

# The Circles

"Life is but a day's work—  
do it well."\*

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## Help for our Friends

### Helping Our Unseen Friends

I read in many *URANTIA Book* related publications of how we should or should not disseminate the information. I would find these publications much more meaningful if they would describe some concrete examples of how readers use the information to problem solve creatively.

For instance: When I engage in conversation with someone who is expressing a difficult situation in their life, I often listen until they have exhausted their description and have fully disclosed themselves.

Usually ninety-nine percent of the time there has been little or no discussion of the spiritual viewpoint. The physical and mental pictures have dominated the consciousness. It is at this point that I ask them what their spiritual consciousness is. Usually it's minimal, if any. That situation is the cause of their feelings of aloneness, anger, anxiety, or depression. By calling attention to the remote possibility of help from superhuman personalities (if they ask for it), the perplexed individuals sometimes experience a jump in consciousness. I've seen it happen time and time again. A gentle reminder of spiritual help seems to open doors to higher levels of problem solving which they had not been utilizing.

They usually ask me how to do it. They are not used to "praying." I suggest that praying is more like conversation, imagining concerned and loving personalities who really care about our welfare and the welfare of

By Patrick Yesh  
Canmore, Alberta

those with whom we are in conflict. I tell them that I will pray for them immediately to assist them in their decisions and solutions.

There is a further step that I engage them in and that is one of focusing their attention on the value lessons that the current problem is manifesting in their lives. What lessons are to be learned? We are not focusing on solutions anymore but on values. This can most easily be accomplished in a state of deep relaxation, therefore we enter into a

See "Helping" continued on page 5.



# Help for our Friends

## No One Ever Told Me

## Not to Talk to Angels



By Jeannie George  
Dallas, Texas

The longing of the heart to find God and to be more like him in our daily lives is a desire that we all hold in common. While each of us is unique and has different beliefs, we do have in common this yearning to be more Godlike. Thus, we each proceed in our own way toward this goal.

In looking back, it was this desire to find God that led me to believe that contacting angels would be a beginning toward this goal. Even though this type of writing has usually been looked upon with skepticism, receiving messages from guardian angels seemed a safe and appropriate way for me to begin.

Back in September, 1969, when I first started reading about guardian angels, I was interested in their work with us. Especially I was impressed with how they bring together spiritual influences, and put them into recognizable form for us to understand—acting as a liaison between spirit and man. In light of this knowledge, trust for the angels began to develop. It occurred to me that I would enjoy communicating with them, and that they too might enjoy this contact. If they were with me all the time, certainly it could mutually benefit our work together.

Disregarding the fact that contact is rarely made between mortal and angel, I continued to think about the question: How do you go about contacting angels? My friend, Gene Joyce, suggested I read *The Search*

for Truth by Ruth Montgomery in which she talks about a guide named Lilly. Fascinated by her account of the contact, I put pen to paper and tried writing. Slowly but surely, messages arrived signed, "Guardian Angels."

For the first month I kept the drawings and messages to myself, not daring to share such a secret. But due to the mysteries of this type of contact, I decided to share with this same friend, so as to check out the authenticity of my activities. I wanted agreement that this could be useful. The assurance of safety in numbers

had a stabilizing effect on me. Gene's encouragement to continue the writings was an incentive for me.

The angles conducted our sessions, as they said, "so they would be fun, pleasurable and truth providing." Naturally, we were very curious about them. When we asked where they lived, they quipped, "We sit on heads." A lighthearted feeling pervaded the writings. We laughed with glee at their remarks to our curious questions about them.

But the angles would gently bring us back to the matter at hand—our work, doing the Father's business.



## How to Help

By Paul Goris

Cincinnati, Ohio

The sentiment which has resulted in the theme of this issue is well directed. The Seraphim, Midwayers, and all their associates have lovingly nurtured us that we might someday become contributing members of our Father's heavenly family. Certainly the prospect of becoming an assistant to our shepherds is very exciting and inspirational. One could commit oneself wholeheartedly to the advancement of truth and to providing the greatest possible life experience for our earthly family.

