offered, upon his attainment of complete universe sovereignty, forgiveness and reinstatement in some form of universe service. None of the leaders accepted this merciful proffer. But thousands of the angels and the lower orders of celestial beings, including hundreds of the Material Sons and Daughters, accepted the mercy proclaimed by the Panoptians and were given rehabilitation at the time of Jesus' resurrection nineteen hundred years ago. These beings have since been transferred to the Father's world of Jerusem, where they must be held, technically, until the Uversa courts hand down a decision in the matter of Gabriel vs. Lucifer." The URANTIA Book, page 610.

So to sum the facts to this point:

Lucifer, Satan, and all of the system rebels are now interned on the Father's world of Jerusem. The one major exception, especially notable to us, is the revelation (pardon the pun) that Caligastia is still roaming this sphere, bent on his wicked ways. How much longer must Urantia bear the blight of this demented

being? We are not told. As indicated earlier, we are appraised of the fact that Machiventa Melchizedek is now the Vicegerent Planetary Prince of Urantia. We also know that Michael is the Planetary Prince of Urantia. We also know that the first step in the superuniverse courts concerning the possible destruction of the rebels has begun. Does this indicate that Caligastia has been, or soon will be, imprisoned with the other rebels on the Father's world? The revelators do not say. They do state, several times, that Caligastia is still free on Urantia. And here, for the purposes of this paper, is where we shall consider him to be until notified otherwise.

Concerning the destruction of the rebels:

"The final result of whole-hearted sin is annihilation. In the last analysis, such sin-identified individuals have destroyed themselves by becoming wholly unreal through their embrace of iniquity. The factual disappearance of such a creature is, however, always delayed until the ordained order of justice current in that universe has been fully complied with." The URANTIA Book, page 37.

"The moral will creatures of the evolutionary worlds are always bothered with the unthinking question as to why the all-wise Creators permit evil and sin. They fail to comprehend that both are inevitable if the creature is to be truly free. The free will of evolving man or exquisite angel is not a mere philosophic concept, a symbolic ideal. Man's ability to choose good and evil is a universe reality. This liberty to choose for oneself is an endowment of the Supreme Rulers, and they will not

"permit any being or group of beings to deprive a single personality in the wide universe of this divinely bestowed liberty---not even to satisfy such misguided and ignorant beings in the enjoyment of this misnamed personal liberty.

"Although conscious and wholehearted identification with evil (sin) is the equivalent of nonexistence (annihilation), there must always intervene between the time of such personal identification with sin and the execution of the penalty---the automatic result of such a willful embrace of evil---a period of time of sufficient length to allow for such an adjusication of such an individual's universe status as will prove entirely satisfactory to all related universe personalities, and which will be so fair and just as to win the approval of the sinner himself.

"But if this universe rebel against the reality of truth and goodness refuses to approve the verdict, and if the guilty one knows in his heart the justice of his condemnation but refuses to make such confession, then must the execution of sentence be delayed in accordance with the discretion of the Ancients of Days. And the Ancients of Days refuse to annihilate any being until all moral values and all spiritual realities are extinct, both in the evildoer and in all related supporters and possible sympathizers." All of the above quotes are from The URANTIA Book, page 615.

Here, again, we must pause to emphasize a thought:

"And the Ancients of Days refuse to annihilate any being until all moral values and all spiritual realities are extinct, both in the evildoer and in all related supporters and possible sympathizers."

Now, combine this thought with one expressed earlier:

"Subsequent to their effort to corrupt Michael when in the bestowal flesh, all sympathy for Lucifer and Satan has perished through all Satania, that is, outside the isolated worlds of sin." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

The inevitable conclusion from the comparing of these two statements in the fifth epochal revelation must of necessity be that affairs on the isolated, rebellion torn planets must be set in spiritual order before the rebels can be executed.

