



MEREDITH J. SPRUNGER
Executive Director

THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
OF
STUDENTS OF THE URANTIA BOOK

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February 4, 1980

Dr. Martin E. Marty
University of Chicago Divinity School
Swift Hall
Chicago, IL 60637

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URANTIA

Dear Dr. Marty:

The Christian Fellowship was organized for the purpose of evolving an interface between leaders of the Christian Church and the URANTIA movement. For many years as a pastor in the United Church of Christ and a college teacher I have been concerned that the church pioneer in religious thinking. To this end I should like to invite you to make a serious study of The URANTIA Book. It may be that my perception of its potential is in error but after more than twenty years of study, weighing, and testing, I believe this book will eventually make an authentic contribution to the church.

Everything must be understood in context. Apart from the development of contemporary science, philosophy, and theology, The URANTIA Book is unthinkable. But students of theology who have assimilated the writings of Kierkegaard, Tillich, Teilhard de Chardin, Whitehead and the various facets of Process Theology, along with a Jesusonian scriptural orientation have already arrived at the basic frames of reference necessary to appreciate the tremendous integrative job The URANTIA Book does for contemporary religion.

The book combines the best of the traditional static concepts of God with the most meaningful of the present day dynamic concepts in a uniquely coherent system. To the best of my knowledge, it is the most comprehensive and insightfully structured holistic concept of deity in philosophic or religious literature. In the judgment of tens of thousands of discriminating people, including many ministers, the book contains the greatest stimulus to spiritual growth among contemporary publications. It certainly merits serious examination and evaluation by the leaders of the Christian Church.

I am contacting a few faculty members in seminaries associated with the American Association of Theological Schools. On your faculty I am also sending letters to Dr. Adams and Dr. Gilkey.

The book is rather expensive to purchase before you know whether or not it would be of value to you. We would be happy to send you a copy from our loan library which you may keep for several months. At any time I would enjoy visiting with you to share and discuss whatever may interest you regarding The URANTIA Book.

If you are not interested in this kind of research but have a colleague who is, please feel free to refer this letter to such person.

Sincerely,

Meredith J. Sprunger

Encl: The Church and The URANTIA Book