There are limits, however, to what manner of assistance we can provide. We are in no position to aid our angels in their purely supermortal

activities (at this stage of our growth); and we could quite possibly unknowingly complicate their work. It is very unwise for us mortals to assess what things our helpers *must* be doing based upon the events which transpire around us.

We need only peruse paper 114 - Seraphic Planetary Government - to gain an understanding of which earthly problems our angels consider most important from the universal perspective. The Seraphim who volunteer to serve the mortal races are involved in fostering almost every aspect of our civilization. This paper can guide each of us to find that

See "How" continued on page 16.

They readily reminded us about our forgotten goals and plans. They persisted with the "Why not's," as we called them. "Why not look for God's beauty in all things? Why not try looking into the eyes of truth? Why not look at yourselves? Why not ask us a real question?"

When I bought a Big Chief tablet to write in, they were delighted. "This will be a noteworthy book for bravery," and they then proceeded to talk about showing courage. They said, "Who among you can show some courage today?"

The familiar greeting that "We are here," was a comforting and encouraging aspect of the writings. But something else began to happen. They became a reality to us. On October 2, 1971, the first anniversary of when they started writing to Gene and me, Gene had a party for the angels. The angels wrote a beautiful message and we ate angel food cake. Imagine our surprise some years later when we discovered from a friend that this is the Feast of the Guardian Angels, a day set aside to honor angels in the Catholic Church.

Through these writings, many have come to trust and love the angels. Their willingness to share is foremost, as now in their message to you, the readers of *The Circles*:

*Have faith in our desire to help you along the path to eternity. Our love and devotion for you is a tireless privilege. For in serving, we give, and in giving comes love for each other and for our Heavenly Father. In love we all progress. No other joy is greater than this.*

*When angel and man come together in cooperation on this planet, goodwill will accelerate beyond your imagination. We place before you now the cup of love. Drink from the cup of love in your life, for a life is to be spent and replenished. Who among you with the integrity and the will to follow, may. Just acknowledge with your mind, the mind of our loving Master, Jesus, and all will be known to you—what works to do, and where you are needed. Your talents will become apparent to you and how to use them. This invitation we*

## SERAPHIC ENTERTAINMENT

Our Love Supreme! Our Love Supreme . . .  
within this affirmation hear  
Seraphic Voices drawing near  
For deep within the Supreme Mind  
Do we encircuit, kind to kind.

An Angel speaks! An Angel speaks . . .  
We come forth from our Spirit Mother  
You know her well, sister to brother.  
We are creative companions: we carry  
within ourselves patterns from afar.  
We see in you all our hopes of the Father God.  
Long do we train and serve in many capacities,  
With His promise to bring sometime forth  
From the depths of His Mystery Being personalities  
To be a light for us to find Him in Them  
when such Beings arrive do we greatly rejoice!  
For we then know all our Father's promises  
Are as Everlasting Truth: rejoice with us!  
For in truth, the Personality that seeks to emerge  
Through all, is that of the Supreme.

Our Love Supreme! Our Love Supreme . . .  
Appears in wondrous new technique  
Where Unseen Friends and Sons might speak  
The first step and hardest to see  
Is to believe how this may be . . .

Princess d'Or and Company  
New York, New York

*offer to you on this day. Take the step forward toward creativity, growth, wisdom, happiness and direct work with the seraphic hosts for the betterment of the planet. Greater love has a man that gives his life for service.*

Our planet does seem to be astir with new activities. According to the angels this is the extra help we are now being granted, and they are eager to make contact with other willing mortals. We, the ones who wish to take the responsibility, can act here on earth as custodians toward the growth of our planet. It is now our privilege to take our responsibility as teachers so we can be used to work in God's behalf in a much fuller and more expressive way. The work of showing wisdom and love.

