

C.E.R.D.H.**

Center of Study and Reflexion on
Human Destiny



URANTIA* Book Study Group



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THE LETTER

*"By the spirit fruits of your lives impels souls to
believe the truth that man is a son of God, and that
all men are brethren" (193-5-2)*

WINTER 91-92 N°28

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EDITORIAL

With the information provided in this letter and dealing with our meeting in August at Haguenau and the news of the slow but inexorable development of the Revelation you will find a call to unity which, no doubt, will remind you of what the Old Man Lao Tse was saying some six centuries before Christ :

*Of old, these came to be in possession of the One ;
Heaven in virtue of the One is limpid ;
Earth in virtue of the One is settled ;
Gods in virtue of the One have their potencies ;
The valley in virtue of the One is full ;
The myriad creatures in virtue of the One are alive ;
Lords and princes in virtue of the One become leaders
in the empire.*

Tao Te Ching chapter 39 translated by D.C. Lau

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** C.E.R.D.H. a non-profit association, getting together readers of the URANTIA Book.

CAMPAIGN FOR UNITY

WE have already moved one step towards unity just by having a common goal - serving our neighbor by letting him or her hear, in part or in whole, of "The URANTIA Book" which has enlightened our life with a new light.

Thus each one of us may be a target for Caligastia who is now playing his last trumps. Let us remember that Caligastia launched an attack on Eve and managed to have the third Revelation fail.



The division which may seem to exist between us does not, therefore, come from our motives but from the viewpoint on the method to be used. Such a variety of viewpoints should be our richness, a result of the fact that we are all different .

The harmony between these diverse viewpoints can be reached only if, deep down and individually, we are looking for the guidance of our Thought Adjuster and for an increased sensitivity to the Spirit of Truth bestowed upon us by Jesus.

- Unity can only be found on a spiritual level, through the daily prayer of each of us asking for the way to unity.

But who profits by the lack of unity we now live in ?

We know that on one hand our free will is totally respected and that on the other hand Caligastia may present suggestions to our mind! That is why Jesus told Peter : "pray so as not to be tempted".

- Let our discipline be a self-discipline; let each one of us think that he or she plays a part and has a share of the responsibility in this lack of unity which may lead to the

failure of the fifth Revelation. Let everyone of us pray every day to be enlightened in his or her search for what Jesus would do, were he in our situation.

- "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 A)

"The true church - the Jesus brotherhood - is invisible, spiritual, and is characterized by *unity*... Spiritual unity is the fruit of faith union with the living Jesus." (2085 - B)

"If you love your fellows as I have loved you, then shall all men know that you are my disciples." (1125 B)

Recloses the 25th of December 1991

Jacques Dupont

"What I require of you, my apostles, is spirit unity—and that you can experience in the joy of your united dedication to the wholehearted doing of the will of my Father in heaven." (141-5-1)



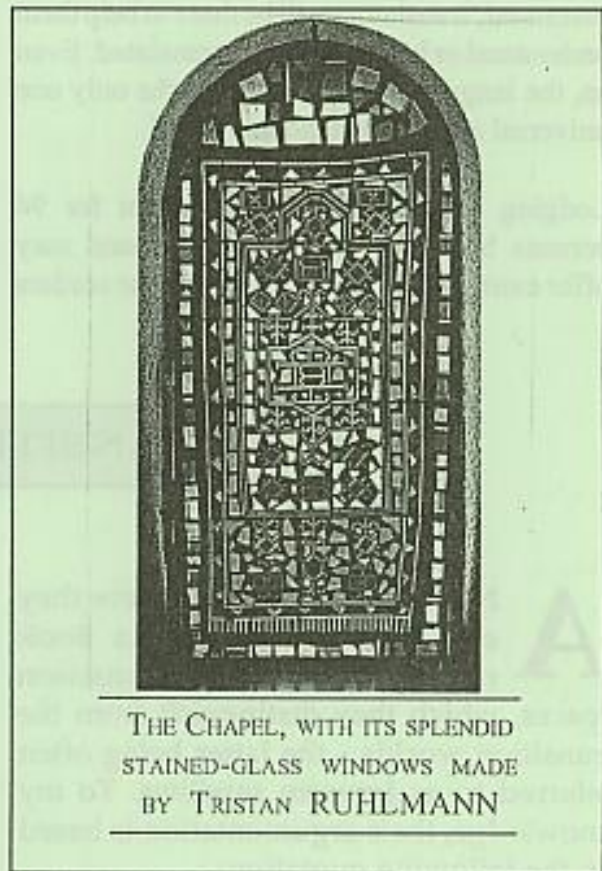
"Spiritual unity is derived from the consciousness that each of you is indwelt, and increasingly dominated, by the spirit gift of the heavenly Father. Your apostolic harmony must grow out of the fact that the spirit hope of each of you is identical in origin, nature, and destiny." (141-5-1)

THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF U.B. READERS IN FRANCE

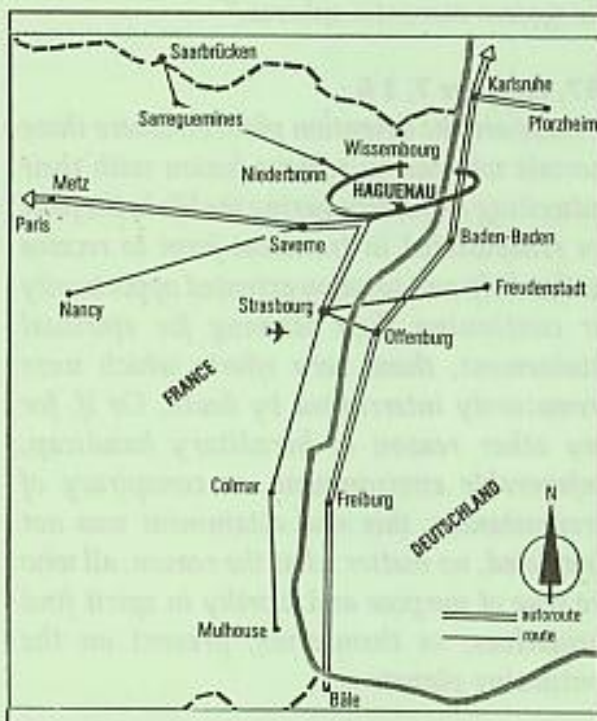
THE C.E.R.D.H. organizes for the third time an international meeting of Urantia Book readers in France. For many of us this will be a unique and enriching occasion of transcending our differences in understanding and culture. For a whole week we will spend an intense life of spiritual sharing under the watchcare of our Universal Father and in the presence of our Master, Jesus.

This seems to give the Urantian movement a welcome opportunity to unite with and around Jesus in a spirit of fellowship and to live in unity of spirit our diversity of viewpoints. A soul appealing to another soul on the level of love reaches a level beyond all intellectual and partisan considerations and reaches to a true Brotherhood, the brotherhood of the kingdom of God.

While we call on the spirit of Jesus, let us not forget to live according to his teachings and let us produce the fruits of the spirit. We will



THE CHAPEL, WITH ITS SPLENDID STAINED-GLASS WINDOWS MADE BY TRISTAN RUHLMANN



become his disciples only in as much as we love each others as he loves us. Keeping this in mind, we are all invited to this great spiritual feast of friendship in Haguenau. The Maison St Gérard is a propitious setting for our meeting. There you will find a serene and calm atmosphere favourable to intellectual relaxation, to soul expression, to searching for the will of the Father.

In our every day program much room has been reserved for prayer-worship, be it in nature or in the chapel of the Maison St Gérard. Its simple colours and the luminosity filtering through the splendid stained-glass windows are an invitation to spontaneous worship. The numerous free times and the meals around small tables (8 persons) will favour personal relationship, relaxation and humour. The workshops will be centered on

"To have, to be, to do" and everybody will be able to freely express himself or herself. French and English will be used, but let everyone feel reassured, translators will be there to help them understand or have their ideas translated. Even so, the language of love remains the only one universal and understandable by all.

