

A
GUIDED
TOUR
OF THE
URANTIA
BOOK



FROM HERE
TO ETERNITY
IN TWENTY
MINUTES

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TO THE READER:

This material was prepared by the editors of The Invisible Fellowship Magazine: Carol Hay, Joan Batson Mullins and Larry Mullins. The editors are entirely responsible for its contents and publication. The Invisible Fellowship Magazine has no affiliations of any kind.

We wish to point out that there *are no authorities* on *The Urantia Book*. The material presented herewith is not complete, nor do we claim it is a definitive summary and evaluation of the contents of *The Urantia Book*.

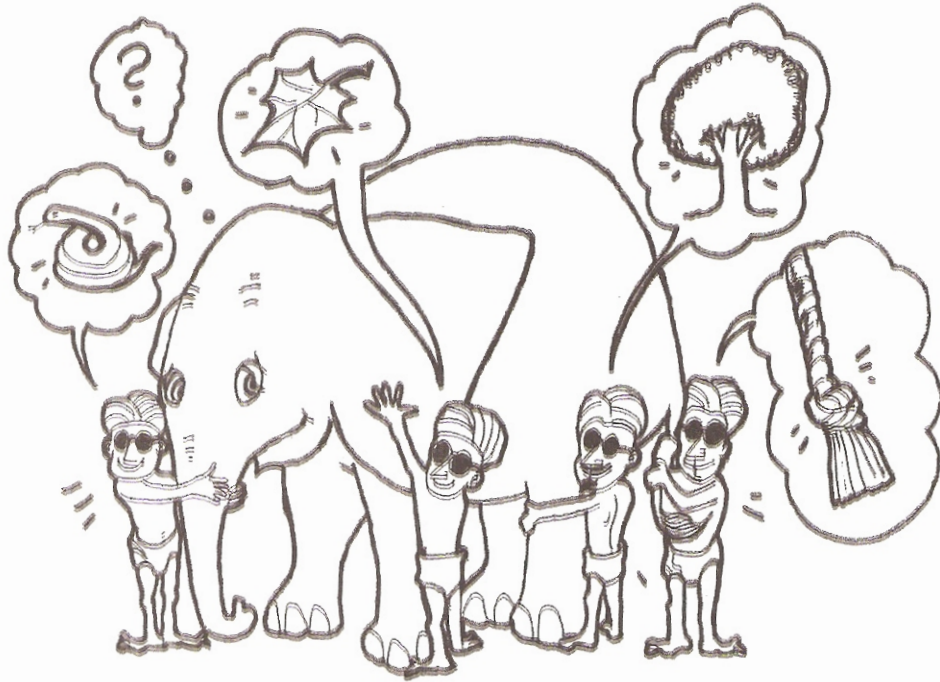
The Urantia Book is a gift to all of humankind. It is a revelation that was prepared by celestial beings and then placed in the dynamic currents of mortal evolutionary development. It is, in our judgment, less a religion or a philosophy to be *believed*, than it is a spiritual *task* which has been entrusted to the people of this planet to complete. The cornerstone of this new, epochal revelation is not a guru, nor a committee, nor any human authority. It is rather the “ordinary” mortal who is spirit-led and dedicated — above all other things — to doing the Father’s will.

“The religion of the spirit leaves you forever free to follow the truth wherever the leadings of the spirit may lead you. And who can judge — perhaps this spirit may have something to impart to this generation which other generations have refused to hear?”

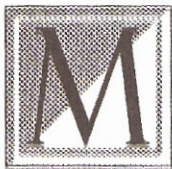
[1731]

“There will never be lasting religious peace on Urantia until all religious groups freely surrender all their notions of divine favor, chosen people, and religious sovereignty. Only when God the Father becomes supreme will men become religious brothers and live together in religious peace on earth.”

[1487]



On Grabbing an Elephant by the Tail



MOST OF US HAVE HEARD THE LEGEND ABOUT THE ELEPHANT and the blind men. In this story, blind men are asked to describe an elephant. They each feel part of him and report accordingly. One grabs the trunk and says: "It is like a snake." Another grabs the leg and declares: "It is like a tree." A third grabs the ear: "It is like a leaf," a fourth the tail: "It is like a rope," and so on.

So it is with *The Urantia Book*. People seem to "grab" those things which most interest them, and it is the perspective of their interest which forms their perceptions about the book.

The scientific-minded person might be drawn to read the sections of the book on astronomy, physics, and geology. The psychologist may gravitate toward the Thought Adjuster Papers, the theologian toward the Papers on religion. The religionist may feel compelled to read the Life and Teachings of Jesus. In each case, their perception is colored by the approach taken.

With this "Twenty Minute Tour" of *The Urantia Book*, we seek to conceptually "step back" so we can better see "the whole elephant." As a material *thing*, *The Urantia Book* is imposing, with over a million words and 2,097 pages. But, in the broadest possible sense, what is the book *about*; what *meaning* does it have; what *purpose* is it seeking to achieve? Above all — *why should you bother to read it?*

The Urantia Book
generally discusses three things:

WHERE we (and everything else)
came from — (Origins).

WHERE we are now — (Status).

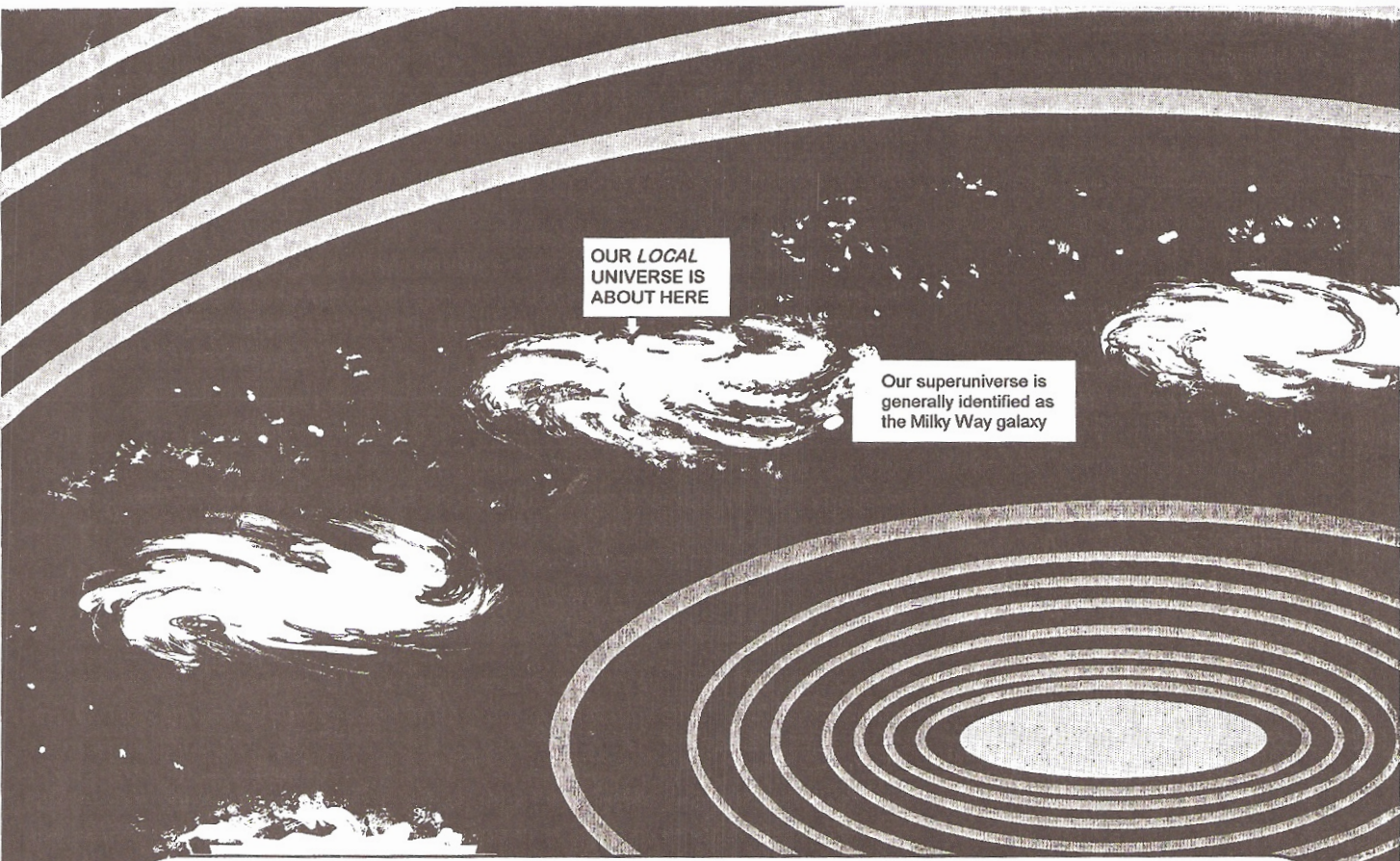
WHERE we are going — (Our Destiny).

