

THE SEVEN MASTER SPIRITS

We are in a series of lectures studying the Sevenfold Approach to Deity. This talk is about step number three: The 7 MASTER SPIRITS.

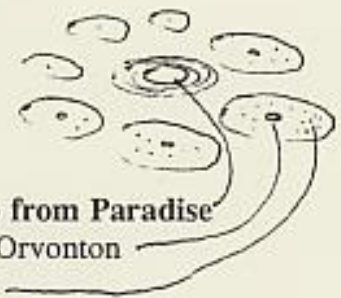
The Sevenfold Approach to Deity.

<u>Step</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>How Many</u>	<u>Where</u>
7	Universal Father	1	Paradise
6	Eternal Son	1	Paradise
5	Infinite Spirit	1	Paradise
4	Supreme Being	1	Paradise? Grand Universe?
3	7 MASTER SPIRITS	7	Paradise (periphery)
2	Ancients of Days	21	7 Superuniverse Headquarter, 3 at each
1	Creator Sons	700,000	Each Local Universe Headquarters

Which of the above will we Urantians meet?

We will meet Michael of Nebadon, our Local Universe, the three Ancients of Days and the Master spirit associated with our Superuniverse, then, the Supreme Being of all time and space, then the Trinity, culminating in the Father of all creation. But remember, even now we may fraternize with the divine presences of both the first and last steps.

7	Universal Father)	These four are unique entities;
6	Eternal Son)	There is only one of each.
5	Infinite Spirit)	So ascenders from all planets
4	Supreme Being)	all meet the same one.
3	MASTER SPIRIT		#7, controls superuniverse #7 (Orvonton) from Paradise
2	Ancients of Days		3 of them, presiding on Uversa, capital of Orvonton
1	Creator Son		Michael of Salvington, capital of Nebadon

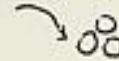


now	Spirit of Truth	Given to all Urantians at Pentecost, by Jesus (Michael)
now	Thought Adjuster	Fragment of Universal Father indwelling all free-will mortals








Why are there 7 Master Spirits?

Because there are 7 Superuniverses. There are 7 Superuniverses because that is the number of ways in which the Trinity can express itself. You see, 7 is the number of possible ways in which three things can manifest.

Mathematicians may wonder why there aren't 8 ways, since 8 is 2 to the third power. Theoretically there are, but the eighth combination, (all three absent,) exists in theory only and is therefore not observable as a manifestation in the universe.



What special characteristics does MASTER SPIRIT #7 have?

Master Spirit #	Superuniverse Name	Partakes of the characteristics of
1	?	Father 
2	?	Son 
3	?	Spirit 
4	?	Father and Son 
5	?	Father and Spirit 
6	?	Son and Spirit 
7	Orvonton	Father, Son and Spirit 

Ok, but what does the Master Spirit DO?

I've read Paper 16 three times and I'm still not sure. Now that we're studying the third level of our sevenfold approach to Deity, it probably begins to exceed our capacity to understand. It's all beyond us. It's just God doing the God thing, and that's so far from finite time and space that we can't really appreciate or begin to understand it.

Jesus said, "If you've seen me you've seen the Father." He meant that the glory we see manifest in Him is the Glory of God. I think he also meant that the human vision of the glorified Christ is about as much of total Infinite Deity as we humans can grasp. If that is true, how can we hope to visualize the Master Spirits, the Supreme Being or the Trinity?

Nevertheless, let's look at the paper in detail, and try to discern the ways in which the Seven Master Spirits differ from other aspects of Deity. As we will see, this paper is very much about this idea of discernment: material, moral and spiritual.

SUMMARY OF PAPER 16, "THE SEVEN MASTER SPIRITS"

They are "the primary personalities of the Infinite Spirit." They derive their characteristics from 7 "likenesses" (7 ways of manifesting the Trinity.) Their individual differences are "unmistakably discernible." Each one maintains a headquarters which slowly circulates around the periphery of Paradise, ever opposite the superuniverse being supervised.

1. RELATION TO TRIUNE DEITY

The Trinity is the "absolute inevitability." The Master Spirits are the "subabsolute inevitability." They derive from the Infinite Spirit, but the Father and Son also participated in their origin.