But: (and here comes another revelatory paradox)

"We do not look for a removal of the present Satania restrictions until the Ancients of Days make final disposition of the archrebels. The system circuits will not be reinstated so long as Lucifer lives. Meantime, he is wholly inactive." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

So, obviously, not all things need be set aright before the order for annihilation will be flashed from Uversa. The system circuits will not be restored to full operation until after Lucifer's demise. But does this mean, concerning the previous quotes about sympathy for the devil, that Lucifer will not be destroyed until all sympathy, including that of deluded and demented planetary mortals, both on this world and the other thirty-six that participated in the rebellion, has faded away?

Save that question for future speculation while we wrap up the current status of the rebellion:

Most of the rebel personalities are now interned and, like Lucifer, completely inactive. Caligastia (and there might be a few others on some of the other rebel worlds although the revelation does not mention them) is free on this sphere. Caligastia has been relatively disabled since the cross, but not completely. Remember the quote we discussed concerning the fact that Caligastia

can draw near to mortals if they truly desire to be cursed with his iniquitous presence? Does this mean that those involved in the Satanic cults, or movement, in the United States and Europe and other countries throughout the world, can be used as pawns by the wily Caligastia?

If so, it matters not at all to faith sons and daughters of the Universal Father. We will elaborate on this point after a final look at the effects of sin, considered individually and collectively.

"The personal (centripetal) consequences of the creature's willful and persistent rejection of light are both inevitable and individual and are of concern only to Deity and to that personal creature. Such a soul-destroying harvest of iniquity is the inner reaping of the iniquitous will creature.

"But not so with the external repercussions of sin: The impersonal (centrifugal) consequences of embraced sin are both inevitable and collective, being of concern to every creature functioning within the affect-range of such events.

"By fifty thousand years after the collapse of the planetary administration, earthly affairs were so disorganized and retarded that the human race had gained very little over the general evolutionary status existing at the time of Caligastia's arrival three hundred and fifty thousand years previously. In certain respects progress had been made; in other directions much ground had been lost.

"Sin is never purely local in its effects. The administrative sectors of the universes are organismal; the plight of one personality must to a certain extent be shared by all. Sin, being

"an attitude of the person toward reality, is destined to exhibit its inherent negativistic harvest upon any and all related levels of universe values. But the full consequences of erroneous thinking, evil-doing, or sinful planning are experienced only on the level of actual performance. The transgression of universe law may be fatal in the physical realm without seriously involving the mind or impairing the spiritual experience. Sin is fraught with fatal consequences to personality survival only when it is the attitude of the whole being, when it stands for the choosing of the mind and the willing of the soul.

"Evil and sin visit their consequences in material and social realms and may sometimes even retard spiritual progress on certain levels of universe reality, but never does the sin of any being rob another of the realization of the divine right of personality survival. Eternal survival can be jeopardized only by the decisions of the mind and the choice of the soul of the individual himself.

"Sin on Urantia did very little to delay biologic evolution, but it did operate to deprive the mortal races of the full benefit of the Adamic inheritance. Sin enormously retards intellectual development, moral growth, social progress, and mass spiritual attainment. But it does not prevent the highest spiritual achievement by any individual who chooses to know God and sincerely do his divine will.

"Caligastia rebelled, Adam and Eve did default, but no mortal subsequently born on Urantia has suffered in his personal spiritual experience because of these blunders. Every mortal born on Urantia since Caligastia's rebellion has been in *some* manner time-penalized, but the future welfare of such souls has

"never been in the least eternity-jeopardized. No person is ever made to suffer vital spiritual deprivation because of the sin of another. Sin is wholly personal as to moral guilt or spiritual consequences, notwithstanding its far-flung repercussions in administrative, intellectual, and social domains." The UFANTIA Book, page 760 & 761.

And, again:

"At first the Lucifer upheaval appeared to be an unmitigated calamity to the system and to the universe. Gradually benefits began to accrue. With the passing of twenty-five thousand years of system time (twenty thousand years of Urantia time), the Melchizedeks began to teach that the good resulting from Lucifer's folly had come to equal the evil incurred. The sum of evil had by that time become almost stationary, continuing to increase only on certain isolated worlds, while the beneficial repercussions continued to multiply and extend out through the universe and superuniverse, even to Havona. The Melchizedeks now teach that the good resulting from the Satania rebellion is more than a thousand times the sum of all the evil." The URANTIA Book, page 619.

