

Citation Key

559:0 = Partial paragraph  
at top of p. 559.

559:1 = First full para-  
graph on p. 559.

STUDY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Paper 49

559:1 states "All mortal inhabited worlds are evolutionary in origin and nature." However, Section 3 on page 563 describes worlds of non-breathers where electrical installations must operate to consume or shunt meteors. Does this imply that the worlds of the non-breathers, in important ways, are not evolutionary in origin? If not, who built their first installations?

564:5 Name the 12 special physical sense endowments of human beings.

565:1 The last sentence seems to imply a low threshold for survival, namely that there should "not have developed an antagonism toward the Adjuster's mission". Compare this to the situation implicit in the last paragraph of page 1198. Here, we are told that the Thought Adjuster indwelling a certain mind had indwelt 15 minds previously in Orvonton, and probably the same number in other Superuniverses. This would produce an estimated total of 105 experiences. It states, "What others have lost, in that they refused to survive, this human being (and your whole world) now gains." Even if the first dozen or so experiences of this Adjuster were on worlds which only had Spirit fusion, we are left with a tremendous number who did not survive. What is the standard of survival?

566:2 What does "spiritual counterparting activities of the Thought Adjuster" mean?

568:7 How does the personal or group guardian seraphim hold a soul? What actually transpires?

569:2 Many readers seem to believe that it doesn't matter too much what a person does in this life, that there will be a chance for redemption in the next world. Is that belief consistent with this paragraph? Can it safely be assumed that the immortal spirit is virtually always present?

569:3 What are the seven cosmic circles? Without necessarily thinking of any particular person, or ourselves, let's try to get a feel for which circle we think most people are in. [Ask for a show of hands for each of the circles, for the average of those people attending the conference.]

569:6 Would an adopted child who died early follow the biologic or adoptive parents?

Page 570, sections 4 and 5. Other than the fact that we do not live 500 years, is there any inherent reason why Urantians of our generation should not fuse like the inhabitants of the worlds of light and life? To what extent can The URANTIA Book make up for the "benefits of numerous sojourns of divine sons"? We read that these advanced mortals can eliminate the entire local universe training regime through their experience of living on a evolutionary world. Does this imply that it might take us the equivalent of the same amount of time (500 years) to go through the local universe regime? Or, is there something about evolutionary experience which takes longer to reproduce on the heavenly spheres?

#### Paper 50

573:0 In what ways do we also risk "losing the sense of proportion" as to our self-importance? What is the best way to avoid this pitfall?

574:1 What would an implied non-arbitrary "execution" be? How would it be carried out?

574:5 The life-carriers provide the prince's staff volunteers with new physical bodies which are "subject to certain accidents of a mechanical nature." Would they die if a brick wall collapsed on top of them? What did they use to serve as a hospital?

576:2 Why did Caligastia pervert the schools? Did he intend to wreck them or merely to cause them to teach his erroneous beliefs?

576:3 How important is it for our world to know about the concept of "successive planetary dispensations of the various orders of the divine sons"? What do we gain from knowing about them?

576-577, section 5. Which of the seven epochs is the United States presently in? China? Mexico? Zaire?

577:1 How do the strong and truth-loving elements "subjugate" the "pleasure-seeking weaklings"?

577:4 Must an evolving mortal have passed through the physical, intellectual, and social stages of development prior to seeking for spiritual satisfactions?

578:3 Why is effort and decision an essential part of acquiring survival values? What does the process do to us?

578:6 Those who survive the harsher testing of life on isolated worlds are rewarded. But is there any compensating mechanism for those individuals who did not measure up to the severity of the test on these isolated and confused worlds, when we may presume they would have done quite well had the accident of their birth placed them on a normal planet where almost everyone survives?

579:1 It's nice to know that we may become agondonters, but doesn't the rather sublime description of what these individuals do seem overdrawn compared to our experience?

#### Paper 51

581:2 How is it possible that 13 planetary Adams and 681,204 others could have been so stupid as to have been lost in rebellion, considering their long existence and intimate familiarity with the affairs of our universe? Does this suggest that a Thought Adjuster's presence may be even more important than we might have thought? Or would it be more the evolutionary experience?

