

St. John's United Church of Christ

(Evangelical and Reformed)

SIXTH & SYCAMORE STREET

NILES, MICHIGAN

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Dear Meredith,

Just completed your paper, "The Story of God and Our World". Other than the one error which I detected, it is good work. I thought the diagram very helpful. I doubt if my twelve year confirmands could grasp all of it, but it would be stimulating. I have been working on something of this nature also, but with a more subtle approach. When completed, I'll see that you have a crack at it.

The error which jarred me immediately, and which you will recognize at once, concerns page three, the second paragraph from the bottom. I quote. "Many millions of years ago the Life Carriers came and brought life to our world." I now refer to page 667 of the Urantia Book where you will read, "We can and do carry life to the planets, but we brought no life to Urantia. Urantia life is unique, original with the planet." There ~~may have been and~~ probably was a guided pattern, but there was no transplant from other places. This is important in the total picture of life on earth, for science has good reason to say that life began through a chemical process that, except for its arrangement, was inherent in the structure of the young planet, earth. I just finished Irving Adler's, "How Life Began" and must admit the logic of his conclusions. However, where he uses the term "accident", I use the term pattern. Manipulation?

When I requested that contributions to our study group also include devotional and personal reactions, I was not being sentimental. We can, I believe, keep this too much in the intellectual, which is good, but it should not be to the exclusion of a helpful sharing in areas where we have personally moved ahead by new interest and understanding through worship and service. You began to do that when you described the work in your own church. A further help would be the new forms of prayer and other worship aids which are a result of Urantia revelation, and that you now employ with meaning. Do I make myself clear? How is the new "cosmic consciousness" expressing itself not only in ideas but actions. Personal actions. If I am on a wrong track here, please switch me over.

All I can say about Henry and his approach on the sex matter is that, if he speaks as plainly and intimately as he indicated, the problems with over eager women were of his own making, at least to some degree.

Is "Urantia" supposed to convey the meaning, or feeling, of Urania in Latin, or Ourania in Greek, meaning heaven or heavenly? I have been wondering about the name. Uranus is the name given to the seventh(7th)planet in our system. Is there some coincidence in the number and the name?

(over)

(Feb. 7, 1958)

Received your letter yesterday. The outline will be helpful and if you would provide copies for all, it will add to our study. WHEN do you get the time to accomplish the tremendous amount of work you have been doing on this book? You will have to outline your daily schedule for me sometime.

Will see you Monday at the "regular" study group.

Sincerely,