



The CONJOINT READER

A Publication of *The School of Meanings and Values*
for readers of The URANTIA Book

Volume IV, Number 1: Spring, 1995

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

October 7th and 8th, 1995: Mini-Conference
Holy Spirit Retreat Center, Encino, CA

LEADERSHIP: AMBASSADORS IN SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

A mini-conference specifically designed to define, explore, and integrate the components of forward spiritual leadership as described by historical examples in the Urantia teachings. Speakers from various groups will share their insights and efforts. Questions will be discussed such as *"What have we learned from the trials and errors of the past?"* This will be an opportunity for you to be a part of a fresh start in the way we look at leadership.

This conference will be repeated **November 11, 1995** for the Golden Gate Circles Society, Mercy Center, Palo Alto, CA.

Look for details in the mail!!

Vision for the Future

*A letter from SMV's President
Royce Russell*

I am pleased to have the principal responsibility and privilege of being President of the Board of Directors of *The School of Meanings and Values* for 1995. A president, in my view, should provide both a continuity with the past and a vision for the future. My vision for the future originated in, was continually sustained by, and has been faithfully forged from the past five years experiences with school projects and assignments. They have proven to me how vast and varied are the needs of The URANTIA Book reader

community, and how invaluable the School's efforts have been in serving those needs by providing "a forum for individual and group spiritual exploration based on the principles and teachings of the Fifth Epochal Revelation." My vision for 1995 is that we will continue these efforts in new and creative ways, and strive to maintain the standards and quality URANTIA Book readers have come to expect and enjoy.

Some people spend a lot of time thinking and planning for the trip to the next level, morontia and beyond. But The URANTIA Book informs us that if we haven't taken the time to live to our fullest, we will be back in school, repeating the classes we unwittingly flunked in earth college. If the universe were to hand you a report card, how do you think you'd be doing so far in the courses of joy, humor, love, light, kindness, ministry, expressing the will of the Father, and gratitude? What kind of report card are you trying to achieve, and what courses of study are you planning to pursue and realize by the end of '95? Are you aiming to graduate from earth college Magna Cum Laude — with highest praise? If so, then *The School of Meanings and Values* has a program for you and eagerly encourages your enrollment and active participation.

"The spiritual forward urge is the most powerful driving force present in the world, the truth learning believer is the one progressive and aggressive soul on earth (p.2063)." "Truth is always a revelation (p.1109)" and "it is the comprehension of truth that constitutes the highest form of human liberty." (p.2060) *The School of Meanings and Values* caters to the discovery and expression of that *spiritual forward urge* through its many offerings that are centered upon the truth (revelation) of The URANTIA Book. And through these venues our minds are freed to comprehend those truths and indulge ourselves in that liberty.

SMV

Guilt, Part II

By Polly Friedman

The URANTIA Book makes a distinction between two kinds of guilt origin. The first has to do with mores and morals.

"The sense of feeling of guilt is the consciousness of the violation of the mores: it is not necessarily sin...the possibility of the recognition of the sense of guilt is a badge of transcendent distinction of mankind. It does not mark man as mean but rather sets him apart as a creature of potential greatness and ever-ascending glory distinction." (p.984)

The feeling of guilt is an early experience learned from disobedience in our early training and conditioning by parents, family, teachers and other adult authority. All of us remember our very young feelings of guilt resulting from the cover-up. It could have been stealing a cookie, breaking a dish, running away from chores, or even an accident. And even after the indwelling of the Thought Adjuster, these responses became a part of growing up in most cases validated as healthy by adult disciplinarians. Often these high standards or ideals are confused with religion and religious growth. The Urantia teachings explain that man's moral ideals are not the same as God's expectations or will.

In this case, "The sense of guilt (not the consciousness of sin) comes from either interrupted spiritual communion or from the lowering of one's moral ideals. Deliverance from such a predicament can only come through the realization that one's highest moral ideals are not necessarily synonymous with the will of God. Man cannot hope to live up to his highest ideals, but he can be true to his purpose of finding God and becoming more and more like him.

Jesus swept away all of the ceremonials of sacrifice and atonement. He destroyed the basis of all this fictitious guilt and sense of isolation in the universe by declaring that man is a child of God: the creature-Creator relationship was placed on a child-parent basis. God becomes a loving Father to his mortal sons and daughters. All ceremonials not a legitimate part of such an intimate family relationship are forever abrogated.