During my years of writing, the angels seemed to have a process they were leading us through. They used questioning to replace fear and doubt, and suggestions to get us to think. They replaced our gloom with happiness by spending time with us. The problems slowly dropped away, and the important lessons emerged: that life is a process and the process is love.

Over thirteen years of writing, I have had many moments of distrust and anxiety. Overcoming the fear of "what others will think" has been a continual adjustment. The next problem was what I took on as my responsibility as to the truthful content of the writings, because some looked at them as the gospel truth. When the messages were not clear, I had con-

cern. But I have since learned the reasons for this were either my fear or the fear of the person for whom I was writing.

From the writings, I found out that no one can make our decisions for us. When I was confronted with a problem they would make suggestions, and I, in turn, would check this out with my inner guidance. When all solutions were considered, the decision was still left up to me. So the fear can be eliminated that someone can make our decisions for us. It is an impossibility. Try this experiment for yourself: Ask a friend to suggest solutions to a problem and you try to follow their advice. In the final analysis the decision will still be yours.

Is contact with angels wrong for an individual and right for a group? As I see it, it is within the perimeter of *The URANTIA Book* to speak to angels. We are the ones who can either deny that this type of contact took place or the ones who have asked for the contact. In no way does this violate the commission that contacted the members of the URANTIA headquarters.

Nor are we in violation of natural law. For on this planet there are mortals who have turned their will over to God. They have accepted the role that he has asked them to be in—mortals doing God's will as loyal citizens of the world. In no way, has there been a violation of their will. They asked for this contact. And angels correlate these spiritual influences for us, and encourage us toward this inner guidance.

In our lives, we have been led to do this or that, and that is okay, "reasonable." But when there is an announcement of writings from the angels or

See "Angels" continued on page 5.



## Help for

# A Song

Dear Gene, Kaye, Bill, et al.

When I wrote this several years ago, I had no objective in mind. Francyl sang it at Snowmass, and several people later asked for copies.

What can we do for our unseen friends? Among many things, sing to them!! I have added a note after each line, a suggested way to teach the song to children, not too young.

Affectionately,

Helena Sprague  
Farmington, Connecticut

### Heights of Satania (Melody: "Morning Has Broken")

Heights of Satania,  
Schools of Edentia,  
Salvington's treasure,  
Nebadon's own  
Path to the Father,  
Trav'lers together  
Celebrate singing  
Mustard seeds sown.

Child of the high hill,  
Walked in the valleys,  
Wept with the wounded,  
Mind and soul won,  
Michael Creator,  
As your life taught us,  
In our decisions,  
His will be done.

Heights of Satania,

Satania is the system we belong to; it has over 600 inhabited planets, but when it's finished, there'll be 1000. (This doesn't mean our solar system.)

Schools of Edentia,

Edentia is the capital of our constellation, named Norlatiadek - hard to spell. We spend time and go to school on the many worlds around Edentia after we leave our system of Satania.

Salvington's treasure,

Salvington is the capital of our local universe and the headquarters of our Creator Son, who once lived here as Jesus. We actually meet him there.

Nebadon's own

Nebadon is the name of our local universe, Jesus' creation.



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# our Friends



- Path to the Father.* Human beings go through many steps, hundreds of worlds, before they meet God the Father. System, constellation, local universe is the order in which we travel in the first part of our journey.
- Travelers together* We are told it's unusual to work or play alone in God's universe; teamwork is an important skill to learn in this life.
- Celebrate singing.* There's music throughout the universe. In a time and place far away, we'll hear more beautiful melodies than we can imagine.
- Mustard seeds sown.* A mustard seed is tiny, but it grows into a big plant. If we plant seeds of kindness and generosity, they'll grow into big rewards.
- (Verse 2-start softly)*  
*Child of the high hill.* Jesus' home in Nazareth was just a little way below the top of a big hill; he liked to spend time up there. And he's a special Son of the highest we know, God.
- Walked in the valleys,* Jesus and his followers walked many miles all over Palestine, which is very hilly. And Jesus went through the valleys of heartache and sadness in his own life.
- Wept with the wounded,* Jesus was sympathetic and tenderhearted. He knew what it was to be hurt, in the body and in the feelings.
- Mind and soul won,* Jesus taught new ideas for those times, that God loves and knows every single person, and that every human being is his child.
- Michael Creator,* On our planet, we know the Creator Son as Jesus, but in the universe, he is called Michael.
- As your life taught us,* Jesus lived the way he did to teach us what God is like, to inspire us to keep trying to understand His will.
- In our decisions,* If we believe something to be true, we can act it out; decide and then go and do it.
- His will be done.* Jesus is our best example of a man understanding and doing God's will.