Imagine! Good resulting from evil! What could the revelatory inditors possibly mean by this?

"I will only call attention to the enhanced careers of those mortal ascenders, the Jerusem citizens, who, by withstanding the sophistries of sin, placed themselves in line for becoming future Mighty Messengers, fellows of my own order. Every being who stood the test of that evil episode thereby immediately advanced his

"administrative status and enhanced his spiritual worth." The URANTIA Book, page 619.

And there is another benefit, one that we will enjoy more fully after we reach the mansion worlds and commence our universe ascent in earnest, that we will mention in a moment.

So where does all of this leave us?

As regards error and evil: We quoted the Master earlier (Page 34 this paper, page 1660 UB) to the effect that man, by his very current status, his imperfect state of being, is prone to making errors of judgement and to unintended transgressions of our Father's will. These honest mistakes are natural imperfections of our earthly estate; they might delay or impair our progressive spiritual realization in some respects, but they can not prevent us from eventually assuming our full destiny as loyal, loving, and supernal sons and daughters of the Universal Father.

As regards sin: If you have not consciously, knowingly, deliberately opposed the Father's will, you haven't sinned. And even if you should, through obstinacy, pride, or selfishness, sin, ever remember the following:

"Mortal man may draw near God and may repeatedly forsake the divine will so long as the power of choice remains. Man's final doom is not sealed until he has lost the power to choose the Father's will. There is never a closure of the Father's heart to the need and the petition of his children. Only do his offspring close their hearts forever to the Father's drawing power when they finally and forever lose the desire to do his divine will---to

"know him and to be like him. Likewise is man's eternal destiny assured when Adjuster fusion proclaims to the universe that such an ascender has made the final and irrevocable choice to live the Father's will." The URANTIA Book, page 64.

And, again:

"I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins." The URANTIA Book, page 39.

Even sporadic sinning, therefore, can not prevent your ascension on high:

"As to the chances of mortal survival, let it be made forever clear: All souls of every possible phase of mortal existence will survive provided they manifest willingness to cooperate with their indwelling Adjusters and exhibit a desire to find God and to attain divine perfection, even though these desires be but the first faint flickers of the primitive comprehension of that "true light which lights every man who comes into the world." The URANTIA Book, page 447.

The Lord God abundantly pardons.

"Survival is dependent on spiritualization by the ministry of the Adjuster---on the birth and evolution of the immortal soul; at least, there must not have developed an antagonism towards the Adjuster's mission of effecting the spiritual transformation of the material mind." The URANTIA Book, page 565.

"Now, mistake not, my Father will ever respond to the faintest flicker of faith. He takes note of the physical and superstitious emotions of the primitive man. And with those honest but fearful souls whose faith is so weak that it amounts to little more than an intellectual conformity to a passive attitude

"of assent to religions of authority, the Father is ever alert to honor and foster even all such feeble attempts to reach out for him. But you who have been called out of darkness into the light are expected to believe with a whole heart; your faith shall dominate the combined attitudes of body, mind, and spirit."

The URANTIA Book, page 1733. (Turn to page 49-A) *****

So! If we need not fear our honest errors, and if even an occasional sinning thought or act will not sever us from our Father's divine love and abiding guidance, what attitude should man be on the lookout against?

INIQUITY. Persistent sinning leads to and equates with iniquity. Iniquity is the continued and constant transgression of the Father's will. Iniquity is devastating. Look at what it did to Caligastia:

"In committing this deliberate sin, Caligastia so completely distorted his personality that his mind has never since been able to fully regain its equilibrium." The URANTIA Book, page 755.

"The conscious and persistent regard for iniquity in the heart of man gradually destroys the prayer connection of the human soul with the spirit circuits of communication between man and his Maker. Naturally, God hears the petition of his child, but when the human heart deliberately and persistently harbors the concepts of iniquity, there gradually ensues the loss of personal communion between the earth child and his heavenly Father." The URANTIA Book, page 1638.