2. RELATION TO THE INFINITE SPIRIT

"All who attain the central universe can and do immediately commune with one of the Seven Master Spirits, the one presiding over the superuniverse from which the newly arrived space pilgrim hails." ... "Outside of Paradise and Havona the Infinite Spirit *speaks* only by the voices of the Seven Master Spirits."

3. IDENTITY AND DIVERSITY OF THE MASTER SPIRITS

While they are "indescribable beings," our Master Spirit Number Seven "may be described" as "a uniquely equal portrayal" of the Father, Son and Spirit. He is the "adviser and director of all the ascending pilgrims of Havona." Because he is the "portraiture of the three infinite persons" of the Trinity, he "discloses a personal and organic relationship to the spirit person of the evolving Supreme." ... "He thus inherently becomes the presiding head of the Paradise council of the Seven Master Spirits." ... "He is the one high spirit being that all ascenders are certain to recognize and somewhat comprehend when they reach the centers of glory."

4. ATTRIBUTES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MASTER SPIRITS

It is difficult for the mortal mind to understand very much about them "because their work is to highly specialized yet all-embracing." They are the creators of "the cosmic mind." They are the

“ancestors” of the Universe Power Directors, controlling all physical energy. While they have nothing to do with the (a) Thought Adjusters, or (b) the Unqualified Absolute, it’s probable that they influence all of the following:

- life initiation by the Life Carriers
- activation of the adjutant mind-spirits
- fluctuations in and behavior of energy
- bestowal of the local universe Creative Spirit (the Holy Spirit)
- bestowal of the Sprit of Truth
- the reflectivity mechanism

5. RELATION TO CREATURES

“Each native creature, man or angel, will forever bear this badge of natal identification.” The Master Spirit does not initially commune with us, except through the Creative Mother Spirit, who is very much like him.

6. THE COSMIC MIND

The Master Spirits are its source. It is functionally related to the mind of the Supreme. The cosmic mind explains human minds running in the same “channels of astonishing similarity and inexplicable agreement.” It operates on three levels of reality: causation, duty and worship.

<u>Reality Level</u>	<u>Reality Domain</u>	<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>Form of cosmic discrimination</u>
causation	physical senses	logic and fact	mathematical and scientific
duty	moral	philosophy and reason	judicial
worship	spiritual	values and insight	reverential and worshipful

“It is sad that so few persons on Urantia take delight in cultivating these qualities of courageous and independent cosmic thinking.” When unified, these three levels “produce a strong character consisting in the correlation of a factual science, a moral philosophy, and a genuine religious experience.”

It is the purpose of...

education	to develop and sharpen	these endowments of cosmic mind
civilization	to express	“ “ “ “
life experience	to realize	“ “ “ “
religion	to ennoble	“ “ “ “
personality	to unify	“ “ “ “

7. MORALS, VIRTUE AND PERSONALITY

Animals can learn from experience the best way to attain a goal. Humans can discern between the values of goals the themselves. "A personality can look before it leaps and can therefore learn from looking as well as from leaping. A nonpersonal animal ordinarily learns only by leaping."

"Virtue is righteousness--conformity with the cosmos. To name virtues is not to define them, but to live them is to know them." ... "Man's moral nature would be impotent without the art of measurement, the discrimination embodied in his ability to scrutinize meanings."

"Morality can never be advanced by law or force. It is a personal and freewill matter, and must be disseminated by the contagion of the contact of morally fragrant persons..." Supreme virtue "is wholeheartedly to choose to do the will of the Father in Heaven."

8. URANTIA PERSONALITY

While all Thought Adjusters start out identical; personalities start out as "diverse, original and exclusive." They are further conditioned by material, mindal and spiritual nature of the "organismal vehicle."

"Personalities may be similar, but they are never the same." ... "Personality is that feature of an individual which we *know*, and which enables us to identify such a being at some future time regardless of the nature and extent of changes in form, mind, or spirit status."

Personality has (a) self-consciousness, including the ability to recognize the reality of other personalities, and (b) associated relative free will. Free will allows moral decision, spiritual choice, love and service, cooperation and loyalty, cosmic insight, and "personality dedication, wholehearted devotion to doing the Father's will."

9. REALITY OF HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS

"Personality identity survives in and by the survival of the soul."

"Civilizations come and go, but science, morality and religion always survive the crash."

"In the life of Jesus, you see man at his best."

"We worship God, first, because *he is*,
then, because *he is in us*,
and last, because *we are in him*."