"God the Father deals with man his child on the basis, not of actual virtue or worthiness, but in recognition of the child's motivation — the creature purpose and intent. The relationship is one of parent-child association and is actuated by divine love." (p.1133)

There is no place for "fictitious guilt" and in the knowledge that we are forgiven (for meaning before we ask) by God, we need also to forgive ourselves and

accept the fact of being an evolutionary creature that is becoming perfect very very gradually.

Another kind of guilt comes from the awareness of deliberate sin. "Guilt is purely a matter of personal sin and knowing, deliberate rebellion against the will of the Father and the administrations of his Sons." (p.2003)

It is interesting the phrase does not say the feeling of guilt, but guilt, which in this case seems legitimate and a natural consequence of rebellion against the will of the Father. This guilt seems justified for it is a warning signal that makes us feel isolated and alienated from God.

"Sin must be redefined as deliberate disloyalty to Deity. There are degrees of disloyalty: the partial loyalty of indecision, the divided loyalty of confliction: the dying loyalty of indifference; and the death of loyalty exhibited in devotion to godless ideals."

"The forgiveness of sin by Deity is the renewal of loyalty relations following a period of the human consciousness of the lapse of such relations as the consequence of conscious rebellion. The forgiveness does not have to be relations between creature and the Creator. And all the loyal sons of God are happy, service-loving and ever-progressive in the Paradise ascent." (p.985)

In receiving forgiveness we take it up and own it, knowing that if God can forgive even deliberate rebellion, surely we can forgive also and pick up the pieces. With forgiveness the creature finds that guilt vanishes. The renewal of loyalty brings fresh purpose, new energy, and a sense of warmth, peace and containment in the arms of our merciful, understanding Father.

As imperfect creatures doubtless old patterns will crop up now and then. Realizing that guilt has no place in our lives is the first step to renewing a faith unencumbered with old baggage.

SMV

*I will not die an unlived life.
I will not live in fear of falling or catching fire.
I choose to inhabit my days,
to allow my living to open me,
to make me less afraid, more accessible.
To loosen my heart until it becomes a wing,
a torch, a promise.
I choose to risk my significance;
To Live!
So that which came to me as seed
goes to the next as blossom
and that which came to me as blossom,
Goes on as fruit.*

Dawna Markova

SMV Takes a Journey to the East: THE ACCESSIBILITY OF GOD: EXPLORING THE GIFTS OF THE FATHER, SON AND SPIRIT

by Stephen Zendt

Polly Friedman was urged to bring a program from *The School of Meanings and Values* to Connecticut, last year. With the help of K. Brendi Poppel and Stephen Zendt, a full day of study and lecture was created on the theme of **THE ACCESSIBILITY OF GOD**, on the campus of Briarwood College in Southington, Connecticut.

People from all over the area, from Manhattan and even from Rhode Island, arrived for this program. Our hosts for the weekend were from Newport, Rhode Island and provided transportation to and from Briarwood College, half way across the state of Connecticut.

Our day was divided into three portions: 1) Fact 2) Meaning and 3) Value. Brendi, a musician and poet, opened the program by sharing some of her words with us. She then introduced "Poprah Windex" an outrageous send-up of certain television personalities, played by our own Polly Friedman! She proceeded to grill a professional "Dr. Zenda" about certain claims made in the pages of a certain large book. Amid the laughter, some real learning took place, as we worked with the differential between the Eternal Son and Michael, our Creator Son, one of many such Sons throughout the Grand Universe.

After removing his Dr. Zenda character, Stephen Zendt spoke about the *Gift of the Son — the Spirit of Truth* as it manifests itself to us.

A break for lunch allowed for a great deal of fellowship and enjoyment of the pot-luck meal contributed by many of the attendees. Old friends and new mingled warmly for about an hour before the afternoon session began, led by Polly on the *Gifts of the Infinite Spirit*, including our own Mother Spirit of Nebadon, Mind Spirits, Holy Spirit and Angels.

Then it was Brendi's turn, centering on *The Gift of the Father — The Thought Adjuster*, and regaling us with new insights through her poetry and music. She focused on the need to follow healthful practices for the body and mind in order to allow the Adjuster maximum advantage in renewal of our minds.

The final portion of the program was sharing in small groups of six or seven, focusing on the questions: 1) In what ways have you as an individual accessed God's gifts? 2) How have you overcome barriers that allow God to access you? These two provocative questions stimulated some active discussion in each of the several groups huddled around the large open classroom. A reporter from each of the groups helped everyone to get a glimpse

of those insights gained in the individual group of which he or she was a participant.