As mortals, we expect the book to begin with the most simple and basic concepts (our origins) and build to the most difficult (our destiny). *The Urantia Book* does almost the opposite: it begins with our destiny, and the most complex and profound ideas, and then leads us through our origins to our current status. (*The book explains why this technique is used on page 215.*)

The Urantia Book begins with an explanation of the nature of God, the Trinity, Angels and other Celestial Beings, the Center and Source of all things, and a description of the immense cosmos. The next section discusses our local universe, a vast, evolving complex of stars that will eventually host ten million inhabited worlds. We learn what happens — and where we go — when we die. The third section tells about the origin, the geologic development, and chaotic history of our own planet, called Urantia. The final section of the book features a greatly expanded and detailed account of the Life and Teachings of Jesus.

Why is the FOREWORD so Difficult to Understand?

Before we embark upon our “tour,” we should pause to consider the Foreword. In attempting to read the Foreword, newer readers often find themselves overwhelmed with a great number of strange terms and concepts. The writers of *The Urantia Book*, sometimes called the *revelators*, tell us at the beginning of the Foreword that they found our language very limited and difficult to work with. We had no words to express many things they wanted to tell us. For this reason, they had to use some of our words in unique ways, and even coin terms when it was necessary. The revelators explain that the Foreword is to be used as a guide or reference, and is not a finished statement. Experienced readers use the Foreword as a kind of glossary, where words are defined as they are used throughout the book. We recommend reading the Foreword without trying to understand each term or idea. Later, you can refer to the Foreword when a particular term comes up, and when you’d like a precise definition.



OUR LOCAL
UNIVERSE IS
ABOUT HERE

Our superuniverse is
generally identified as
the Milky Way galaxy

Living on the edge of measurable time and inhabited space . . .

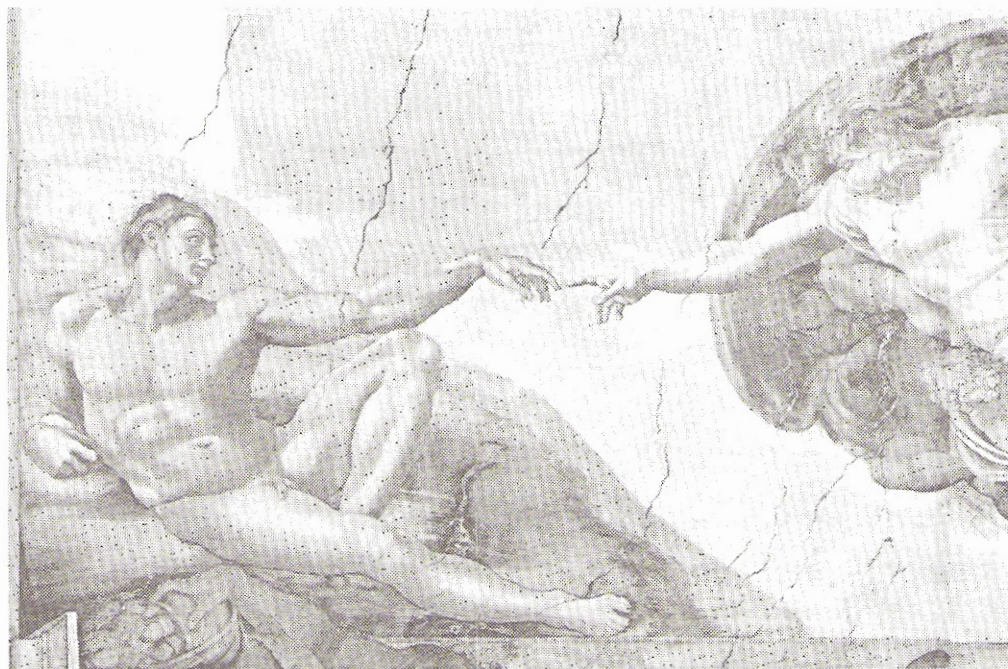
THE FOREWORD also tells us, on the first page, that our planet (Urantia) is one of many evolutionary inhabited planets. We are part of one of the seven superuniverses of time and space that circle the “never-beginning, never-ending creation of divine perfection, the central universe of *Havona*. At the heart of this eternal and central universe is the stationary Isle of Paradise, the geographic center of infinity, and the dwelling place of the eternal God.” Beyond this central core of perfection, and the seven gigantic evolutionary superuniverses that circle it, lie inconceivably vast domains of uninhabited, but “mobilizing,” space levels. The perfect central universe, together with the evolving seven superuniverses are referred to in *The Urantia Book* as the “Grand Universe.” When the four uninhabited space levels are included, the entire configuration is referred to as the “Master Universe.”

Near the end of the Foreword we are told that the job of the revelators is to present new truth while meshing with the knowledge we already have. For this reason the revelators used over 1,000 existing human concepts in just the first 31 Papers, which discuss Deity and the Master Universe.

The revelators acknowledge that they have a difficult assignment in presenting this revelation. Then, for the first time, they tell us of a wondrous fragment of God that indwells all normal human minds. This Father-Fragment, along with the Spirit of Truth, will assist us mortals in grasping “the reality of spiritual values” and in comprehending the “philosophy of universe meanings.”

Thus reassured that the indwelling Spirit of God will help us understand this amazing and difficult book, the book begins with Paper 1: *THE UNIVERSAL FATHER*.

Artists, philosophers and religionists have long sought to depict — and to define — God. Humankind has always been limited by its highest concepts of what it could imagine God to be. *The Urantia Book* offers new insight and revelation about the nature of God . . .



PART I: THE CENTRAL AND SUPERUNIVERSES

WHAT IS GOD REALLY LIKE?

THE BEST WORD-SYMBOL the writers of *The Urantia Book* could find in the English language to describe God is:

Father. It is interesting to note that the first Paper in *The Urantia Book* is titled: “The Universal Father,” and the very last sentence in the book reads: “When all is said and done, the Father idea is still the highest human concept of God.” We are told that God is not an impersonal force, but an authentic personal presence that is ready — upon our agreement — to be our partner in life’s struggles.

IS THERE A FEMININE COMPONENT TO GOD?

Very much so. The Eternal Son is often referred to in *The Urantia Book* as the Mother Son. The Infinite Spirit, which is the “God of Action” and the source of all mind, is often referred to as the Universe Mother Spirit. There

“The great goal of human existence is to attune to the divinity of the indwelling adjuster; the great achievement of mortal life is the attainment of a true and understanding consecration to the eternal aims of the divine spirit who waits and works within your mind.”

[1206]

is but one God, but the nature of God expresses, and is composed of, both masculine and feminine characteristics.

WHY DID GOD CREATE THE UNIVERSE?

The Urantia Book states that God created the universe to “escape the fetters of unqualified infinity.” [6] Before time began, God inaugurated a policy of profound and lavish self-distribution. This distribution resulted in the Eternal Son and the Infinite Spirit. Many religions refer to this Deity

factor of three in various ways, but most often in the Western tradition it is called the Trinity. The first creative act of the Trinity was that of a billion worlds, which were created in diversity and perfect grandeur. This immense creation “flashed into existence” instantly. It is called Havona — for all practical purposes — heaven. This occurred, “eventuated,” outside of what we know as measurable time.

“Notwithstanding that there is only one Deity, there are three positive and divine personalizations of Deity.” [110]

WHERE IS GOD? IS GOD CONTACTABLE?

