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Mr. Leo H. Elliott  
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Dear Leo:

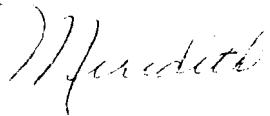
Thank you for sending copies of your extensive research comparing Dr. Sadler's word style and the word style of *The Urantia Book*. I appreciated reading your reaction to this similarity and having "William S. Sadler, Sr. -- Timeline of Life Events." I'm glad there are people like you, Martin Gardner, and others who are interested in this kind of research. Dr. Sadler was, indeed, an unusual person and in all of my years of associating with him, I believe he was an honest and truthful person. He clearly stated that he did not tell everything he knew about the origin of *The Urantia Book*. He also confessed that there were many things about its origin that he did not know. He was the most skeptical person in the Forum, and it was a long time in the reception of the papers until he threw in his "intellectual" towel.

My basic approach to and interest in *The Urantia Book* has always been along a different line—the search for spiritual truth. I was never impressed by the book's claim to be "revelatory." In fact, this claim made me especially suspicious of its quality. Who may have written the book is, in my opinion, not a criterion of its authenticity as spiritual truth. I think the book should be evaluated on the basis of its spiritual truth or lack of it. It took mainline Christian theologians a long time to arrive at this position regarding the Bible. Anyone taking this position is not likely to believe in the "literal" inspiration of any book or writing. One evaluates the truth of concepts presented, and the only "authority" for this evaluation is one's personal noetic perception and life experience.

When I read *The Urantia Book*, I was amazed at its truth perception and insight. This appreciation has grown over the years. If the Bible and other sacred books contain truth, overall *The Urantia Book* is more so. One should not accept concepts in any book unless they meet the criterion of one's own truth perception and experience. *The Urantia Book* is the best integration of science, philosophy, and religion of any book, philosophic view , or theological treatise with which I am acquainted. It is the most coherent and reasonable view of spiritual reality available to humankind, in my opinion. I doubt that any one human being could have written it and one could never get a group of scholars to agree on its content. The most rational explanation of its end product, for me, is that it is "revelatory"—that superior intelligence and knowledge was involved in its production. This does not mean that it is "infallible," or "final." It is simply the best thing available to date.

Thanks, again, for your sharing Leo. I hope you are enjoying the kind of delightful fall we are experiencing in Indiana.

Cordially,



Meredith J. Sprunger