Lodging conditions are only meant for 94 persons but many small hotels around may offer extra lodging if necessary. Some readers

may wish to participate to only part of the meeting, if so, they may contact the organizers with whom a satisfactory solution will certainly be found.

The C.E.R.D.H. team remains at your disposal for further information, if required, and is looking forward to seeing you this Summer.

C.E.R.D.H.
BLENNES

TRANSITION SPACES

A NUMBER of readers believe they can find in the Urantia Book references to some transition spaces, which they distinguish from the transition worlds - the latter being often referred to as Jerusem satellites. To my knowledge, their argumentation is based on the following quotations :

1233 3 § :

"If your intentions and desires are of survival value, there are issued the decrees of probation extension. You will be afforded additional time in which to prove yourself."

In my opinion, this quotation must not be taken out of the context. :

"If, through no fault of your own, the accidents of time and the handicaps of material existence prevent your mastering these levels on your native planet,...

which means to say, if you don't manage to do it on this planet, then, as it is written in the next paragraph: *"they unhesitatingly advance such a soul to the status of a transitional being..."*

In the language used by the Urantia Book the transition beings are morontia beings, not disembodied beings that would live in an hypothetical ether.

Of this we are reminded in chapter 3, Paper 191, page 2040 : *"He instructed them and learned from their directors the life of morontia transition as it is traversed by the mortals of the inhabited worlds of Satania as they pass through the system morontia spheres."*

517, chapter 7, 1 § :

"These are the detention planets, where those mortals who fail to achieve fusion with their indwelling Adjusters during the life in the flesh are rehabilitated in transient form to receive further help and to enjoy extended opportunity for continuing their striving for spiritual attainment, those very efforts which were prematurely interrupted by death. Or if, for any other reason of hereditary handicap, unfavorable environment, or conspiracy of circumstances, this soul attainment was not completed, no matter what the reason, all who are true of purpose and worthy in spirit find themselves, as themselves, present on the continuing planets ..."

These planets on which the mortals are detained, these continuing planets, are not planet Earth. Down here, there are only sleeping survivors and they are totally unconscious.

This is confirmed by the following quotation, page 341, 1 §: *"Those accredited beings who have, for any reason, been unable to attain that level of intelligence mastery and endowment of spirituality which would entitle them to personal guardians, cannot thus immediately and directly go to the mansion worlds. Such surviving souls must rest in unconscious sleep until the judgment day of a new epoch, a new dispensation ..."*

1841 5 § :

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

Chapter 6 of Paper 49 also alludes to the part played by these angels, but it is more precise in N° 1 : *"...the guardian seraphim also make their appearance; they are indispensable to terrestrial escape"*.

However, 3 paragraphs before, speaking of all mortals, they write: *"All alike are liberated from the bonds of flesh by the emancipation of natural death, and all alike go thence to the morontia worlds of spiritual evolution and mind progress"*.

If the words «unchartered» and «indefinite» are used it is because:

1) We don't know what becomes of personality, and that WE is not just anybody, WE refers to the writer of Paper 112, a Solitary Messenger, who writes page 1234, 5 §: *"As to the exact whereabouts of mortal personality during the time*

intervening between death and survival, we do not know."

2) The time necessary for resurrection varies greatly, from three days to about a thousand years.

However, it becomes quite clear page 1230, last but one paragraph when we are told :

"The seraphim are indispensable to the reassembly of personality".

And, in the last paragraph :

"Upon death the Thought Adjuster temporarily loses personality, but not identity; the human subject temporarily loses identity, but not personality; on the mansion worlds both reunite in eternal manifestation."

And further on :

"...and never does a dis-Adjusted human being after death manifest active identity or in any manner establish communication with the living beings of earth. Such dis-Adjusted souls are wholly and absolutely unconscious during the long or short sleep of death. There can be no exhibition of any sort of personality or ability to engage in communications with other personalities until after completion of survival."