Although God is resident in Paradise, he indwells every mortal being of normal mind on our planet. (The book calls



"The Universal Father is the God of all creation, the First Source and Center of all things and beings. First think of God as a creator, then as a controller, and lastly as an infinite upholder."
[21]

"Though you cannot find God by searching, if you will submit to the leading of the indwelling spirit, you will unerringly be guided, step by step . . . until you finally stand in the presence of the Paradise personality of the Universal Father."
[39]

these indwelling fragments of God "Thought Adjusters.") It is also literally true that in God we live and move and have our being. The only limit to our knowing of God is our own capacity to spiritually grasp the divine qualities of truth, beauty, goodness and love.

DOES GOD HEAR OUR PRAYERS?

Yes. God is ever with us, directly as an indwelling presence. But because The Universal Father is "absolutely and without qualification infinite in his attributes," it is necessary for him to "step down" so to speak, and to modulate his presence to allow us to gradually come to know him. One way God does this is through celestial beings. *However, when*

we praise God in worship, when there is no selfish component in our love, our praise is communicated to God — *directly and immediately* — through the personality circuit. Also, we are assured that every sincere attempt to communicate with God's indwelling spirit meets with *certain* (though often unconscious) *success*. [1475]

"The personality circuit of the Universe of Universes is centered in the person of the Universal Father, and the Paradise Father is personally conscious of, and in personal touch with, all personalities of all levels of self-conscious existence."
[1475]

The Urantia Book has a great deal more to say about God, of course. The book explains that humankind's early perceptions of God as a stern and emotionless ruler were immature and fear-driven. Although humanity's *perceptions* of God have gradually evolved and changed, God is ever, and always has been, loving, caring, and merciful beyond measure.

THE URANTIA BOOK: Where did it come from? Who could have written it?

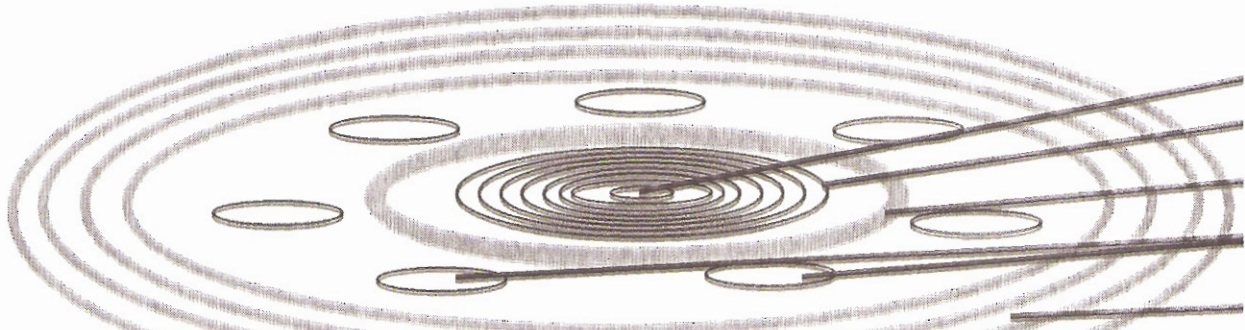
The Urantia Papers were originally materialized by a means that has never been fully explained.¹ We do know that Dr. William Sadler (1875-1969), a noted Chicago psychiatrist, had more knowledge about the original Urantia Papers, and their origin, than any mortal being. Dr. Sadler was a recognized expert on psychic phenomena, and without question one of the most qualified of his time. He was also a surgeon, professor, and the author of forty-two books. In his writings and conversations, Dr. Sadler held that, of the countless cases of psychic phenomena he had encountered, only one instance was valid. That singular case was the source of the Urantia Papers. The process by which the Urantia Papers were materialized in the English language and published as *The Urantia Book* spanned nearly fifty years, between 1911 (or so) and 1955. Although he acknowledged that a patient of his was somehow involved, Dr. Sadler flatly and repeatedly declared that the process was not remotely associated to any known psychic process or method, and that the patient *did not* — nor did *any other human* — write, "channel," or *in any way modify* the contents of the Urantia Papers. Over the fifty year process Dr. Sadler became persuaded that the Urantia Papers are exactly what they say they are, an epochal revelation, and are the product of celestial beings. Dr. Sadler also expressed the opinion that the extra-human process that produced the Urantia revelation was probably set into motion long before he became involved. He believed it may have taken centuries of trial and error before the appropriate configuration of human personalities and resources for such a prodigious undertaking were fostered. By a directive of the revelators, no human name is attached to *The Urantia Book*. It does not even bear the name of the printer. Dr. Sadler died in 1969. The name of the patient involved will never be known. Dr. Meredith Sprunger, a practicing psychologist and ordained minister, also believes *The Urantia Book* is an epochal revelation. However, Dr. Sprunger, who is the only living colleague and confidant of Dr. Sadler, also urges readers to evaluate *The Urantia Book* upon the quality of *its contents alone* — and *not upon its origin or method of materialization*.

¹ See *THE QUESTION OF ORIGIN* by Meredith Sprunger, available without charge through *The Invisible Fellowship Magazine*. A video interview of Dr. Sprunger on the origins of the Urantia Papers is also available for \$22.90, postpaid.

From our location, our astronomers look mostly outward, into the outer space levels

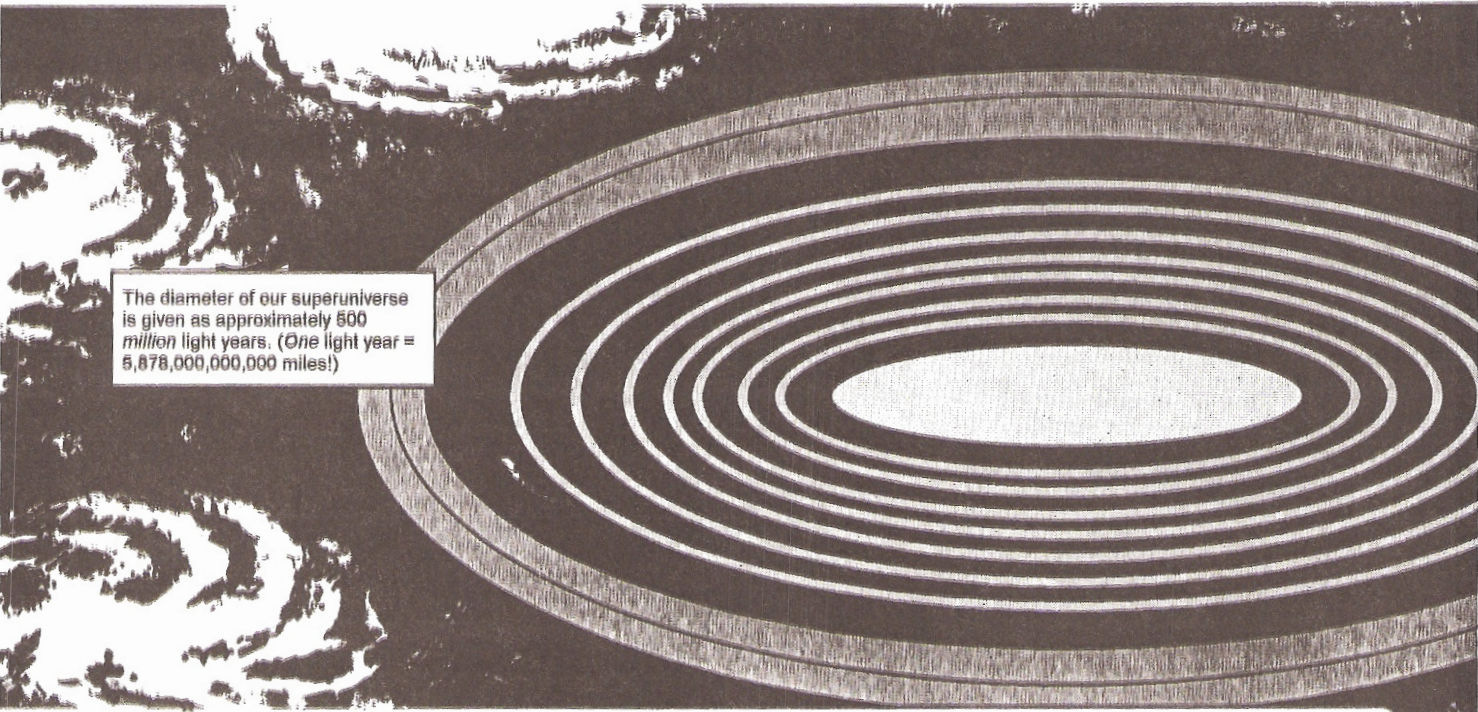
"The universe is not like the laws, mechanisms and the uniformities which the scientist discovers, and which he comes to regard as science, but rather like the curious, thinking, choosing, creative, combining, and discriminating *scientist* who thus observes universe phenomena and classifies the mathematical facts inherent in the mechanistic phases of the material side of creation. Neither is the universe like the art of the artist, but rather like the striving, dreaming, aspiring, and advancing *artist* who seeks to transcend the world of material things in an effort to achieve a spiritual goal." [2080]