Polly closed the program with a brief but very touching worship in which all of us joined in a big circle with a variety of cut flowers, one per person, to be placed into a central vessel, symbolizing the combination of each personal self into a arrangement of beauty and wide variety. It seemed the perfect climax to a lengthy presentation with many levels of meaning and personal perception.

We were very grateful to the Connecticut Fellowship for the invitation and the arrangements, and to Peter Miller of Newport, Rhode Island who handled transportation and sleeping accommodations for Polly and for Stephen. It was fascinating to see this richly historic area on the Atlantic Coast and to spend a day in the company of such accomplished and enthusiastic students of our revelation.

Our "Journey to the East" was well worth the time and effort, and we anticipate development of other programs of this type for future invitations to travel. It is this sort of experience that lends deeper significance to Jesus' exhortation: "those to whom much has been given, much will be required..."

The Voice of God by Brendi

The Voice of God is in us all
If we listen we can hear,
A whispered word, hardly heard,
Seldom spoken, but always there.
Wherever we go, He is with us,
Ready to show us the way,
Always waiting for some lost soul
Who opens his heart to pray.

*Do you want to hear that still, small voice?
It's your decision, it's your choice,
Do you want the God that lives inside of you
to be your guide?*

The voice of God is like a prayer,
Heart-felt thoughts are in the air,
A silent sound does resound,
In the Spirit, he's always there.
Wherever we go, he is with us,
Loving us just as we are,
Always waiting for us to come to Him
When we are so far away.

*Are you willing to open up?
Are you ready to really love?
Are you willing to heed the Voice
that lives deep inside of you.*

COMPARATIVE STUDY SERIES

A COMPARISON OF BASIC CONCEPTS IN THE WRITINGS OF TEILHARD DE CHARDIN AND THE URANTIA BOOK

Compiled and Selected by Polly Friedman and Royce Russell

Teilhard de Chardin was a realist and mystic — a scientist, paleontologist, philosopher and Jesuit priest. In his life and work he combined his knowledge of science and evolution with insights of spiritual truth that yield a profound perception ahead of its time, and that also parallel the teachings of the Fifth Epochal Revelation. This one-day SMV seminar focuses primarily Teilhard's master work — *The Phenomenon of Man*. What follows is a comparison of several shared ideas and concepts from Teilhard's writings and The URANTIA Book.

Teilhard	EVOLUTION	The URANTIA Book
With the first appearance of man — reflective thought appears.	↔	With Andon and Fonta, human thought appears.
As the physical evolves, it sets the stage for the interior.	↔	As the physical and mental evolve, it sets the stage for the spiritual.
The process of matter evolving into higher complexities is the fundamental base of evolution.	↔	Evolution is the technique of cosmic growth.
We live in a universe that is being born. We are in a constant state of creative change. Evolution is a light illuminating all facts.	↔	We move from potential to reality. God is the first truth and the last fact.
Mankind has cosmic roots.	↔	Mankind has cosmic destiny.

Teilhard	THE GOAL	The URANTIA Book
The cell gradually reaches maturity — perfection is in sight and the way is clear.	↔	"Be you perfect, even as I am perfect."
There is a guiding thread — a definite line of purpose.	↔	The transcendent goal...is to find the eternal God.

Teilhard	INNER LIFE	The URANTIA Book
The innumerable focal points are not independent of each other.	↔	Each Thought Adjuster is a unique entity of energy. All work towards the same goal.
Evolution brought us to the "within" of man. The "within" forms the basis of all knowledge.	↔	Of all human knowledge, the greatest is knowing the human life of Jesus. The Father's will is nothing more or less than the sharing of the inner life with him.

Teilhard	HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS	The URANTIA Book
The physical aspect of energy is transformed into the spiritual which becomes the foundation for higher consciousness.	↔	Higher God-consciousness eventually moves the planet into Light and Life.
The world is not held together from below but from above moving toward greater complexity and consciousness.	↔	Intelligent, progressing life becomes proof of a purposeful universe expressing a Divine Creator.

Teilhard	UNIFICATION	The URANTIA Book
Collective togetherness on earth includes a grain of matter, a grain of life, a grain of thought.	↔	Unification involves uniting matter, mind and spirit.
Each consciousness becomes even more itself, distinct from the others.	↔	We move from potential to actual as a distinct personality.
Love is the only force that can unite mankind. It is the only natural medium we have for the upward course of man.	↔	"God is love." "Love is the desire to do good to others." "My children, love one another."
No man can grow and evolve except in cooperation with all men. The sum total is <i>megasyntesis</i> — all men in the unity of one single tissue.	↔	One day there will be brotherhood. There will be one language, one race, one religion.