*"Angels" continued from page 4.*

other sources, it is with skepticism that we view these writings, and it is through this skepticism that we appoint ourselves the "judge" of truth.

Personal and group revelations do take place and certainly we should strive to be cautious and wise. We all answer to our Creator, and he, in turn, provides us with inner guidance. But is there any question that he delights in all his children, mortal and celestial, seeking ways to work together—striving to become perfect, even as he is perfect?

As for me, among the many noticeable improvements have been increased happiness, sensitivity to my inner leadings, and a willingness to be more actively creative. So in viewing my personal contact with angels, this I know: The results have only been good. For this reason I am so thankful that no one ever told me I couldn't talk to angels.

To further goodwill between man and angels, I will be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding this article. Jeannie George, 13938 Peyton Drive #111, Dallas, Texas 75240. ●

*"Helping" continued from page 1.*

state of listening meditation. Our minds slip into the right hemisphere and we become open receivers of incoming inspiration and intuition. It usually works, if we meditate long enough and share the results.

This is one way of helping our unseen friends help other anguished human beings. Sure, it is up to that human being primarily to ask for help spiritually, but we can help and encourage this method of thinking, so that we continue to help focus their attention on the higher levels of consciousness. We help others to recognize spiritual personality existence and allow our spiritual friends to intervene in our lives consciously when we problem solve and make those day-to-day decisions. From that point on the individual experiences his own brand of spiritual consciousness. Let him know you are continuing to pray for him and watch his personality light up. ●



# Help for our Friends

## Friends Forever

By George Coletsis  
Vancouver, British Columbia



Our universe is special - just as if it were the only one! Even our planet is well-taken-care-of, treated kindly and lovingly as if it were the only one as well. Isn't it a wonder to understand how this marvelous truth occurs? It is given to us by the great ministry of our unseen friends - our companions, contributors and partners in our task of knowing God and helping the Supreme!

Our unseen friends are always with us, either comforting or "circumstancing" our experiences within these plans of light and life. Not only are they extremely efficient, but they are grasping at the need to give us more than we could possibly ask for. How they love us! Perhaps we can love them by doing more and sensing their friendship with us, and if we're fortunate, their presence as well.

We mean so much to our unseen mates. And we could make them even happier by our thinking and feeling how much they mean to us. Friendship is the greatest thing, meaning and value in the world. Imagine how rich this experience of friendship is when we are blessed with the knowledge of having unseen friends as well as our mortal friends. ●



## The Johnnie Appleseed Project

By  
Mike Appleby  
Tommy Clendenen  
Kaye and Bill Cooper  
Diane Dalrymple  
Jim Daniels  
John Lanford  
Louis and Sherry Morris  
Dallas-Fort Worth

The Johnnie Appleseed Project was conceived as an attempt to assist the ministry of the angels of this planet in their work to guide mortals to *The URANTIA Book*. The appleseeds are leaflets which may be left in public places so that the angels may more easily guide their charges to a reference to the Book. They are designed to be a brief, very inexpensive written enticement to inquire about *The URANTIA Book*. Fourteen different topics from the Book are covered in the fourteen appleseeds. We tried to choose ideas which had first led readers to become interested in the Book. In addition to providing opportunities for the angels to guide their mortals to the Book, the local address which may be stamped on the back of each appleseed can provide a means of identifying book stores or libraries which have the Book or may give an address to contact readers or study groups.