A VASTER UNIVERSE



OUR PERSPECTIVES OF TIME, SPACE, AND the size of the universe are quite distorted. It is, in fact, almost impossible to draw a *correctly proportioned* diagram or make a model of even our own solar system. (If you were to draw the sun three inches in diameter, the earth would have to be 25 feet away and would be barely a fortieth of an inch in diameter!) With this in mind, consider what *The Urantia Book* tells us about the entire Master Universe, which includes Havona, the

seven superuniverses, and the four outer space levels. If the diagram directly above were drawn to scale, and the area of Havona and the seven superuniverses were to stay the same, (they are about 4.5 inches across and together represent what is called the grand universe), to be correctly proportioned, the first outer space level would have to be over twelve and a half feet wide. The second outer space level would have to be drawn 433 feet wide; the third: 2.79 miles, and the fourth outer space level would have to be drawn nearly 95 miles across!



The diameter of our superuniverse is given as approximately 500 million light years. (One light year = 5,878,000,000,000 miles!)

THAN WE IMAGINED

- 1. The Isle of Paradise
- 2. Havona (A billion worlds in 7 circuits)
- 3. The gravity belts (Two)
- 4. The superuniverses (Seven)
- 5. The outer space levels (Four)

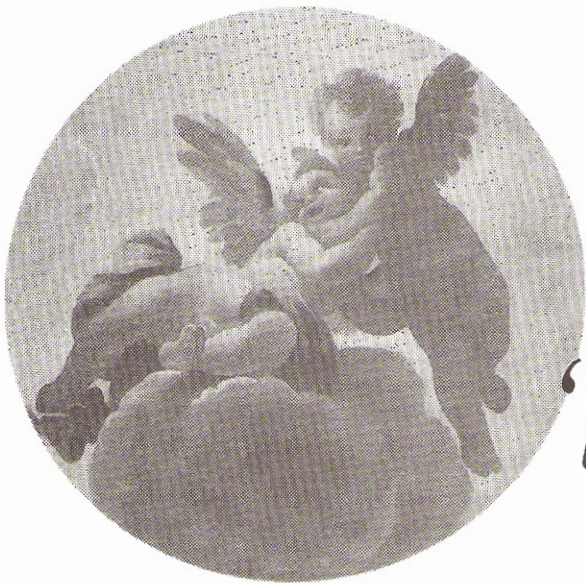
1. **The Central Isle of Paradise**, the source and center of all things, the stationary core around which the Master Universe revolves.

2. **Havona**, the billion spheres of light, created in perfection, the pattern for evolutionary creation. These worlds of perfection are each unique, and are configured in seven gigantic concentric bands that circle the Isle of Paradise. Ascending mortal beings, after their evolutionary adventure in the superuniverse, traverse each sphere of Havona on their quest for God.

3. **The dark gravity belts**, emitting no light, physically insulate (so to speak) Havona and the Central Core of Perfection from the evolutionary superuniverses. The combination of these bodies and Havona may account for modern science's "missing matter" of the universe. "Havona, plus its dark gravity bodies, is more massive than all the seven superuniverses. This is due to the enormous mass of these encircling dark gravity bodies." [129]

4. **The seven superuniverses of evolutionary creation**. Ours is what astronomers generally consider to be the Milky Way. Our planet is located on the outer fringe of the Milky Way, and most of what our astronomers are able to view are the uninhabited outer space levels of the Master Universe.

5. **The four outer space levels**, as yet uninhabited. These inconceivably large configurations draw ninety five percent of the physical-controlling gravity action of the Isle of Paradise! [32] Advanced celestial beings even speculate that there are very early stages of an unrevealed creation beyond the fourth outer space level. [130]



“Angels are the sure and heavenly guides of the soul of man during that unchartered and indefinite time which intervenes between the death of the flesh and the new life in the spirit abodes.”

[1841]

*‘living ladders’
to God . . .*

“Angels are the ministering spirits of time . . . the messenger hosts of space . . . the higher personalities of the Infinite Spirit.”

[418]

ANG

. . . and other



OUR EARTHLY LIVES and universe careers are closely linked to a vast retinue of celestial hosts. These beings and their activities are described in fascinating detail in *The Urantia Book*. From personal “Guardian Angels” to untold numbers of universe administrators, readers discover that God delegates angelic activities and responsibilities in his vast creation with beauty and precision.

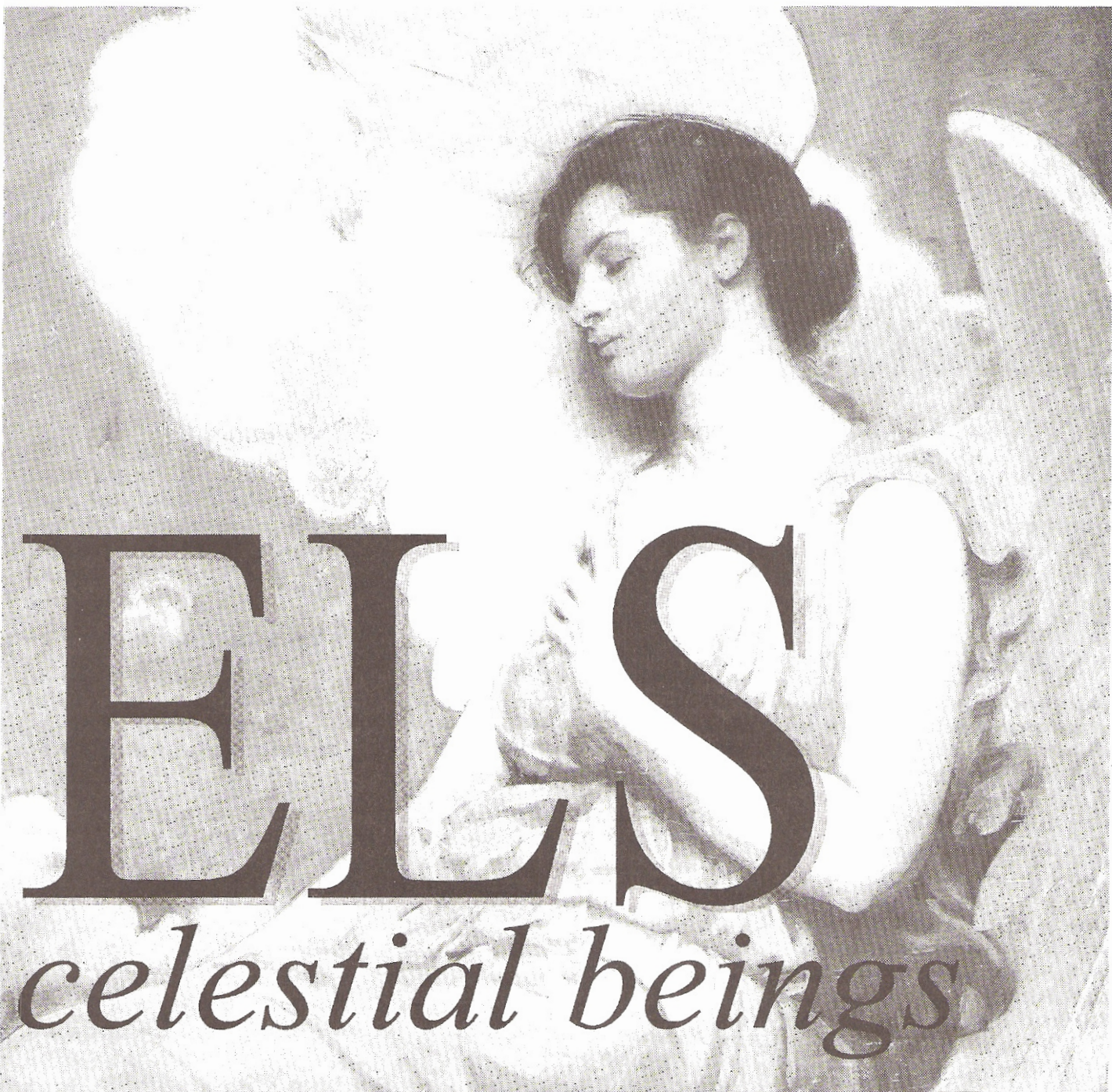
We are not alone, neither are we wandering aimlessly through a vast, empty cosmos. Throughout our lives and beyond, angels and other celestial beings lovingly foster our spiritual development and guard our soul’s safekeeping.