582:3 Do you imagine that an entire planet's population has ever been moved to another to avoid an impending catastrophe? Name three sorts of catastrophe so extreme as to warrant this? How far into the future could it be predicted for the catastrophes hypothesized? Are there special worlds held in reserve for such contingencies, or are the mortals simply placed onto another developing sphere? Would they ever be moved to an already inhabited planet? Would the angels provide food, clothing and protection from the elements until the new society could develop its own infrastructure on the new world? Would the angels provide government for a time? [Etc., etc., etc., -- a million questions on this one!]

583:5 In what ways might the secondary midwayers advance civilization and "subjugate insubordinate minorities who may seek to subvert social development and spiritual progress"? Does the work of the secondary midwayers relate to "the Most Highs ruling in the kingdoms of men"? Give five examples of things that the secondary midwayers might do. Might they, for example, cause an assassin's gun to jam or cause him to sneeze at a critical moment? If so, would he know that he had been interfered with?

How is any such work consistent with the doctrine of freewill? We are told that the life carriers are not permitted to infringe on freewill even to the slightest extent. Are the secondary midwayers exempt, and if so, why?

584:6 We are told that the evolution of six races provides an otherwise unattainable expression of diverse human potentials, provided they are subsequently upstepped by Adamic blood. Does this imply that if the life carriers had been able to foresee the Adamic default, that they would not have evolved six races, but only the primary three?

585:4 What does "biologic disfellowshipping" mean? Does this teaching imply that degeneracy and anti-social tendencies are in large part genetic?

586:4 Statements in The URANTIA Book which refer to "higher" and "lower" races are painful teachings to many, and to blacks in particular. The primary method of dealing with such passages by readers has been to pretend that they do not exist. However, this never seems to work. Black readers sooner or later find these passages, generally sooner. Have any of you ever attempted to explain such passages to black readers? How did you do it? Recently, several readers were invited to be on a major radio talk show in Denver. They were not asked about any of The URANTIA Book's teachings on race. If you had been on that program, and if you had been asked by a hostile moderator to explain this paragraph, how would you have done it?

587:1 Well, what would it mean if we had had a university functioning uninterrupted for 37,000 years? Or an even older headquarters which had been around for half a million years? [Politically? Racially? Commercially? Spiritually?]

## Paper 52

590:2 It is stated that man's acquirement of moral will is usually coincident with the appearance of early language. Is it also coincidental?

592:4 Is there any contradiction between the teachings of Jesus with regard to helping the weak, and the Mighty Messenger's statements on race improvement and on not perpetuating defective strains of evolutionary human stocks?

592:5 Can people "irretrievably lose their moral heritage and forever destroy their spiritual birthright" by the actions of their ancestors? Reconcile this statement with the URANTIA Book teaching that no environmental or hereditary handicap can impede

the sure survival of a soul dedicated to the Father's will. Is there a genetic foundation to the capability of exercise of spiritual choice?

595:3 Is the return to "more simplified forms of living" and "learning to live more naturally and effectively" something that we should also aspire to? Why? What's wrong with the excitement and stimulation of complexity?

596:2 Exactly how does truth make us free?

596:3 Why was the contention of Caligastia accepted with regard to Moses "going over to the other side"? Is it that hard to fire someone from their job in the celestial government? Would we consider heavenly authority excessively scrupulous about due process?

597:3 With regard to the statement, "Religious revelation is essential to the realization of brotherhood on Urantia," what is the likely role of The URANTIA Book in this process? Do you believe that the dissemination of The URANTIA Book is proceeding at the rate expected by the revelatory commission when they gave us the book? Do you feel that the book is having its expected impact on readers' lives?

598:1 With regard to the "substitution of international techniques of civilized adjudication for the barbarous arbitrament of war," what form could this adjudication take? For example, in the Soviet Union, law is designed not to protect truth or fairness, but to strengthen the dictatorship. In international forums, their "judges" consistently vote to advance the subjugation of other nations by the Soviet Union, and for whatever would precipitate confusion or otherwise harm free countries. Their concept of "law" is thoroughly foreign to our own. How can we have an "international arbitrament" with our principle adversary so long as they hold such views?

598:2 How can we affect the "spiritual transformation of present-day humanity"? What does it mean to "apply spiritual pressure from above"?