

## Answering the Questions "What Is the Urantia Book" and "Who Wrote It"

1. "What is the Urantia Book" and "Who wrote it" are common and frequent questions that are asked about the Urantia Book.

- a. these are questions that are more often asked about books that someone isn't familiar with.
- b. most people aren't familiar with the Urantia Book.
- c. commonly asked.
- d. **Answering the Questions  
"What is the Urantia Book" and "Who Wrote it"**
- e. it is an infrequently given superhuman epochal religious revelation
- f. no other book like it on earth - if you believe what the Urantia Book says about itself
- g. both questions involve the concept and unique factor of being superhuman not totally unique, there are others that are said to have superhuman spiritual origins of authorship and inspiration
- h. can be asked by almost anyone and anytime

It is desirable and helpful to be able to answer these questions in a brief, effective, honest, meaningful, and comfortable way.

2. This workshop presents my ideas and reasoning about answering these questions. It shares the way I approach these questions and what I usually say in answering them and have found to be very effective, brief, easy, and comfortable to say, to also be honest and meaningful, and to contain some of the most important information I want to share with the person asking them.

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Presented by: Jack Kane

- a. there are other good ways to answer these questions
- b. I have used these answers in all kinds of situations, to many different persons, at many different times, and in a lot of different places.
- c. because of being able to answer these questions with these statements and answers I am not overly worried about being asked them at anytime by anyone, and even look forward to being able to answer them!
- d. what is important to me is to feel as though I have really shared some of the most important information about these questions and the Urantia Book in answering them, and have not lost a rare and important opportunity to share some important information about the book, and have not unnecessarily confused or turned the person away from further interest in the book.
- e. what is most important is to feel that God is glad with the way I have answered these questions.
- f. what helps in answering these questions is to be able to do it in a positive, responsive, and enthusiastic way. It helps to be positive and friendly, to answer the questions slowly, and to frequently look the other person in the

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  - b. most people aren't familiar with the Urantia Book
  - c. commonly asked questions about any book
  - d. hard to answer about the Urantia Book
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- eyes. Try to avoid being defensive, trying not to directly answer the questions honestly, and worrying too much about the words you use.
- g. see the other person as a spiritual brother and sister and this is a wonderful and possibly rare opportunity to share some of the most important information you can with them to help them on their spiritual path at the present or later on in their life!
  - h. at some point we cannot get the information we want for the spiritual life without superhuman revelation. Even if a person does not soon make meaningful use of the information you share with them, at some later time it may be very important and worthwhile to them when they have come to that point on their spiritual path where they are desiring superhuman revelation and information. They may remember that you have told them about the next major revelation of truth on earth!

3. We will first look at what the Urantia Book says it is and who wrote it. This can be found in the second part of the Urantia Book, Paper 92, section 4, The Gift of Revelation, pages 1007 and 1008.

P1007:1, 92:4.1 Revelation is evolutionary but always progressive. Down through the ages of a world's history, the revelations of religion are ever-expanding and successively more enlightening. It is the mission of revelation to sort and censor the successive religions of evolution. But if revelation is to exalt and upstep the religions of evolution, then must such divine visitations portray teachings which are not too far removed from the thought and reactions of the age in which they are presented. Thus must and does revelation always keep in touch with evolution. Always must the religion of revelation be limited by man's capacity of receptivity.

P1007:2, 92:4.2 But regardless of apparent connection or derivation, the religions of revelation are always characterized by a belief in some Deity of final value and in some concept of the survival of personality identity after death.

P1007:3, 92:4.3 Evolutionary religion is sentimental, not logical. It is man's reaction to belief in a hypothetical ghost-spirit world -- the human belief-reflex, excited by the realization and fear of the unknown. Revelatory religion is propounded by the real spiritual world; it is the response of the superintellectual cosmos to the mortal hunger to believe in, and depend upon, the universal Deities. Evolutionary religion pictures the circuitous gropings of humanity in quest of truth; revelatory religion *is* that very truth.

P1007:4, 92:4.4 There have been many events of religious revelation but only five of epochal significance. These were as follows:

P1007:5, 92:4.5 1. *The Dalamatian teachings.* The true concept of the First Source and Center was first promulgated on Urantia by the one hundred corporeal members of Prince Caligastia's staff. This expanding revelation of Deity went on for more than three hundred thousand years until it was suddenly terminated by the planetary secession and the disruption of the teaching regime. Except for the work of Van, the influence of the Dalamatian revelation was practically lost to the whole world. Even the Nodites had forgotten this truth by the time of Adam's arrival. Of all who received the teachings of the

one hundred, the red men held them longest, but the idea of the Great Spirit was but a hazy concept in Amerindian religion when contact with Christianity greatly clarified and strengthened it.