The Urantia Book provides a great deal of information about our “unseen friends.” The book mentions hundreds of categories of celestial beings who operate within the vast spiritual domains of the Infinite Spirit. In its pages you will read answers to

such questions as:

- Do angels contact mortals?*
 - Do angelic beings participate in our everyday lives?*
 - Does each of us have our own personal ‘guardian angel?’*
 - Do we become angels after we die?*
 - Are angels created perfect? Or do they grow in wisdom through experience, as we do?*
- (See papers 113, 114, pp1241 — 1259)

You will find answers to these and many other questions about celestial beings as you read *The Urantia Book!*



ELS

celestial beings

“Angels are so near to you and care so feelingly for you that they figuratively ‘weep because of your willful intolerance and stubbornness.’ Seraphim do not shed physical tears; they do not have physical bodies . . . But they do have spiritual emotions, and they do experience feelings and sentiments of a spiritual nature which are in certain ways comparable to human emotions.” [1246]

The angel illustrated is typical of the mortal conception of these fascinating beings. In *The Urantia Book* you will discover — among other things — that our beliefs that angels are part of the feminine aspect of God are true [94-95], and how mortals came to believe that angels have “wings” [438].



WHAT IS HUMAN

UNTIL THE URANTIA PAPERS were materialized, there has never been a comprehensive philosophy that incorporated scientific and religious knowledge and belief into a fully workable model — one that offered feasible answers to many questions that have perplexed our greatest minds.

A REDEFINING OF MANY TIRED OLD TERMS

The writers of the book used mortal terms and definitions whenever possible. But, our language lacks consistency and repleteness, and the revelators redefined many common terms to allow them to transmit new information. For example, human writers, even scientists and atheists, have long used the term “soul” whenever they wanted to express something about the inner being of a mortal. They have avoided a clear, specific definition, and this permitted them to semantically skate over many questions that might have challenged their own premises and assumptions. The chart on the right hand page clarifies the usage of some of the terms *The Urantia Book* incorporates in communicating its broad, seamless and consistent philosophy.

WHAT IS A MORTAL BEING?

A human being is a self-aware system of associated energies. This system becomes fully operative when the mortal being makes its first moral decision, usually about the age of five and a half. When this decision is made, several things are set into motion. A Thought Adjuster, which is a fragment of God,

is bestowed to indwell the mortal mind system. The soul is born. The personality essence is able to find more replete expression through the awakening and expanding human consciousness. From this point on, the mortal becomes responsible for the quality of the *inner* life. Now, through the quality of its decisions and actions, the human must create its own destiny. Humankind has long postulated that somehow the mortal psyche is indwelt by God. *The Urantia Book* defines a unique model of a mortal being that requires *two* Deity endowments

retains its ability to recognize and recall other personalities. In fact, personality realities transcend all other realities in human existence. All other nonspiritual things are means to an end. “Every true relationship of mortal man with other persons — human or divine — is an end in itself.” [1228]

DO WE REINCARNATE ON EARTH?

We do not come back to earth, but continue to develop on the Mansion Worlds at a point exactly where our development stopped at death. When we

“Having thus provided for the growth of the immortal soul, and having liberated man’s inner self from the fetters of absolute dependence on antecedent causation, the Father stands aside. Now . . . at least as pertains to eternal destiny . . . it remains for man himself to will the creation, or inhibit the creation, of the surviving eternal self. No other being, force, creator or agency can interfere . . . with the absolute sovereignty of the mortal free will . . . regarding the eternal destiny of personality of the choosing mortal. As pertains to eternal survival, God has decreed the sovereignty of the material mortal will, and that decree is absolute.” [71]

— one personal (personality) and one objective (the Thought Adjuster) —to participate with the mortal being in the creation of the soul.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE?

The human subject retains personality but temporarily loses identity. This is regained in the Mansion World reunion of the Adjuster and the soul, which reactivates mortal consciousness. [1230]

WILL WE KNOW AND BE KNOWN AFTER WE DIE?

Yes. The one changeless and eternal aspect of a mortal being, personality (as defined in the box on the next page,)

awaken on the Mansion Worlds we are fully aware of having survived. Life on this planet is our first, although our Thought Adjusters have eternal pre-existence, and have had previous experiential activities.

IS THERE A HELL?

There is no hell of eternal damnation. Our loving Heavenly Father responds to the faintest flicker of faith, and never abandons his children. (Though they may abandon God.)

WHAT DETERMINES HUMAN SURVIVAL?

The mortal being determines his or her own survival through decisions. By

A BEING?

For the philosopher, religionist, or student of the human mind, *The Urantia Book* offers a new and original “model” of a mortal being. A mosaic of wisdom is formed within its pages that embraces and organizes existing human knowledge — and nudges it forward, beyond the known — into a new frontier . . .

“The speech of God spoken from a whirlwind was a majestic concept for the day of its utterance but . . . the Father does not thus reveal himself, but rather that he speaks within the human heart as a still, small voice, saying: ‘This is the way; walk therein.’”
[Jesus speaking — 1664]

means of decisions, which are completed through actions, the soul attains growth. Survival decisions must be *formulated* on our planet, *confirmed* on the Mansion Worlds, and are finally *made* when the mortal being fuses with his or her Thought Adjuster. [1238] “The Adjuster is man’s eternity possibility, man is the Adjuster’s personality possibility . . . They truly and divinely love you, they are prisoners of spirit hope confined within the mind of man.” [1182]

WHAT IS FUSION? WILL I LOSE IDENTITY?

Fusion is the process by which a mortal being becomes one with the indwelling Adjuster. The mortal retains identity, and gains eternal life. The Thought Adjuster gains personality through the transaction, and forever the mortal and God become partners in an endless, wondrous journey of service, adventure and learning. [1237-40]

“When mortal man fuses with an actual fragment of the existential Cause of the total Cosmos, no limit can ever be placed upon the destiny of such an unprecedented and unimaginable partnership.”
[1181]

A Clarification of Term Usage

These definitions are neither complete nor authoritative. Readers are encouraged to develop and embellish these definitions as they read the book. This chart is simply a best-efforts attempt to introduce the reader to a few of *The Urantia Book*’s unique usages of several common terms.

TERM ↓	AS USED IN THE URANTIA BOOK:
GOD	The part of Deity that turns toward humankind, when used in <i>The Urantia Book</i> the word symbol “God” always denotes personality, the personal aspects of Deity — never an impersonal “force.”
SOUL	The ever-growing depository within us which preserves all human thought and experience of spiritual significance. The soul is part of the intervening reality (called “morontia”) which is the bridge between the material and spiritual realms. The mortal being and the Thought Adjuster co-create the soul during the human lifetime.
THOUGHT ADJUSTER	The “still, small voice” of God within, the indwelling Fragment of the Universal Father.
PERSONALITY	<p>Personality is the unique cosmic essence of the mortal which permits us to know, and be known. Personality, as used in <i>The Urantia Book</i>, is the <i>only</i> changeless part of a human being. Because we each have a unique personality endowment, in the afterlife, regardless of the passage of time, we will be quickly recognized by — and be able to recognize — our loved ones.</p> <p><i>The Urantia Book</i> distinguishes between personality as the unique <i>essence</i> of each mortal, — and <i>human personality</i>, which is the subjective, changing, growing, maturing seat of human identity & experiential consciousness. In <i>The Urantia Book</i>, <i>personality</i> is a unique gift of God, a cosmic reality that <i>makes possible</i> its material counterpart — human personality. The more a human personality identifies with its source, the cosmic personality essence, the more stable, balanced, and “real” the human personality becomes. Through <i>decisions</i> and <i>actions</i> the mortal personality — in association with its Thought Adjuster — gradually transfers the seat of its identity from its transient material-intellect system to its higher “morontia” soul-system. After death, this transfer is completed upon the Mansion Worlds, and the surviving mortal is “reconsciouized.”</p>

"A local universe . . . comprises one hundred constellations, each embracing one hundred systems of inhabited worlds. Each system will eventually contain approximately one thousand inhabited spheres."