"The greatest punishment (in reality an inevitable consequence) for wrongdoing and deliberate rebellion against the government of God is loss of existence as an individual subject of that government. The final result of wholehearted sin is anni-

It is crucial to note at this juncture a critical personal aspect of sin, a theme prevalent in Christianity and detailed in The URANTIA Book, one essential to continued spiritual growth.

This is the forgiveness of sin.

"The possibility of the recognition of the sense of guilt is a badge of transcendent distinction for mankind. It does not mark man as mean but rather sets him apart as a creature of potential greatness and ever-ascending glory. Such a sense of unworthiness is the initial stimulus that should lead quickly and surely to those faith conquests which translate the mortal mind to the superb levels of moral nobility, cosmic insight, and spiritual living; thus are all the meanings of human existence changed from the temporal to the eternal, and all values are elevated from the human to the divine.

"The confession of sin is a manful repudiation of disloyalty, but it in no wise mitigates the time-space consequences of such disloyalty. But confession---sincere recognition of the nature of sin---is essential to religious growth and spiritual progress.

"The forgiveness of sin by Deity is the renewal of loyalty relations following a period of the human consciousness of the lapse of such relations as the consequence of conscious rebellion. The forgiveness does not have to be sought, only received as the consciousness of re-establishment of loyalty relations between the creature and the Creator. And all the loyal sons of God are happy, service loving, and ever-progressive in the Paradise ascent."
The URANTIA Book, page 984 & 985.

(Turn to page 49-B)

And, again:

"By opening the human end of the channel of the God-man communication, mortals make immediately available the ever-flowing stream of divine ministry to the creatures of the worlds. When man hears God's spirit speak within the human heart, inherent in such an experience is the fact that God simultaneously hears that man's prayer. Even the forgiveness of sin operates in this same unerring fashion. The Father in heaven has forgiven you even before you have thought to ask him, but such forgiveness is not available in your personal religious experience until such a time as you forgive your fellow men. God's forgiveness in fact is not conditioned upon your forgiving your fellows, but in experience it is exactly so conditioned. And this fact of the synchrony of divine and human forgiveness was thus recognized and linked together in the prayer which Jesus taught the apostles."

(Please turn back to page 49)

"kilation. In the last analysis, such sin-identified individuals have destroyed themselves by becoming wholly unreal through their embrace of iniquity. The factual disappearance of such a creature is, however, always delayed until the ordained order of justice current in that universe has been fully complied with." The URANTIA Book, page 37.

This might prompt the question: But how can one assure they will not develop an iniquitous attitude? We will answer this after one final examination.

How do we dispel the fear of the devil?

What fear?

As regards Lucifer, Satan, and the other rebels: they are interned on the Father's world and are completely and thoroughly and utterly and irrevocably inactive, not able to influence your life in the least little bit.

Which brings us to the vile, deranged, despicable Caligastia. We quoted earlier from the revelation, noting that the apostate Planetary Prince is still free on Urantia, and that he can only draw near to humans if they truly desire his vile presence.

But what about true faith sons of the Universal Father? What about you and I?

"But even so, no fallen spirit ever did have the power to invade the minds or to harass the souls of the children of God. Neither Satan nor Caligastia could ever touch or approach the faith sons of God; faith is an effective armor against sin and iniquity. It is true: "He who is born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one touches him not." The URANTIA Book, page 610.

And:

"since the day of Pentecost this traitorous Caligastia and his equally contemptible associate, Daligastia, are servile before the divine majesty of the Paradise Thought Adjusters and the protective Spirit of Truth, the spirit of Michael, which has been poured out upon all flesh." The URANTIA Book, page 611.

"The doctrine of a personal devil on Urantia, though it had some foundation in the planetary presence of the traitorous and iniquitous Caligastia, was nevertheless wholly fictitious in its teachings that such a "devil" could influence the normal human mind against its free and natural choosing. Even before Michael's bestowal on Urantia, neither Caligastia nor Daligastia was ever able to oppress mortals or to coerce any normal individual into doing anything against the human will. The free will of man is supreme in moral affairs; even the indwelling Thought Adjuster refuses to compel man to think a single thought or to perform a single act against the choosing of man's own will.