P1007:6, 92:4.6 2. *The Edenic teachings.* Adam and Eve again portrayed the concept of the Father of all to the evolutionary peoples. The disruption of the first Eden halted the course of the Adamic revelation before it had ever fully started. But the aborted teachings of Adam were carried on by the Sethite priests, and some of these truths have never been entirely lost to the world. The entire trend of Levantine religious evolution was modified by the teachings of the Sethites. But by 2500 B.C. mankind had largely lost sight of the revelation sponsored in the days of Eden.

P1007:7, 92:4.7 3. *Melchizedek of Salem.* This emergency Son of Nebadon inaugurated the third revelation of truth on Urantia. The cardinal precepts of his teachings were *trust* and *faith*. He taught trust in the omnipotent beneficence of God and proclaimed that faith was the act by which men earned God's favor. His teachings gradually commingled with the beliefs and practices of various evolutionary religions and finally developed into those theologic systems present on Urantia at the opening of the first millennium after Christ.

P1008:1, 92:4.8 4. *Jesus of Nazareth.* Christ Michael presented for the fourth time to Urantia the concept of God as the Universal Father, and this teaching has generally persisted ever since. The essence of his teaching was *love* and *service*, the loving worship which a creature son voluntarily gives in recognition of, and response to, the loving ministry of God his Father; the freewill service which such creature sons bestow upon their brethren in the joyous realization that in this service they are likewise serving God the Father.

P1008:2, 92:4.9 5. *The Urantia Papers.* The papers, of which this is one, constitute the most recent presentation of truth to the mortals of Urantia. These papers differ from all previous revelations, for they are not the work of a single universe personality but a composite presentation by many beings. But no revelation short of the attainment of the Universal Father can ever be complete. All other celestial ministrations are no more than partial, transient, and practically adapted to local conditions in time and space. While such admissions as this may possibly detract from the immediate force and authority of all revelations, the time has arrived on Urantia when it is advisable to make such frank statements, even at the risk of weakening the future influence and authority of this, the most recent of the revelations of truth to the mortal races of Urantia.

These are some of the things that are important about this statement and description of the Urantia Book. It is the most recent epochal revelation to be given. It is authored by superhuman spiritual beings - response of the superintellectual cosmos - who know the truth and present it. It is truth and offers important spiritual enlightenment and direction for a person's spiritual life.

Also to find out who authored the Urantia Book according to the book itself see the first table of contents listing the authors and the information in the book describing who these

authors and spiritual beings are. It can readily be determined that they are superhuman spiritual beings who live throughout God's universe.

From this information in the Urantia Book it can also be easily determined that according to the book itself it is a superhuman revelation of truth.

4. This is what I usually say in answering the questions , "What is the Urantia Book" and "Who wrote it."

The Urantia Book says that it is the next major revelation of truth to be presented to the earth since Jesus. It says that it is completely written by angels and other spiritual beings who live throughout God's heavens, and they were specifically selected and told to write this revelation and present it to the earth as the next major revelation of truth for the earth to receive since Jesus.

This is usually what I say and all that I say initially, and stop after that letting the person asking the question respond and make any comments or ask any further questions that they have. If nothing else is said or asked I can let things go at that, and I feel that I have completely, honestly, and meaningfully answered their questions as they expected and wanted them to be answered, and that I have given them the most important information I think I should in answering these questions. I do not feel that I have to say anything else, I can leave things right there with nothing else said and feel completely satisfied and pleased with the way I have answered their questions!

Here are some key words that help in this answer to these questions:

**The Urantia Book says** – this just tells the person asking the question that this is what the Urantia Book itself says it is, it seems better than saying, "It is the next major revelation..." and it avoids them then saying, "Well how do you know" or, "Who says so." You are just stating what the Urantia Book itself claims to be. They can surmise that you believe what it says, but by stating it this way it seems to be very easily understood and taken in stride by most people who hear this, without them getting defensive feeling that you are just expecting them to take this as fact.

**next** – saying next tells the other person that the Urantia Book is the newest, the latest, the most recent major revelation here on earth. If at any time they want to know what the newest, the latest, the most up to date major revelation on earth is and what it says, they can know or may remember that they have heard of the Urantia Book and it is suppose to be the next major revelation of truth here on earth. This can be better to use than the "fifth" major revelation because often what a person wants to know when this is said is what are the other four revelations, and trying to explain those at the same time you are trying to tell someone about the Urantia Book and who wrote it can get things very confused and turn the person from wanting to hear or find out more about the book.

**major** – this seems to be more easily received and understood by the other person rather than using the term “epochal”. It tells them this is a very important and large revelation, you are not telling them it is just some little revelation. Epochal can sound too formal might make the other person be more hesitant to hear more about it. Major just seems to get the right idea across without making the other person wonder just what that may mean.

**revelation** – this tells the other person what kind of book it really is suppose to be, it classifies the book and right away tells them some very important information. They can understand that it is a religious or spiritual book and that the information can have a superhuman source.

