

~~REFLECTIONS~~
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by Vince Ventola

Sitting down to write, to share my thoughts and feelings with you. Thinking of all the people, the faces, the eyes, the faces behind the eyes of all the brothers and sisters i have met on this incredible path. In some way, shape, or form, to whatever degree, each one of us has been touched by the teachings of ~~THE~~ B.F. (URANTIA BOOK. From the point of our initial discovery we have also experienced the "drawing power" of this revelation as we began to search for other readers and expand our consciousness to their ideas, theories, perceptions, and personalities.

It has been an invaluable experience listening to other students of the URANTIA revelation and interesting to note the ideas and attitudes of the more "experienced" students in contrast to the more "recent arrivals." It is also interesting to note who considers themself knowledgeable and experienced and who remains forever a beginner. I cannot remember ever encountering a more diverse group of beings. Our moments of fellowship and worship are among the most meaningful and significant experiences in my life.

Yet, I cannot help but wonder, many people have seen ~~THE~~ B.F. URANTIA BOOK but how many have seen the LIGHT? Why does so much of the "transforming power" of this revelation seem to occur in the mind and not in the heart? Do we love this book more than our brothers and sisters? Are we merely comfortable in each others presence because we have a meeting of the minds and mutual acceptance and interest in the teachings? How do we interpret The URANTIA B.F. BROTHERHOOD? Does it apply only to readers or to every being on this planet?

Bf. Is ~~THE URANTIA BOOK~~ really our only common bond? Or can we dig deeper and look through it to our real Source and Center?

How concerned are we - how interested are we in each other? Do we acknowledge the term "Brotherhood of Man" in our intellects or our hearts? Regardless of our seemingly different life styles, are we interested in becoming friends too? Do we have the time? Do we have the desire? Do we have the LOVE? Do we find ourselves still criticizing each other or unable to work out the "rough spots" in our relationships? Has our interest in organization building replaced our interest in the self-realization of brotherhood?

Bf. Do we still strive for ever deepening personal communion with the Father? Or do we assume we know Him and His Truths because we have ~~THE URANTIA BOOK~~? Do we look for Him in our daily lives? Do we see His "face" in our brother's "face?" Has the experience of THE URANTIA BOOK become a substitute for the personal experience of God Consciousness? How well do we really KNOW Our Father? How clearly do we discern His Will? How good are we at following? How open are we in heart, mind, and spirit to Him? To each other?

Bf. Is knowing ~~THE URANTIA BOOK~~ knowing it all? Is this the beginning or the end of our questioning and seeking? How well do we read the book? How often? Are our ideas and theories crystalizing or do we continually subject our mind's interpretation to a continual bathing and re-energizing in study groups? How well do we LIVE the book?

Do we LOVE one another as Jesus loved us? Does it matter to you?

Vince Ventola