"And now this rebel of the realm, shorn of all power to harm his former subjects, awaits the final adjudication, by the Uversa Ancients of Days, of all who participated in the Lucifer rebellion." The URANTIA Book, page 753.

"Even prior to Pentecost no rebel spirit could dominate a normal human mind, and since that day even the weak minds of inferior mortals are free from such possibilities. The supposed casting out of devils since the arrival of the Spirit of Truth has been a matter confounding a belief in demoniacal possession with hysteria, insanity, and feeble-mindedness. But just because Michael's bestowal has forever liberated all human minds

"on Urantia from the possibility of demoniacal possession, do not imagine that such was not a reality in former ages.

"The entire group of rebel midwayers is at present held prisoner by order of the Most Highs of Edentia. No more do they roam this world on mischief bent. Regardless of the presence of the Thought Adjusters, the pouring out of the Spirit of Truth upon all flesh forever made it impossible for disloyal spirits of any sort or description ever again to invade even the most feeble of human minds. Since the day of Pentecost there never again can be such a thing as demoniacal possession." The URANTIA Book, page 863 & 864.

All of this clearly illustrates that, despite the fact Caligastia is still on Urantia, awaiting his adjudication, the former Prince is as powerless to affect us in our daily lives as are Lucifer and Satan, interned on the Father's world.

Settle in your philosophy then, now and for the remainder of your nativity experience, that dispelling the fear of the devil is as simple as recognizing that you have nothing to fear from this "devil"; that the Fallen Ones are incapable of altering your life or polluting your mind and soul. Their influence on your spiritual progress can be summed up with one word: zilch.

And, remember:

"faith is an effective armor against sin and iniquity."

The URANTIA Book, page 610.

Faith. The supreme assertion of human thought.

"Does faith, after all, triumph over evil, sin and iniquity? It does." The URANTIA BOOK, page 2063.

Contemporary Christianity still labors under the belief in, and fear of, the "devil", just one of a number of fallacious doctrines, like the atonement doctrine, that can inhibit and retard the spiritual progress of the individual believer and Christians as a whole. The burdening weight of excessive institutionalism further adds to the oppressive obstacle the Christian Church presents to its own continued evolution.

What is the answer?

What can transform and regenerate the Christian community on this sphere?

What can deny iniquity the opportunity to find a foothold in the fertile soil of your soul?

What can completely eradicate any residual fear, both conscious and subliminal, of the "devil" in the lives of believing Christians?

Faith.

More precisely, the living faith of Jesus.

"Of all human knowledge, that which is of greatest value is to know the religious life of Jesus and how he lived it." The URANTIA Book, page 2090.

You, reading this paper, in the day and age in which this paper was prepared, have been privileged above and beyond the majority of your contemporaries. You can hold in your hands, you can study and treasure and apply the teachings of the fifth epochal revelation to your lives. You can read, in glorious, fact-based detail, concerning the life and teachings of Jesus as he actually lived and taught on Urantia. You, better than your contemporaries, should be able to comprehend and realize in your personal spiritual

experience the exalted truths the Master presented to men and lived among them.

You can live a life utterly devoid of fear and untainted by iniquity and dedicated to the realization of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Men.

"I have called upon you to be born again, to be born of the spirit. I have called you out of the darkness of authority and the lethargy of tradition into the transcendent light of the realization of the possibility of making for yourselves the greatest discovery possible for the human soul to make---the supernal experience of finding God for yourself, in yourself, and of yourself, and of doing all this as a fact in your own personal experience." The URANTIA Book, page 1731.

"The religion of the spirit leaves you forever free to follow the truth wherever the leadings of the spirit may take you. And who can judge---perhaps this spirit may have something to impart to this generation which other generations have refused to hear?" The URANTIA Book, page 1731.