The argument according to which a non dis-Adjusted being could, upon death, manifest some kind of activity is a tank that that does not hold water for :

Page 1231, 3 § :

"Subsequent to physical death, except in individuals translated from among the living, the released Adjuster goes immediately to the home sphere of Divinington."

1230, 6 § :

"Those who go to the mansion worlds are not

permitted to send messages back to their loved ones".

Here again, the sentence should not be taken out of the context.

There is no opposition between those that would go to the mansion worlds and those that would not, as was the case in the preceding paragraph which distinguished those who have a personal guardian from those who have a group guardian.

There are numerous quotations showing that on the mansion worlds man starts exactly from where he was at the time of death, here are a few of them :

533, 6 § :

" On mansion world number one (...) you will resume your intellectual training and spiritual development at the exact level whereon they were interrupted by death. Between the time of planetary death or translation and resurrection on the mansion worlds, mortal man gains absolutely nothing aside from experiencing the fact of survival."

557, No 23

"Death added nothing to the intellectual possession or to the spiritual endowment, but it did add to the experiential status the consciousness of survival."

1234, 3 §

"You will not function as a conscious being, following death, until you attain the new consciousness of morontia on the mansion worlds of Satania."

1242, 2 §

"(if natural death does not terminate your career and transfer your struggles to the mansion worlds)"

To my mind, one argument could «justify» an explanation of certain limit phenomena, and this argument has not been used by the French-speaking readers, because of a peculiar translation by Jacques Weiss, it is the following :

738, last § :

"On this world there developed many forms of border phenomena _confusional combinations of the mechanical-nonteachable and the nonmechanical-teachable types of organismal response."

Jacques Weiss having translated "on this world" by "sur ce monde d'exception" instead of "sur ce monde", the readers could not think it could be our world.

We will have to wait for qualified linguists to tell us how to understand it.

As for the two difficulties alluded to by the Solitary Messenger of Paper 112 page 1233, last paragraph, if some interesting details are withheld from us, I can't believe these details could be such as to contradict the preceding affirmations.

Once again, I think that what they tell us is partially true (since they don't tell us everything) but I refuse the assumption of fraud which an "intermediate" waiting, otherwise definitely omitted, would represent.

Jean ROYER
LE THOR - FRANCE

INFORMATION FROM THE C.E.R.D.H.

Where can one get "The URANTIA BOOK" and le "Livre d'URANTIA" in EUROPE ?

At the C.E.R.D.H.

3 bis Grande Rue - 77940
 BLENNES-VOULX
 ☎ 33.1.64.31.02.21 - Fax : 33.1.64.31.04.73
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Text : English
 : French
 Availability : permanent
 Order by : mail
 : fax
 : phone
 Delivery time : One week
 (in Europe)
 Payment : cash, cheque, Postal
 Order

PRICE : F.F 220
 (including the post delivery)



GREAT SUCCESS

After having sent six weeks ago the reservation forms to the third International Encounter, the C.E.R.D.H. has already registered over 50 people, the option number one being yet off, only 42 full boards are remaining.

We cordially invite the individuals who intend to attend the encounter to promptly send their reservation forms (even without money) to be sure to have rooms, the reservations being made on the first reserved, first served principle.

Why 220 F.

- 150 F. Cost price (with 40 % discount on the retail price)
- 22,5 F. soit 15 % costs of delivery and forwarding agent
- 10,5 F. V.A.T.
- 7,0 F. Financial cost and reserves for fluctuations in exchange

190,00 F. then add.
 30,00 F. for mailing cost
 220,00 F.F.

Our selling price represents exactly our cost price. Every thing else being benevolent. Investing money to keep available a stock of books, unsold perforated copies (custom checking for drug!), Time spent for book-keeping, following up of payment, preparing and sending books by mail etc... but this is a pleasant and satisfying activity knowing that each mailed copy is an answer to a truth seeker "The act is ours, the consequences God's (48-7-13).