*Some day, after we have mastered the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity,
we will harness for God the energies of Love;
and then, for the second time in the history of the world
Man will have discovered fire!*

- Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

CALENDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 8, 1995: **THE THREAD OF TRUTH: THE ETERNAL SON, PART II.** Santa Monica, CA. This one-day seminar examines the relationship between the Eternal Son and the individual, as we strive for spiritual growth during our human experience.
- Aug 20, 1995: Annual Remembrance Supper in Celebration of Jesus's Birthday. We will also celebrate the 10th Anniversary of *The School of Meanings and Values* with a formal dinner out - reservations required.
- Oct 7/8, 1995: **LEADERSHIP: AMBASSADORS IN SPIRITUAL PROGRESS.** Encino, CA
- Nov 11, 1995: **LEADERSHIP: AMBASSADORS IN SPIRITUAL PROGRESS.** Palo Alto, CA

Take a look at the Class Listing enclosed. The School has developed an extensive curriculum. Feel free to contact Polly Friedman, our Education Chairperson (818)880-5943 if you would like to have the School make a presentation to your study group or society.

The School of Meanings and Values is a nonprofit California Corporation whose purpose and goals are to engage in educational activities which specifically provide individual and group spiritual exploration based on the principles and teachings of the Fifth Epochal Revelation, *The URANTIA Book*. The primary objectives of the School are to further disseminate the teachings of *The URANTIA Book* by training teachers and leaders for world-wide service.

Board of Directors: Polly Friedman, Michael Hill, Gary Reedy, Valerie Becker, Dianne Bishop, Royce Russell, Don Morton.

Advisory Board: Grace Boyett; Peter Miller; Richard Omura; K. Brendi Poppel; Stella Religa; Toni A. Richey; Stephen Zandt.

The CONJOINT READER Staff: Valerie Becker; Polly Friedman; Richard Omura; Royce Russell

Sighs of the Times

by Stephen Finlan

I am concerned with the connection between revelation and evolution, with making it useful on this earth. "Thus must and does revelation always keep in touch with evolution." (p.1007) For me, this means contact with Christians. My current setting is a liberal Christian seminary, and I have a few observations to make.

The URANTIA Book utilized liberal Protestant writers like Hocking and Baillie when it drew from human sources. But these writers have been largely forgotten by Protestantism. Worse than this, their ideas are sometimes scorned by supposed liberals: for instance, the idea that there were religious geniuses who fostered theological progress.

In fact, the whole idea of progress is almost lost. To assert that any religious development is more advanced than any other is now branded "cultural imperialism." Terms like "advanced," "primitive," "higher" (so common in the URANTIA Book) are virtually forbidden words.

All the trends are just the opposite of what we find in The URANTIA Book. While everybody nowadays is combining the disciplines and blurring the boundaries, The URANTIA Book says "Science deals with *facts*; religion is concerned only with *values*" (p.1110:5). Many Christians are saying that churches must be involved in political action, but The URANTIA Book spends a whole paper (Paper 99) refuting this. While most people try to minimize the differences between the races, and turn "equality" into a religious ideal, The URANTIA Book unembarrassedly describes "inferior" and "superior" races and speaks of the necessity of eugenics. The URANTIA Book is as un-PC (politically correct) as it could be.

The corrosion of belief in the Bible which has been going on for 200 years, has reached its peak (or nadir). Mainstream Protestants have less faith in the Bible than ever before — and yet, this may be a cleansing phenomenon. There is no cheap, second-hand Christology in mainstream Protestantism any more. Protestants who have faith in Jesus, have had to exert spiritual and intellectual effort, study history, and recognize that there is something irreducible about this man. But not everyone is able to fight through the forest of reductionistic and skeptical interpretations.

Protestantism is weak now, as regards belief in the person and mission of Jesus — though it affirms his "egalitarian" values. Many believers are voting with their feet, moving to a Bible church, or up the

street to the Roman cathedral, or across town to the Orthodox church. Possibly the fastest-growing mainstream church in America is the Antiochene branch of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

What do the "gaining" churches have in common? They all have a strong Christology. But there is often a lack of honest engagement with the scientific viewpoint, and a willingness to accept second-hand religion. With Protestants, I can mention Christology and evolution in the same sentence, and I can speak to people who use their minds.