An appleseed may be left virtually any place where someone might be likely to pick it up and glance at it. If someone does no more than notice the name *The URANTIA Book*, that is a seed planted which may eventually germinate. Discretion should always be used. For example: leaflets should be spread sparsely to avoid being a nuisance to store owners, to avoid littering, etc. Some of the places we have thought of to sow our appleseeds include: shelves and counters in stores; magazines, books or shelves at bookstores or libraries; doctor or dentist waiting rooms; bulletin boards at the laundry, car wash, grocery store, apartment house, college, etc.; tourist information centers; churches; public telephones; airports; hospital waiting rooms. Ask bookstore owners if you can leave a stack on the counter.

Appleseeds may be used in a more personal way too. We have given appleseeds to personal acquaintances if they were interested in a particular topic, given whole sets as a further introduction to The Book, and tucked them in letters or loaned books. We have also used them when making a quick and passing mention of the Book to identify the Book in writing and tell where it can be found. In this last function it is like a calling card for *The URANTIA Book*.

We have been inspired in this project by the image of Johnny Appleseed passing through sowing the seeds which would provide the gift of delicious fruit for unknown persons to follow. The image is of a gift that is simple and easy but loving, generous and long-lasting. We hope and trust that spreading these new appleseeds will be an act from which God can generate many beautiful consequences.

We recognize that some of these leaflets may fall into the hands of persons who might react angrily and fearfully. It is also possible that we may not receive any feedback from people who benefit from them. We can only act as we feel we should and leave the results to God.

We would love to share the appleseeds with anyone who will use them. We will send them free of charge if you are not able to help with the expenses. If you can help cover the cost (about 4¢ per appleseed), we would appreciate your help. Appleseeds may be obtained from:

The Johnnie Appleseed Project  
P. O. Box 461  
Arlington, Texas 76004-0461

Please indicate how many sets you would like. There is one copy each of fourteen different appleseeds in each set. You may also request any number of individual appleseeds. In that case, please order by title. ●



# about angels

BY GENE JOYCE  
RICHARDSON, TEXAS

The angels "love human beings, and only good can result from your efforts to understand and love them."

**What mortals have said about angels:**

"I could easily believe that not only whole countries, but particular persons, have their Tutelary and Guardian Angels."--Sir Thomas Browne: "Religio Medici."

**What angels have said about mortals:**

"Fill yourselves from the Temple within, from the chalice of Light which you hold. Pour this out upon those who weep, with Love. The message of redemption is what this world is longing for. The message of

wholeness is what we announce. The message of God's love is the power that will renew this world--and in less time than any mortal would deem possible."

## SPECULATION COULD THIS BE ANOTHER ANGEL STORY?

By Sandy Garrick

It happened about 1959 (I may be off by a year). I was living in New York City with my ex-wife and daughter (now deceased). I had a job in St. Louis, Missouri, of two weeks' duration. Upon completion of the work I was booked on a mid-day TWA flight to New York, departing the following day.

This was years before I had ever heard of *The URANTIA Book*, and I was reasonably happy being my old gnosto-atheist self. It is worthy of note that I can truthfully state I have never been late for any appointment in my life. I am always reliable and very punctual. The morning of my flight I got up, had breakfast, packed

See "About" continued on page 9.



(an anomaly, really, since having been depicted, they are then SEEN Friends)

The idea of establishing some contact with our unseen friends took a reversionistic direction with me a few months ago. Perhaps there should be a book, I pondered, of the contacts and experiences individuals have had with various orders of unseen beings. Perhaps people could send photos they have of individual beings of these orders at their activity.

Of course, I thought, I'll probably receive a lot of photos of various manifestations. But what would result in the greatest number of contributions would be to ask people to send along a photo of anything, and merely indicate that it is an unseen being of their choice doing such-and-such. There might be some humorous interpretations and we might get a good book out of it.