"Nathaniel, never forget, the Father does not limit the revelation of truth to any one generation or to any one people. Many earnest seekers after the truth have been, and will continue to be, confused and disheartened by these doctrines of the perfection of the Scriptures." The URANTIA Book, page 1768.

And not only the doctrine of Scriptural perfection, but also the atonement doctrine and the biblical teachings concerning the nature of evil and the Evil One.

You can be the light of truth illuminating the pathway to fear-

less living. In fact, you can become a living path yourself.

"I admonish you to give up the practice of always quoting the prophets of old and praising the heroes of Israel, and instead aspire to become living prophets of the Most High and spiritual heroes of the coming kingdom." The URANTIA Book, page 1731.

Study the faith of Jesus. See the supreme faith he lived. Then aspire to, and realize in your personal experience, that selfsame faith.

"The Father rather desires that you draw out your heart to the hungry, and that you minister to the afflicted souls; then shall your light shine in obscurity, and even your darkness shall be as the noonday. Then shall the Lord guide you continually, satisfying your soul and renewing your strength. You shall become like a watered garden, like a spring whose waters fail not. And they who do these things shall restore the wasted glories; they shall raise up the foundations of many generations; they shall be called the rebuilders of broken walls, the restorers of safe paths in which to dwell." The URANTIA Book, page 1656.

When you gaze at the society in which you live, when you ponder the tragedies and evil you behold, when you see all manner of deviate wickedness paraded in the name of supposed "culture"; when you see the prolific spread of books and movies on Satan and Satanism; when you reflect on these planetary malignancies and their probable cure, bear uppermost in your mind that you are the cure.

"Nineteen hundred years ago, unlearned Galileans surveyed Jesus giving his life as a spiritual contribution to man's inner experience and then went out and turned the whole Roman Empire upside down." The URANTIA Book, page 2077.

"At the time of this writing the worst of the materialistic age is over; the day of a better understanding is already beginning to dawn." The URANTIA Book, page 2076.

"But paganized and socialized Christianity stands in need of new contact with the uncompromised teachings of Jesus; it languishes for lack of a new vision of the Master's life on earth. A new and fuller revelation of the religion of Jesus is destined to conquer an empire of materialistic secularism and to overthrow a world sway of mechanistic naturalism. Urantia is now quivering on the very brink of one of its most amazing and enthralling epochs of social readjustment, moral quickening, and spiritual enlightenment." The URANTIA Book, page 2082.

You, better than your contemporaries who are ignorant of the revelation, should the better understand the life of Jesus and its meaning, its value to mortals of this generation and to all future generations.

You, as did Jesus, can develop the spiritualizing habit to say, in all of life's situations, everytime a decision demands formulation and expression: "Not my will, but the will of my Father be done."

You, living the Father's will, can become an inspiration to those of your fellows languishing under doctrines of doom and despair.

You, as did Jesus, can let your light so shine that your brothers and sisters, viewing your life of devotion to the Father's will, will be attracted by your light as is the moth to a flame. They will be guided onto this new path of happy, fearless dedication to the supreme ideal of realizing the Fatherhood of God

and the Brotherhood of Man in personal experience.

"Religion does need new leaders, spiritual men and women who will dare to depend solely on Jesus and his incomparable teachings. If Christianity persists in neglecting its spiritual mission while it continues to busy itself with social and material problems, the spiritual renaissance must await the coming of these new teachers of Jesus' religion who will be exclusively devoted to the spiritual regeneration of men. And then will these spirit-born souls quickly supply the leadership and inspiration requisite for the social, moral, economic, and political reorganization of the world." The URANTIA Book, page 2083.

"The religion of Jesus does, indeed, dominate and transform its believers, demanding that men dedicate their lives to seeking for a knowledge of the will of the Father in heaven and requiring that the energies of living be consecrated to the unselfish service of the brotherhood of man." The URANTIA Book, page 2083.

"What an awakening the world would experience if it could only see Jesus as he really lived on earth and know, firsthand, his life-giving teachings!" The URANTIA Book, page 2083.

And just think!!!