[357]

PART II: OUR LOCAL UNIVERSE

The cosmic heritage that impacts our lives

"The heaven conceived by most of your prophets was the first of the mansion worlds of the local system . . . Here you are face to face with true friends and understanding counselors, angels who really want to help you . . ."

[553]

THE

Part III of *The* great deal about what where we go and how ages: the ascent to Paradise discloses an intriguing *rebellion* by celestial powers. Two hundred thousand explanation of many a planet, and the cause superstitions are rooted

Amazing

Our relatively young local include ten million evolving, in more than three million are inhabited conglomeration, the celestial being *architectural spheres* — actually designed to accommodate both physical and as those in intervening transition spheres the material and spiritual between the two realms, called ourselves, pass through these experiences our long journey inward through Paradise. Our first experience with occurs after death, when we awake

Rebellion that Shook a Universe

Urantia Book tells a story that begins after death — the quest of the soul — and God. It also tells a narrative about an actual rebellion that occurred many years ago. The difficulties of our world are many of our own making in this tragic episode

and the repercussions that resonated all the way to our little planet on the fringes of the local system.

Conditional freewill is the gift and prerogative of all ascending creatures. Such freewill has within it the potential for error, and even deliberate evil. Lucifer was a brilliant being of light who ruled our local system, one of a thousand such systems in the Local Universe. After much self-contemplation, Lucifer launched a narcissistic rebellion, declaring that God the Father

is a myth — that liberty and self-assertion are there for the taking — provided one dares to take them. Many angels followed the persuasive and charismatic Lucifer, and our own Planetary Prince, Caligastia, joined the heavenly rebellion. The result was chaos for our young planet. The rebels eventually fell — victims of their own evil and iniquity. But the earth remained quarantined from the rest of the system.

UNIVERSE

— the destiny that will exalt them

Worlds of Light and Life

superuniverse will eventually encompass all planets. (At present, the superuniverse is administering this vast system. To administer this vast system, a great number of worlds are needed and built specifically for the use of individual personalities, as well as for the use of beings. On these worlds, forming a linkage of worlds, "Mortals, like the beautiful spheres on the Grand Universe toward the architectural spheres of the "Mansion Worlds."

Here we are greeted by loved ones who have gone before us, and we resume our development exactly where it was interrupted when we experienced death. Here we also meet loving, angelic guides and teachers. "Those things which you might have learned on earth, but which you failed to learn, must be acquired under the tutelage of these faithful and patient teachers. There are no royal roads, short cuts or easy paths to Paradise . . . One purpose of the morontia career is to effect the permanent eradication from the mortal survivors of such animal vestigial traits as procrastination, equivocation, insincerity, problem avoidance, unfairness, and ease-seeking." [551] Jesus spoke of these worlds when he said: "In my Father's house are many mansions."



"Architectural spheres . . . have one hundred physical elements, but likewise have one hundred forms of a unique energy organization called *morontia material*." [541]

"While each superuniverse government presides near the center of the evolutionary universes of its space segment, it occupies a world made to order and is peopled by . . . accredited personalities . . . While sharing the light of near-by suns, these spheres are independently heated and lighted." [174]

"Thus it will be recognized that such headquarters worlds are not luminous in space; if Jerusalem [the system capital] were very near Urantia, it would not be visible." [520]

PART III: The HISTORY of URANTIA

ASTOUNDING

to many of

GEOLOGY

THE THEORY OF CONTINENTAL DRIFT had been proposed at the time the Urantia Papers materialized, but the idea was not generally accepted. Definite geological evidence did not emerge that the theory was indeed correct until the fifties. *The Urantia Book* early committed unequivocally to this idea. [668-9]



ASTRONOMY

THE SCIENCE in the book follows general beliefs of the thirties, as the revelators were instructed to do. [See pp 108-9] The possible exceptions are rare, but interesting. *The Urantia Book* postulates that our solar system was formed when an immense “dark island of space” passed near it. The book makes an interesting qualification, stating that less than one percent of planets are formed in this way. [655] This caveat was a unique statement for the period.

DARWIN'S ERROR

The Origin of Species (1859)

DAVID FOSTER, HOYLE, and other scientists have mathematically refuted the idea of random selection as proposed by Darwin. They calculate that the improbability of random development of Hemoglobin is 10 to the 650th power, and DNA of the T4 bacteriophage 10 to the 78,000th power. Since the universe is only 10 to the 18th power old — in *seconds* — *we could not have reached our present stage of evolution by random selection.* The odds are even greater against life itself forming by “chance.” British scientist David Foster suggests in *THE PHILOSOPHICAL SCIENTISTS* [1985, 1993, Barnes & Noble] that life *must* have somehow come — or been manipulated from — outer space, and that the original plasm *must* have been “programmed” with a complete DNA evolutionary “clock” to *suddenly* trigger new species. *This is precisely what the Urantia Papers suggested in 1935!*



BIOLOGY

FOUR PUZZLES WILL REMAIN unanswerable by pure (Godless) science, according to the book: The *First Cause* (the “Big Bang” answers nothing), the *beginning of life*, the *endowment of thought*, and the *mechanism of self-consciousness.* Science will never “create” life that *thinks, reproduces, or has personality.* Only the Universal Father bestows these qualities on living matter. [59, 1106, 1478]

ANSWERS

the questions of the ages

(Paragraph numbers refer to full paragraphs)

IS THE URANTIA BOOK INFALLIBLE?

Page 1109, Par 3-4

WHAT CAN I DO to help my Thought Adjuster make life less difficult for me?

Page 1223, Par. 4

WHY WILL SCIENCE NEVER BE ABLE TO CREATE AUTHENTIC LIFE? What factors will *always* be missing? Page 404, Par. 2

DOES THE SOUL FEEL? Page 1219, Par. 5

WHY DOES A LOVING GOD PERMIT EVIL TO EXIST? Page 1457-8, Par. 5-6

WHY DO SO MANY GREAT GENIUSES seem to come from humble backgrounds and families? Why does the Urantia Book call "normal" people the backbone of civilization? Page 770-71 Par. 8

WHAT KEY FACTOR for cosmic realization and personal happiness did the followers of Buddha miss? Page 1037, Par. 1-3

IS SUDDEN HUMAN TRANSFORMATION possible? How? Page 740, Par. 1-2

WHY ARE SO MANY PEOPLE LAZY? Does religion (as defined in the book) always act? Pages 1120-21, Par. 4,1-2

WHAT IS THE TRUE SECRET OF GREATNESS? Page 317, Par.1-3

WHAT IS MEANT BY COSMIC CIRCLE ATTAINMENT? What relationship does this have with material success? Page 1211, Par. 1-4

HOW DOES A MORTAL BECOME MORE REAL? Page 1285, Par. 3

HOW DOES *THE URANTIA BOOK* define religion? Paper 100, Page 1294

UPON WHAT TWO FACTORS DOES THE IMPACT OF AN IDEA upon the human mind depend? Page 961, Par.4

You will find the answers to these and many other fascinating questions in *The Urantia Book!*

"We know full well that, while the historic facts and religious truths of this series will stand on the records of the ages to come, within a few short years our statements regarding the physical sciences will stand in need of revision in consequence of additional scientific developments and new discoveries." [1109]

VISITORS

SCIENCE HAS NOTED a dramatic upswing in the development of mortals about 35,000 years ago. *The Urantia Book* tells us that this was due to the visit of two celestial personages: Adam and Eve. Their mission to enrich the depleted gene pool of the planet was not fully successful, however, and we suffer the consequences of their failure. [Papers 74-76]