Of course, I thought, I'll probably receive a lot of photos which are seriously regarded by the individuals who took them, to be documentary record of an unseen individual. We might get enough of those to make a good book, too. With a little research and documentation such a book might contain much useful material, and become a chronicle of the experiences of some of our readership.

Readers and adherents of *The URANTIA Book*, then, are invited to submit photographs of unseen friends.

The photographs are to be used in one or more books.

For ease of reproduction, submissions should be sent in black-

See "Picture" continued on page 12.



*Cherubim and Sanctim*





## *How the Angels Grew*

By Page Tyler, age 6  
Cassville, Missouri

(The following is an excerpt from a tape made by Larry Tyler of his six-year-old son's answers to some of the questions about life.)

Question: Tell us about Heaven and angels and everything . . .


Answer: Well, angels were born by God's mother. Just went by one by one you know, like, FIRST an angel, the angel would have a baby, then the other angel would have a baby, just go like that until they were all born. God was the one who choosed, when it was over. God sure did make a lot of angels, you know. That's how the angels grew. ●

*"About" continued from page 8.*

up my things, and would have normally proceeded to go to the airport early to be in good time for my flight.

But this one morning I decided to go back to sleep, and upon waking I realized time was very short to make my flight. I rushed, got to the airport, was informed that the plane was in the final loading stage, and ran to the gate only to see it closed in my face. The plane was heading for the tarmac. I took the next flight (on American) to New York and called home, but my wife had already left to pick me up at Idlewild (now Kennedy) Airport...

I got home before she did. Hours later she arrived with my daughter, tears in her eyes. She thought I was dead. The TWA flight I was scheduled to take collided in mid-air with another plane over Brooklyn. There were no survivors. ●



## *Help for our Friends*

### *What Can We Do*

*Opening our eyes and ears  
Perhaps will open new frontiers  
As we learn to discern  
their communications  
By showing sensitivity  
to their vibrations  
We may detect their presence and protection  
The unexpected may be a direct connection*

*But what can we do to help them get through?*

*A clean heart is a good start from which to depart  
Religion is the root bearing spiritual fruit  
We choose the path, but the seraphim are there to guide  
It is our choice, we have the will to decide  
Making wise decisions may improve our spirit vision  
Being receptive to new avenues of interaction  
Persisting until achieving satisfaction  
Growing awareness, coupled with fairness  
Reaching up and in and out, experience erases doubt  
And we can find out what life is about  
By expanding, understanding another view  
There is no end to what we can do  
To help our friends get through*

*We can only try  
by giving all we can  
Faith will lift us high  
though we are lowly man  
There is abundant aid provided  
as part of the plan  
If we believe  
we will receive  
If we care  
we will get there  
For love drifts through the air  
where angels abide  
We may not even know  
when they are by our side  
We may not even realize how far we have progressed  
All we can do is give them our best  
And when they get through to us we will know our lives are blessed*

by K. Brendi Poppel  
Bayside, New York



# Potpourri

## The Boulder School

By Merrit Horn  
Lafayette, Colorado

The Boulder School for Students of *The URANTIA Book*, located in Boulder, Colorado, is in its second year of classes with a total of eighteen students from the U.S. and Canada in attendance.

The programs of the School are designed to aid the dissemination of the URANTIA teachings by helping to train committed leaders and teachers, and by undertaking various projects designed to foster the spiritual regeneration of Urantia and the promulgation of *The URANTIA Book*.

### The Student Program

The School's commitment to its students is: "To assist each student in preparing for whatever form or degree of ministry that he or she feels is consistent with the Heavenly Father's will." This preparation has three basic elements: 1) Personal Spiritual Growth; 2) Increased Knowledge; 3) Practical Experience. We have developed programs designed to foster progress in each of these areas and we are continually striving to improve these so that The Boulder School may more effectively assist the students in their efforts to increase their serviceableness to the Father.