You, as did Jesus, can live a life predicated on the pursuit of truth and the living of the Father's will! You are aware of his actual teachings! Through your life can shine the fear-dispelling light of truth upon your brethren!

You know the truth!

Do you realize the value of the life you can live among your brothers and sisters?

"If my words abide in you and you are minded to do the will of my Father, then are you truly my disciples. You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." The URANTIA Book, page 1797.

You know the truth.

Share it with your less fortunate brothers and sisters.

Set them free.

"He who hears you hears me. And he who hears me hears Him who sent me." The URANTIA Book, page 1801.

"Teach that man's whole duty is summed up in this one commandment: Love the Lord your God with all your mind and soul and your neighbor as yourself." The URANTIA Book, page 1805.

"You have entered upon this great work of teaching mortal man that he is a son of God. I have shown you the way; go forth to do your duty and be not weary in well doing. To you and to all who shall follow in your steps down through the ages, let me say: I always stand near, and my invitation-call is, and ever shall be, Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am true and loyal, and you shall find spiritual rest for your souls." The URANTIA Book, page 1808.

And what of Satan, the "devil"?

The Master said:

"It is not strange that these disobedient minor spirits should be subject to you, seeing that I beheld Satan falling as lightning from heaven. But rejoice not so much over this, for I declare to you that, as soon as I return to my Father, we will send forth our spirits into the very minds of men so that no

"more can these few lost spirits enter the minds of unfortunate mortals." The URANTIA Book, page 1807.

And how can we ever forget the victory of victories?

"Near the end of the mountain sojourn Jesus asked his Father if he might be permitted to hold conference with his Satania enemies as the Son of Man, as Joshua ben Joseph. This request was granted. During the last week on Mount Hermon the great temptation, the universe trial, occurred. Satan (representing Lucifer) and the rebellious Planetary Prince, Caligastia, were present with Jesus and were made fully visible to him. And this "temptation", this final trial of human loyalty in the face of the misrepresentations of rebel personalities, had not to do with food, temple pinnacles, or presumptuous acts. It had not to do with the kingdoms of this world but with the sovereignty of a mighty and glorious universe. The symbolism of your records was intended for the backward ages of the world's childlike thought. And subsequent generations should understand what a great struggle the Son of Man passed through that eventful day on Mount Hermon.

"To the many proposals and counterproposals of the emissaries of Lucifer, Jesus only made reply: "May the will of my Paradise Father prevail, and you, my rebellious son, may the Ancients of Days judge you divinely. I am your Creator-father; I can hardly judge you justly, and my mercy you have already spurned. I commit you to the adjudication of the Judges of a greater universe."

"To all the Lucifer-suggested compromises and makeshifts, to all such specious proposals about the incarnation bestowal, Jesus only made reply, "The will of my Father in Paradise be done." And

"when the trying ordeal was finished, the detached guardian seraphim returned to Jesus's side and ministered to him.

"On an afternoon in late summer, amid the trees and in the silence of nature, Michael of Nebadon won the unquestioned sovereignty of his universe." The URANTIA Book, page 1494.

"There was survival for mortals and security for angels when your Master, in reply to the Lucifer proposals, calmly and with divine assurance replied, "Get you behind me, Satan." That was, in principle, the real end of the Lucifer rebellion." The URANTIA Book, page 609.

Satan? Lucifer? And the other rebels? They were defeated nearly two thousand years ago by our beloved Creator Son, Michael of Nebadon, while incarnated on Urantia in the flesh, as a humble mortal of the spheres, as Joshua ben Joseph, as Jesus of Nazareth.

And what of fear?

"Fear not those who, although they may be able to kill the body, after that have no more power over you. I admonish you to fear none, in heaven or on earth, but to rejoice in the knowledge of Him who has power to deliver you from all unrighteousness and to present you blameless before the judgement seat of a universe." The URANTIA Book, page 1820.

"Jesus swept away all of the ceremonials of sacrifice and atonement. He destroyed the basis of all this fictitious guilt and sense of isolation in the universe by declaring that man is a child of God; the creature-Creator relationship was placed on a child-parent basis. God becomes a loving Father to his mortal sons and daughters." The URANTIA Book, page 1133.