Despite these problems — or because of them — I feel that it is worthwhile for The URANTIA Book readers to make contacts with Protestants, if they feel so inclined. We can affirm their truth, and they can enliven ours.

It is important that we try to be effective. My realistic warnings above are designed to eliminate any cheery delusions about "turning on" the church. Besides, maybe they're already turned-on.

Ethics: Youth and the Community.

by Michael E. Hill

When we founded the *School of Meanings and Values*, in July, 1985, we recognized the importance of broadening our focus to cover several areas. We decided on ones that: promote intellectual growth, foster spiritual insight, and develop teacher and leadership training. We also wanted to be sure to include the integration of meanings and values into the practical mainstream, as well, as a goal. We believe that, as God-seeking and knowing individuals, we are directed to seek and find avenues of service that support and encourage this principle.

In addition to my duties as a director of the *School of Meanings and Values*, I am also the president of the Santa Monica High School (Samohi) Alumni Association (SAA). There is only one high school in Santa Monica, and nearly all the children of the community pass through it. The SAA is a modest organization, but one that is very closely tied to the communities of Santa Monica and Malibu. Samohi is an old high school, having celebrated its centennial in 1991, and one that both my parents and grandparents attended. It has graduated about fifty thousand young adults in its one-hundred-plus year history, and has a sizable following, with members living around the world holding a myriad of occupations. About a quarter of the current faculty graduated from it.

Last year, in my role as president, I had the opportunity to create the Superintendent's Banquet. A black-tie, \$100/plate fundraising event. More than fundraiser, we wanted to institute a publicly attended formal event that would bring together all facets of the community. To this end, we required table sponsors to donate two of the ten seats they purchased back to the association so we could invite high school students to join them at their table. Tuxedos were provided for the students at no cost. Local companies such as The Gas Company, GTE, Gillette/Papermate, LA Gear, RAND, DoubleTree Guest Suites, and others shared in hosting the evening.

This year marked our second year. Both years had about 170 in attendance, and raised a nice amount for the high school principal for "unmet school advancement needs." The theme last year was Youth and Values and this year was Ethics: Youth and the Community. The following is the commentary I wrote for the program:

The Board of Directors of the Samohi Alumni Association, in recognition of their unique position in the community, the resources and support of over five thousand alumni, and the deep and abiding affection for Samohi and the students of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District created the Superintendent's Banquet in 1994 as a venue where all parts of the community could join together in weaving anew the meanings and values that make the fabric of daily life. It is an evening of celebration and camaraderie between generations of Santa Monica and Malibu residents, business people, elected officials, members of government, students and alumni. It provides a social time for the fair exchange of ideas about values, their meanings and place in our lives; it is a time to share and compare the experiences of living. And it is a time to hear from and speak to those responsible for overseeing the education of all our children, and especially our young adults, the students of Samohi. Proceeds derived from the banquet are placed in the Principal's Fund, an endowment for unmet school advancement needs. We appreciate your support.

In providing this event, we have found a community eager to discuss values. These are wonderful evenings filled with fine food, wonderful speeches, and engaging conversation across generations and socio-economic classes. This year, we invited three CEO's, three faculty, and three students to speak from their tables about what Ethics meant to them. We divided up the speakers between courses, and the evening moved along very nicely. At the end

of the evening, during the dessert course, the Superintendent and the high school principal were given an opportunity to share back with the guests what they heard from the speakers. This was most effective in providing a genuine atmosphere of meaningful dialog with people in positions of leadership, ones who can create and model change.

And of course, the evening ended with the high school jazz band, *The Serenaders*, all twenty-four of them, dressed in their tuxedos, playing big band music from the forties and fifties. It was an exceptional evening, and it centered around the meanings and values of ethics.

SMV



LESSON SEVENTY-SEVEN

by Hua Hu Ching

The Unknown Teachings of LaoTzu on the Attainment of Enlightenment and Mastery. Translated by Brian Walker, 1992.

Humanity grows more and more intelligent, yet there is clearly more trouble and less happiness daily.

How can this be so?

It is because intelligence is not the same thing as wisdom.

When a society misuses partial intelligence and ignores holistic wisdom, its people forget the benefits of a plain and natural life. Seduced by their desires, emotions, and egos, they become slaves to bodily demands, to luxuries, to power and unbalanced religion and psychological excuses.

Then the reign of calamity and confusion begins.

Nonetheless, superior people can awaken during times of turmoil to lead others out of the mire.