WILL DIGNITY

SCIENCE WILL NEVER find the "missing link" because none exists. The potential for mortal will dignity occurred through a series of sudden mutations. When the first moral decision was made, will dignity dawned upon Urantia. This happened nearly a million years ago, and the examination of skulls will never reveal when this momentous event occurred. [Papers 62-63]

THE TWO-BRAINED CREATURE

LONG BEFORE the discoveries of Roger Sperry in the sixties that demonstrated that each hemisphere of the brain specialized in very specific ways of thinking, *The Urantia Book* postulated that one hemisphere specialized in intellectual functions and the other in "spiritual-counterparting" activities (probably conceptualizing). [566]

GOD THE SUPREME

THE UNIVERSAL MOTHER is the "Supreme Being," the evolutionary aspect of God that vicariously adventures with her creatures. God the Supreme is very close to the Deity concepts of Jung, Tillich, Whitehead and Teilhard de Chardin. This is known as Process Theology. *The Urantia Book* uniquely presents this evolutionary God that "chooses not to know," in direct association with the all-knowing Universal Father. [Papers 115-118]

PART III: THE HISTORY OF URANTIA



HISTORY & New Information and Insight into the Epic

550,000 years ago the fourth and fifth ice ages witnessed the spread of the crude Neanderthal races. But so little progress was made it appeared the entire life experiment on Urantia would truly fail. [721]

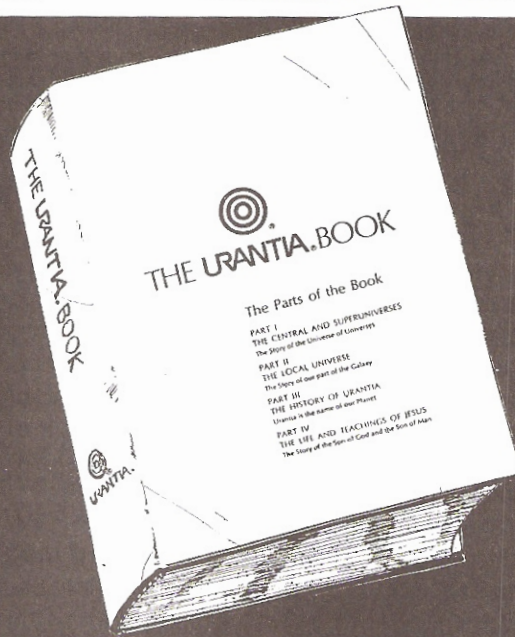
ONE MILLION YEARS AGO: THE FIRST HUMAN BEINGS

Twenty-one thousand years after the first mammals suddenly appeared from lemur types, the first true human beings — a set of male and female twins — were born into a tribe of superior primates in Southeast Asia. These original humans fled their tribe and established the first human family on the west coast of what is now Mesopotamia. The first 500,000 years of our early ancestors was marked by a primitive survival struggle of ethnic groups such as Heidelberg and Neanderthal tribes. Life was dominated and controlled by fear and tradition.

500,000 YEARS AGO: DALAMATIA

THE FIRST EPOCHAL REVELATION

Celestial visitors arrived to upstep the evolutionary process. The “Dalamatia 100” were a staff of corporeal beings who were fully contactable and visible to humans, and whose task it was to provide training in racial cooperation, industry, health and animal domestication — to transfer man from a hunter to a herder. Their leader, designated the Planetary Prince, was Caligastia, a being not visible to mortals. The “Dalamatia 100” established the city of Dalamatia in Mesopotamia to be the center of culture for the backward planet of Urantia.



THE FIFTH EPOCHAL REVELATION

As our planet once more approaches the crossroads of a new era, *The Urantia Book* provides an enlarged perspective of God and the universe that transcends all previous planetary knowledge. It brings new insight into the dynamic interaction of evolution and revelation, a unity of truth that coordinates and blends the disciplines of science, religion and philosophy in a wholesome, symmetrical and inspiring manner.

REVELATION

Events that have Shaped the Million-Year Struggle of Humankind

The long grey bar represents the last million years of the history of our planet. The small black area to the right represents the last *four thousand years* — a relatively short time in four and a half billion years since our planet was born!

200,000 YEARS AGO: BETRAYAL

If our planet had followed a normal course of events, we would now enjoy an ancient city that had been a center of culture for the last 500,000 years. As it was, Dalamatia flourished until Caligastia joined the Lucifer rebellion. At that point, Caligastia initiated aggressive new policies to accelerate growth. The results were counter-productive. Confusion among the surrounding primitive tribes eventuated into open rebellion. Dalamatia was plundered and destroyed. The “Dalamatia 100” were driven out. Those who followed Caligastia fled to the east, the forty loyal staff members retired to the highlands west of India. Caligastia continued to undermine the human race with some success until the bestowal of Jesus, who ended his power to harm Urantia.

35,000 YEARS AGO: ADAM & EVE

THE SECOND EPOCHAL REVELATION

Adam and Eve were not the first humans, but the Biblical story has some basis in fact. These celestial personages came on a mission to upstep the gene pool of the mortal race, and to attempt to undo the harm done by Caligastia. The couple fell prey to impatience and defaulted, and the mission of Adam and Eve was generally a failure.

In the last
4000 YEARS
our planet has
benefitted from three
epochal revelations:
**MELCHIZEDECK,
JESUS of NAZARETH
and
THE URANTIA BOOK**

2,000 YEARS AGO: JESUS of NAZARETH and the SPIRIT OF TRUTH

THE FOURTH EPOCHAL REVELATION

Urantia is unique: only once in the entire history of a universe will a Paradise Creator Son select a planet for a bestowal mission. One purpose of such a mission is to provide experiential training to help the Creator Son be more sympathetic, just, and understanding to the peoples of time and space. Michael, as Jesus of Nazareth, also clarified and illuminated the living way to God for all humanity. Part IV details the remarkable events of the bestowal mission.

THE THIRD EPOCHAL REVELATION

4,000 YEARS AGO: MELCHIZEDEK

As the time table of our planet’s history approaches the present, many readers find that *The Urantia Book* confirms and expands upon the legacy of religious history they are already familiar with. The Third Epochal Revelation involves Machiventa Melchizedek, whose teachings and activities are partially recorded in the Bible. By 3000 B.C. the revealed truth of monotheism was threatened with extinction. Melchizedek’s mission was to rekindle the truth and prepare the way for the coming bestowal of Michael, the Creator Son. To this end he trained missionaries who carried the truth abroad. Melchizedek was also a powerful influence in the life of Abraham and had much to do with the early roots of the Hebrew religion.

PART IV: THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS



JESUS of NAZARETH is a man history records little about — and yet nearly all religions attempt to define. Exactly WHO Jesus is has intrigued humankind for ages — because regardless of how he is perceived — few would deny he had as profound an impact on history as any personality who ever lived. Today the energy of his personality still affects our lives. If you were offered new information on this man and an expanded version of his true teachings, wouldn't you be interested in reading it?

DISCOVER THE ... and the Teachings the World

WHO WAS JESUS, REALLY? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

Jesus was a Son of God, a Creator Son, a being of divine origin. His identity takes on staggering proportions when one considers that Jesus (or Michael, as he is known throughout the universe,) came to a remote region of the inhabited cosmos 400 billion years ago. He was accompanied by his creative consort, the Mother Spirit. Their mission was to create in time and space an evolutionary universe of ten million inhabited worlds — each destined to eventually achieve perfection. Subsequently, Michael chose our planet to live the life of a mortal, as Jesus of Nazareth. As a mortal of the realm, he experienced the tribulations of human life, much as we do.

WHAT HAPPENED TO JESUS DURING THE “LOST YEARS?” WHY ARE THESE YEARS MISSING FROM THE BIBLE?

Jesus purposefully kept various aspects of his earth career from others, so as not to establish a sensational career while he lived on earth. For example, on his tour of

“Of all human knowledge, that which is of greatest value is to know the religious life of Jesus and how he lived it.” [2090]

the Mediterranean and trip to Rome he was known as the “Jewish Tutor” or the “Scribe of Damascus.” Later, Paul and Peter were told of the mysterious “Scribe.” They decided he could not have been Jesus, because Jesus had never disclosed such a journey to anyone.

DID JESUS REALLY DO MIRACLES?