God is your Father.

"Objectively, Father may be called the Lord of Spirits, the Lord of Light and Life, God, the First Source, the First Cause, the Divine Creator, the Eternal Sustainer, the Primal Focus of Reality, the Inner Light, BUT:

Subjectively, always,

FATHER." THE BROTHERHOOD OF LIGHT AND LIFE by David L. Robbins.

"Although religious experience is a purely spiritual subjective phenomenon, such an experience embraces a positive and living faith attitude toward the highest realms of universe objective reality. The ideal of religious philosophy is such a faith-trust as would lead man unqualifiedly to depend upon the absolute love of the infinite Father of the universe of universes. Such a genuine religious experience far transcends the philosophic objectification of idealistic desire; it actually takes salvation for granted and concerns itself only with learning and doing the will of the Father in Paradise. The earmarks of such a religion are: faith in a supreme Deity, hope of eternal survival, and love, especially of one's fellows." The URANTIA Book, page 1141.

"Neither do genuine believers trouble themselves so much about the future punishment of sin. The real believer is only concerned about present separation from God." The URANTIA Book, page 2017.

"The believer's chief concern should not be the selfish desire for personal salvation but rather the unselfish urge to love and, therefore, serve one's fellows even as Jesus loved and served mortal men." The URANTIA Book, page 2017.

IN PERSPECTIVE

Urantia might be isolated.

Ignorance and evil might appear to prevail.

The repercussions of the Lucifer upheaval might appear to have entangled Urantia in a web of misery and despair.

"But isolation of these spheres afford their races a unique opportunity for the exercise of faith and for the development of a peculiar quality of confidence in cosmic reliability which is not dependent on sight or any other material consideration. It may turn out, eventually, that mortal creatures hailing from the worlds quarantined in consequence of rebellion are extremely fortunate. We have discovered that such ascenders are very early intrusted with numerous special assignments to cosmic undertakings where unquestioned faith and sublime confidence are essential to achievement.

"On Jerusem the ascenders from these isolated worlds occupy a residential sector by themselves and are known as the agondonters, meaning evolutionary will creatures who can believe without seeing, persevere when isolated, and triumph over insuperable difficulties even when alone. This functional grouping of the agondonters persists throughout the ascension of the local universe and the traversal of the superuniverse; it disappears during the sojourn in Havona, but promptly reappears upon the attainment of Paradise and definitely persists in the Corps of the Mortal Finality. Tabamantia is an agondonter of finaliter status, having survived from one of the quarantined spheres involved in the first rebellion ever to take place in the universes of time and space.

"All through the Paradise career, reward follows effort as the result of causes. Such rewards set off the individual from the average,

"provide a differential of creature experience, and contribute to the versatility of ultimate performances in the collective body of the finaliters." The URANTIA Book, page 578 & 579.

There is an entire world waiting for the enobling message of Jesus. The opportunities for loving service on Urantia are well-nigh boundless. Millions of your brothers and sisters dwell in a darkness partly of their own devising, and partly because of honest confusion concerning the nature of God and the "devil" and their relationship to both and because they do not realize the true meanings of error, sin, and iniquity and the manner in which they apply to their daily lives. Millions of your brothers and sisters are eager for the light of truth in their lives. Millions of your brothers and sisters thirst for the water of life.

You are familiar with the fifth epochal revelation.

You already contain in your personal experience the answers so many of your brethren crave.

"Remember that you are commissioned to preach this gospel of the kingdom---the supreme desire to do the Father's will coupled with the supreme joy of the faith realization of sonship with God---and you must not allow anything to divert your devotion to this one duty." The URANTIA Book, page 1931.

"Remember, much has been given to you; therefore will much be required of you." The URANTIA Book, page 1824.

A great and magnificent treasure has been bestowed upon you; may you always remember to share the gems of truth that have become realities in your life with those less fortunate.

Peace.

THE BEGINNING

David Lawrence Robbins

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