But how can the one liberate the many?

By first liberating his own being.

He does this not by elevating himself, but by lowering himself.

He lowers himself to that which is simple and modest and truthful, and by integrating it into himself, he becomes a master of simplicity, modesty, and truth.

Completely emancipated from his former false life, he discovers his original pure nature, which is the nature of the universe.

Freely and spontaneously releasing his divine energy, he constantly transcends complicated situations and draws everything around him back into an integral oneness.

Because he is a living divinity, when he acts, the universe acts.

*The doing of the Will of God is
nothing more or less
than an exhibition of creature willingness
to share the inner life with God -
with the very God who has made such a Creature Life
of inner meaning-value possible.*

(The URANTIA Book, p. 1221)

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The School of Meanings and Values

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SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS ENCOMPASSING THE SCHOOL'S FOUR TRACKS OF STUDY

The School of Meanings and Values

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Topical Studies to Promote Spiritual Insight.
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CONFERENCES

1. **THE ROLE OF MEANINGS AND VALUES IN SPIRITUAL TEAMWORK**
A study to enhance our experience and understanding of the development of meanings and values, and to develop a clearer consciousness of how to incorporate these realities into daily living to the benefit of the individual, the family, the community, and the Supreme.
2. **EVOLVING A SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY: A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN RELATIONSHIPS**
A three day workshop dealing with an individual's relationship to God, to oneself, and to others in order to evolve a community.
3. **OUTREACH**
A three part seminar designed for group interaction: A New Meaning, Journey of Personal Transformation and Outreach, Leadership Outreach.

RETREATS/WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS

1. **INSPIRATION: GIFT OF THE COSMOS**
A ten part series looking at inspirational characters in The URANTIA Book.
2. **JESUS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION - PRESENTATION ON MEANINGS AND VALUES**
An afternoon seminar exploring meanings and values.
3. **HOW JESUS TAUGHT**
A four part series surveying Jesus' attitudes of teaching through stories; team teaching, teaching through service and using one's life as a teaching tool.

4. **THE GIFT OF REVELATION: COMMON THREADS OF REVEALED AND EVOLUTIONARY RELIGION**
A six-part series studying major world religions (Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Sikhism) and particularly the common ideas of One Truth, One God, Life After Death, Divine Essence in Man.
5. **IN DEPTH STUDY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY**
A seminar study looking at the complex blend of physiology, psychology and sociology present in couple and family relationships and what The URANTIA Book has to say.
6. **FEAR, COURAGE, AND STRENGTH**
A seminar study of the evolution of these qualities and emotions drawing on inspiration from The URANTIA Book.
7. **A PERSONAL JOURNEY: THE SOUL**
A two-day seminar devoted to The Evolution of the Soul, The Thought Adjuster and the Soul, Mind and Soul Evolution, Morontia Experiences Now.
8. **EVOLVING COMMUNAL VISION**
A one day workshop exploring the meaning of communal vision in preparation for building community. This is a condensed version of the weekend seminar *Evolving a Spiritual Community*.
9. **THE URANTIA LITERACY PROJECT**
Workshops designed to develop outlines of the Four Parts of The URANTIA Book for twenty minute, two hours, and full-day presentations.
10. **COMPARATIVE STUDY: TEACHINGS OF TEILHARD DE CHARDIN AND THE URANTIA BOOK**
Teilhard de Chardin was a realist and mystic — a scientist, paleontologist, philosopher and Jesuit priest. In his life and work he combined his knowledge of science and evolution with insights of spiritual truth that yield a profound perception ahead of its time, that also parallel the teachings of the 5th Epochal Revelation.
The one-day seminar is primarily devoted to the study of Teilhard's masterwork — *The Phenomenon of Man*, augmented with unusual audio-visual material and small group discussion built around comparative study.
11. **THE ETERNAL SON: OUR PATH TO UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF GOD**
A half-day seminar exploring aspects of the Second Person of Deity and the Relationship of Deity; The Eternal Sons' relationship to man; The Eternal Sons' presence on Earth - through the Life and Teachings of Jesus; recognizing the key tones of the broadcast of the message of the Eternal Son to earth through the daily life of Michael of Nebadon.
12. **ACCESSIBILITY OF GOD**
A full-day seminar presenting The Gift of the Son: The Spirit of Truth; The Gifts of the Infinite Spirit: Mother Spirit, Mind Spirits, Holy Spirit, Angels; The Gift of the Father: The Thought Adjuster. Culminates with small group sharing.