**of truth** – this states what kind of revelation it is. This can be important because by just saying “revelation” alone many people can think it is like the end of the world information that is in the apostle John’s Book of Revelations. By saying that it is a revelation of truth it says that this is about truth, probably understood as spiritual truth, and most people are interested in seeking the truth and it tells them where they can find an important source of truth. It also says to them that this is suppose to be the truth, not just something that is new and interesting but not necessarily true. It tells them that it claims to be a source of truth and where they can find out what is suppose to be true.

**to be presented to the earth** – this is a concise way to describe the means by which it got here and who it was intended for. It conveys the idea that is has somehow originated from others outside the earth and was intended to be given to all those upon the earth, and that includes them.

**since Jesus** – this lets them know when the previous major revelation was, and it also tells them that that revelation was Jesus. It points the person to Jesus also, it lets them know that Jesus is important and can indicate to them that the Urantia Book and yourself believe in him. Many Christians can find this interesting and encouraging and make them more favorable to finding out more about the book.

**It says** – again this is telling the person that this is what the book says is it’s authorship, they can then find out for themselves what they think about it. It is a way for you to tell them who the book itself says were the authors.

**completely written** – this tells them that the whole book is suppose to be authored by superhuman beings and therefore the whole book is suppose to be a revelation of truth, even if parts of the material found expression by human writers earlier, the complete book is suppose to be authored by and have material included by the superhuman authors who wrote and put the material and information together and presented it to the earth. It conveys to them that the whole book is suppose to be a revelation of truth and that it is not just a book that contains some truth here and there.

**by angels** – almost all people like angels and understand them as good, truthful, loving, positive, and friendly servants of God and concerned with the welfare of the people on earth. By connecting “other spiritual beings” with angels it places them in a good, positive, honest, and trusting class with angels. The other person doesn’t have to wonder, now are these good spiritual beings, or are they some strange kind of being they aren’t sure is good. When the two kinds of spiritual beings mentioned, namely angels and other spiritual beings, these are just seen and considered as angels. And by further mentioning that they live throughout God’s universe, the relationship is conveyed that these are angels of God and are doing God’s good work. They are not some misguided and fallen angels who are writing this.

**and other spiritual beings** – this does honestly tell the person that there are other authors other than angels and that there are many authors. But it says that the other authors are working with angels and are spiritual beings and can probably be considered like angels. This can also give the general understanding that the book is a good spiritual book.

**throughout God’s heavens** - by saying that these spiritual beings live throughout God’s heavens it is giving the information that these other spiritual beings are superhuman and live in God’s heavens somewhere outside of the earth. By saying heavens it is a close term to the word heaven and so it can also say that these other spiritual beings live somewhere off the earth in a place similar to where we are suppose to go when we go to heaven. But it can avoid making it sound like these beings are from some strange dimension, instead it gives the idea that these other spiritual beings live out in God’s heavenly heavens, in God’s universe. This seems to be a truthful yet understandable way to present what kind of good spiritual beings these are and where these angels and other spiritual beings are from and live. It can also clarify the idea that these are not just human beings who are living on earth and calling themselves “angels”.

**specifically selected and told** – this confers the idea that this revelation is authorized and some concept about where the authority for the revelation comes from, and that these angels and other spiritual beings are acting under some higher authority under God to write this revelation.

**to write** –once again this says that the angels and other spiritual beings are the actual authors, organizers, selectors, and presenters of the material; and that it was not the human subject through whom the revelation came that was the actual author.

**this revelation and present it to the earth as the next major revelation of truth for the earth to receive since Jesus** – this states again what the Urantia Book says that it is and gives the other person another opportunity to hear what it is. This can help because a person doesn’t often hear a response to these

questions like has just been given and when it is shared again what the Urantia Book is they can better understand the information you are giving them.

5. Here are some further helpful things to say about the Urantia Book if a person wants to know more or asks some other questions about the following information.

It answers some of the most important questions we have in life such as: who are we, where did we come from, where are we going, why are we here, who is God, what is our relationship to God, what is important to do in life, what is life after death really going to be like, how is the universe structured, who was Jesus and what did he really say and do. It gives a lot of specific and comprehensive information about these. It also tells us who Adam and Eve really were, what was the Lucifer rebellion, how our earth got caught up in it, about many of the other angels and spiritual beings who inhabit the universe.

To the question about how the revelation was actually given to the earth, it seems to convey a good idea about the process to say that it was like being "channeled".

When someone wants to know about the person through whom the revelation came or when it was given it can be stated that it was around 1934 in Chicago and that we don't actually know who the person was that was used as a vehicle through whom the revelation came. There was a man Dr. William Sadler who was studying the person used as this person through whom the information was to come, and he and some other friends were given the responsibility of taking down the revelation and having it published. The revelators were told to give the revelation in the English language. The process used to get the revelation transmitted through the human subject involved the fragment of God that indwelt that individual and some other spiritual beings known as midwayers. The human subject was in an unconscious state similar to sleep through the whole process.

6. Concluding thoughts and comments.

Now it is hoped we can look forward to being asked many times in Vancouver and other places - What is the Urantia Book and who wrote it!