As our Creator Son, Jesus had at his command the power of all the celestial beings in the universe. Although he did not seek to persuade people by supernatural means, many miraculous things happened in his presence — at times without his deliberate intention. But Jesus realized that miracles would never affect authentic spiritual changes among “wonder-seeking” mortals. He wanted all generations to accept his teachings because they bear spiritual fruit, not because of outward “signs and wonders.”

DID JESUS COME TO ATONE FOR OUR SINS?

Many mainline Christian sects teach the atonement doctrine. This doctrine declares that Jesus was the sacrificed Son who would satisfy God's stern justice and appease the divine wrath. This doctrine was originally an attempt to connect the gospel of Jesus directly to Jewish theology. It was a well-intended effort by Paul and other early Christians to make the gospel of the kingdom more acceptable to disbelieving Jews. The atonement doctrine is simply not to be found in the actual teachings of Jesus — in either *The Urantia Book* or the Bible. The atonement doctrine is a human feature of the religion about Jesus, not the religion of Jesus.

AREN'T CHRISTIANITY AND THE RELIGION OF JESUS THE SAME THING?

Modern Christianity contains many of Jesus' teachings, but also many ideas that were never taught by the Master. Christianity has indeed done a great service to the world in many respects, but what is needed now is an enlarged presentation of the teachings of Jesus. The actual message of Jesus will unite — not divide — the world. Within these



REAL JESUS has Never Yet Dared to Try

simple word-symbols: *The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man*, lies the profound essence of the gospel of Jesus. Appropriately defined, sincerely lived and taught, it is this teaching that will, one day, transform the planet.

"If the Christian Church would only dare to espouse the Master's program, thousands of apparently indifferent youths would rush forward to enlist in such a spiritual undertaking, and they would not hesitate to go all the way through with this great adventure."
[2085]

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

The Urantia Book predicts many uplifting things for the future. It declares that what the world needs most is the religion of Jesus, not religions about him. "The world needs to see Jesus living again on earth in the experience of spirit-born mortals who effectively reveal the Master to all men." [2084] Rather than predicting "end times," *The Urantia Book* declares optimistically: "Urantia is quivering on the very brink of one of its most amazing and enthralling epochs of social readjustment, moral quickening and spiritual enlightenment."
[2082]

How does one prepare for such a future? "One of the most important things in human living is to find out what Jesus believed, to discover his ideals, and to strive for the achievement of his exalted life purpose." [2090]

"Jesus lived on earth and taught a gospel which redeemed man from the superstition that he was a child of the devil, and elevated him to the dignity of a faith son of God. . . . And now that he has personally left the world, he sends in his place his Spirit of Truth, who is designed to live in man and, for each generation, restate the Jesus message so that each group of mortals to appear on the face of the earth shall have a new and up to date version of this gospel, just such personal enlightenment and group guidance that will prove to be an effective solvent for man's ever-new and varied spiritual difficulties." [2060]

**Here is information
that will intrigue you,
regardless of your
religious background**

If you have been a student of the Bible, Part Four of *The Urantia Book* will expand your knowledge of Jesus' earth life and his exquisite teachings. If you have been disturbed by religions that claim to honor Jesus, but use his image to control and manipulate their members, you will be pleasantly surprised at the integrity and intelligence with which *The Urantia Book* presents this God-man. Perhaps you are not satisfied with your own religion's interpretation of Jesus, but find the New Age concepts equally unappealing. In this case in the pages of *The Urantia Book* you will find many of the traditional values of Jesus, but far from a religious icon, here is a Jesus brought to life with compelling and richly detailed episodes from his childhood, years of private ministry, and his tumultuous and dramatic public career. No pacifist mystic, in an age when it was declared: "better the scripture be burned than spoken by a woman," Jesus dared to establish a women's corps and preach that men and women are equal in the sight of God. Regardless of your background, even if Jesus has been represented in negative terms to you, in Part IV of *The Urantia Book* you will find the true religion of Jesus far more interesting and appealing than the many religions about him.

SEVEN FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE URANTIA BOOK

1. WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT GOAL A HUMAN BEING CAN ACHIEVE?

"The great goal of human existence is to attune to the divinity of the indwelling adjuster, the great achievement of mortal life is the attainment of a true and understanding consecration to the eternal aims of the divine spirit who waits and works within your mind." [1206]

2. WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO ATTUNE TO THE "FRAGMENT OF GOD" WITHIN ME?

"The contact of the mortal mind with its indwelling Adjuster, while often favored by devoted meditation, is more frequently facilitated by wholehearted and loving service in unselfish ministry to one's fellow creatures." [1000]

3. HOW CAN GOD HELP ME IN THE DAY-TO-DAY STRUGGLE? SOMETIMES I FEEL HELPLESS.

"The consciousness of a victorious human life on earth is born of that creature faith which dares to challenge each recurring episode of existence, when confronted by the awful spectacle of human limitations, by the unfailing declaration: **Even if I cannot do this there lives in me one who can and will do it**, a part of the Father-Absolute of the universe of universes. And that is the 'victory which overcomes the world, even your faith.'" [59]

4. WHAT IS MEANT BY DOING THE WILL OF GOD? HOW DO I KNOW WHAT THAT IS?

"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, the very God who has made such a creature life of inner meaning-value possible." [1221]

5. HOW CAN I BEST EXPRESS THE TRUTHS I LEARN FROM THE URANTIA BOOK?

"Truth cannot be defined by words, only by living . . . Knowledge originates in science, wisdom in true philosophy; truth, in the religious experience of spiritual living." [1459]

6. HOW CAN I EVER BE PERFECT "EVEN AS GOD IS PERFECT?" IS THIS POSSIBLE?

"Urantia mortals can hardly hope to be perfect in the infinite sense, but it is entirely possible for human beings, starting out as they do on this planet, to attain the eternal and divine goal which the infinite God has set for mortal man; and when they do achieve this destiny, in all that attains to self-realization and mind attainment, be just as replete in

their sphere of divine perfection as God himself is in the sphere of infinity and eternity." [22]

7. WHAT DID JESUS TEACH? WHAT IS THE GOSPEL OF 'THE KINGDOM OF GOD?'

[This formal discourse on the kingdom of God (or heaven) was given by the Master near the end of his life in the flesh (pp 1862-1864). We have added and referenced related material in *The Urantia Book* on the same subject].

"The Master on this occasion placed emphasis on the following five points as representing the cardinal features of the gospel of the kingdom:

1. The pre-eminence of the individual.

'It is the purpose of this gospel to restore self-respect to those who have lost it and restrain it in those who have it . . . forget not that I will stop at nothing to restore self-respect to those who have lost it and sincerely desire to regain it.' —1765]

2. The will as the determining factor in man's experience.

'The free will of man is supreme in moral affairs' — 753. 'Mind is the cosmic instrument on which the human will can play the discords of destruction, or upon which this same human will can bring forth the exquisite melodies of God identification and consequent eternal survival.' — 1217]

3. Spiritual fellowship with God the Father.

'And this is true even in the life in the flesh; when man and God enter into partnership, no limitation can be placed upon the future possibilities of such a partnership.' — 1299]

4. The supreme satisfactions of the loving service of man.

'You are to love all men even as I have loved you; you are to serve all men even as I have served you.' —2041]

5. The transcendency of the spiritual over the material in human personality.

'Mortal mind subservient to matter is destined to become increasingly material and consequently to suffer eventual personality extinction; mind yielding to spirit is destined to become increasingly spiritual and ultimately to achieve oneness with the surviving and guiding divine spirit, and in this way attain survival and eternity of personality existence.' — 26]

"The world has never seriously or honestly tried out these dynamic ideas and divine ideals of Jesus' doctrine of the kingdom of heaven."

[1863]

WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE?

An Incomplete List of Study Aids and Resources

Many secondary works and study aids have been created to help readers study *The Urantia Book*. There are a great number of excellent works that we could not list here. Write The Fifth Epochal Fellowship in Chicago for a more complete compilation of secondary works. (There is no charge for the compilation): 529 WRIGHTWOOD AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60614.

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is to disseminate, and to assist others in disseminating,
The Urantia Book Revelation and its teachings
by all means consistent with its message and its philosophy.*

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“When the wind blows, you hear the rustle of the leaves,
but you do not see the wind — whence it comes or whither it goes —
so it is with everyone born of the spirit.”