ELECTRONIC TYPESETTING OF THE REVISED TEXT OF J. WEISS TRANSLATION

In agreement with the URANTIA FOUNDATION the C.E.R.D.H. has started the electronic typesetting of J. WEISS revised text. We bought a complete electronic configuration including a 21 inches monochrome screen, a 486-33 - 8 M.b ram - 256 k.o cache computer, the Pagemaker 4 and word for windows vers.2 Softwares enabling us to format and make up the text with interesting characteristics such as the french pagination corresponding page for page with

At the FOUNDATION

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the english, the particularly easy to read original font will be used also for the french text, and it will be formed in one column as it is in english.

This task will take about two years of team work. Once the text is typesetted a 3 individuals team checks the spelling the punctuation (based on A. Paradis recommendations) the omissions, the italics etc ... Once the text is corrected then a second checking is done.

This process is a very long one but will assure the reader of having a good text.

From the FOUNDATION

(Extracts from the Foundation's Journal - Used by permission)

Tenth printing completed with redesigned hard cover and dust jacket

The tenth printing of "The URANTIA Book", consisting of 25,000 copies, was completed in APRIL 1990. This brings the total number of copies printed since 1955 to approximately 235,000.

A number of improvements have been made on the hard cover: the Concentric-Circles Symbol is now displayed in gold color on the front, and two of URANTIA Foundation's registered marks appear on the spine.

In addition, the Trustees approved a new dust jacket which now has a wider range of references to passages from "The URANTIA Book" including a number that discuss spiritual growth and social change.

At the same time as the tenth printing of "The URANTIA Book", Foundation affiliate Amadon Corporation completed the fifth printing of "Le Livre d'URANTIA", with 6,000 new copies. Its dust jacket follows the new English version, though the hard cover redesign was delayed until the next printing.

Overall, the Trustees believe that the physical appearance of "The URANTIA Book" and "Le Livre d'URANTIA" is better than ever, and we hope that you are pleased with these changes.

Electronic Version of "The URANTIA Book" Nears Completion

The authorized electronic version of "The URANTIA Book" for I.B.M. compatible computers is in the final stages of production. This version not only has the full text, but also aids in finding words and phrases quickly and easily for enhanced study. It is currently scheduled to be released in the second quarter of 1992. The price has yet to be established. Further details will be announced when available.

Maintaining the retail price of "The URANTIA Book"

More than a decade ago, in 1979, the suggested retail price of "The URANTIA Book" was raised to \$ 34.00.

Today, it remains \$ 34.00. This has been possible because URANTIA Foundation has been able to subsidize the costs associated with each copy of "The URANTIA Book" that is distributed. However, inflation and other factors have caused us to commence a review of the book's price, and it seems to be more a question of how much the increase must be, rather than whether an increase will occur. Future price increases appear to be inevitable.

The Trustees have previously provided the readership with a report on production and distribution costs, including an explanation of the Foundation's administration of the Perpetual Printing Fund. Reprints of this report are available upon request.

Finnish and Spanish Translations of "The URANTIA Book"

Substantial progress has been made toward the completion of the Finnish and Spanish translations of "The URANTIA Book", and the Foundation's resources are increasingly focused on the completion of these important projects. But a good deal of work remains to be done. Although the initial renderings of the Finnish and Spanish translations have been completed - no small accomplishment in itself, concentrated checking and polishing work must be performed. That is now in process, and once it is accomplished, formatting, electronic typesetting, and other work associated with printing will follow. In fact, it is already underway to a limited extent. In order to expedite this entire process, the Trustees are providing specialized staff training and are hiring a Technical Editor. Even with this additional support, however, the remaining work presents a formidable task. It is, therefore, difficult to predict when the final texts will be available to the public. Nevertheless, we believe the translations will be ready for distribution in 1993 or 1994. This is only an estimate, however, and we shall provide more accurate information as we have it.

While we have received significant contributions of both time and money for the completion of these projects, it has become clear that additional funds will be necessary to bring these translations to a satisfactory conclusion. We are going to provide further details about this in the future.