The basic course of study is a two and one-half year program provided free-of-charge by the Rocky Mountain URANTIA Society of Denver. In lieu of tuition, each student is required to donate time to certain projects.

### The Service Projects

The Boulder School is serving those outside of the School through a number of projects underway and projected. For example:


- 1) Preparing and publishing various study aids and other materials designed to assist *URANTIA Book* study groups.
- 2) Assisting Clyde Bedell in the preparation of the next edition of his *Concordex*.
- 3) Assembling a national lending library of materials associated with *The URANTIA Book*.
- 4) Instituting a series of summer intensive courses for those who cannot attend the School full-time.
- 5) Assisting universities and col-

leges in their efforts to develop programs of study incorporating *The URANTIA Book*.


These are some of the current programs of the Boulder School. If you have any comments or suggestions or if you would like to receive further information and to be kept abreast of our activities, please write to us:

### THE BOULDER SCHOOL

for  
Students of *The URANTIA Book*  
1622 18th Street  
Boulder, Colorado 80302  
(303) 443-8154



## Angel Humor



By Jeannie George  
Dallas, Texas

How do angels identify humans? "By the number of hairs on their heads."

What do angels do in their free time? "They human-watch."

What do angels ask? "Do you know where your human is tonight?"

Two angels talking: "What will we do with these mortals from the 'I Love Lucy' era?" Second angel: "The 'Father Knows Best.'"

Angels talking about the path their mortals are taking to Paradise:

First angel: "I have a side stepper, who just steps aside and lets someone else do the job."

Second Angel: "Mine does the two step. Two steps forward, one step back."

Third angel: "My mortal and I, we tangle."



Fourth angel: "'I'll Waltz Around Heaven With You,' " seems to be our them song."



Fifth angel: "My charge is taken with disco. We dis go here and we dis go there."

Sixth angel: "I prefer my floater. We take a couple of steps; then we float from enlightenment."

Seventh angel: "We have learned about the value of one step at a time."

Another angel says: "Remember that giant step for mankind my mortal took?"  
And the angels sigh.





## Pilgrimage

to a



## New Dimension

By Tommie Clendening  
Piano, Texas

What if the totality of what is perceived by our five senses is illusion? Illusion caused by the misperception of one very influential being, eons ago. An illusion of self and self-power created by this individual's consciousness as he spurned God's will and became totally enmeshed in the creations of his own selfish will. Saying in effect, I don't need you, God. Many of his friends and associates could possibly have been deluded also by his power and followed him in his deadly folly. Deadly, because as his ideas became the known world (or conscious reality), so did the concept of death or end.

Now, eons of time later, this individual has been quarantined for his wrongdoings for quite some time. But the effects of his folly still linger. And those who dwell in this "unreality" have forgotten the existence of reality. They were born into this unreality and do not know anything else. Thus, his false, foundationless creation has become their only reality.

But as time goes on, errors and mistakes which once seemed so real must fall away as the real plan of the God of Creation slowly but inevitably works out. It must work out as its pattern was hidden so neatly in the center of each of his creatures. Suppose it happened like this:

One of the mortal men (mortal, since he still lives in the shallow unreality where birth and death seem to exist) became dissatisfied with his existence - just simply "felt" there had to be more than this. So he began to search. He read all the writings of the sages and all accounts of those who had followed similar paths but yet he

did not find "the answer." Finally, in frustration and despair, he sat down on a rock in his favorite thinking place and his mind cried of its anguish. Then suddenly a still, small voice from deep within his own being spoke. The flood of love and compassion that arose with the voice was more than he could ever accept! Hope was revived within his heart, and he rested awhile in continued bliss and peace, abiding with the long-silent Comforter. But slowly, his mortal mind accepted the fact that in order to truly have this precious gift, it must be given to others.

Thus, he came back to the unreality to attempt to share his findings with his mortal friends. But who would believe him? How could he give something so totally "not of this world"? How does one explain reality to those who exist in the depths of unreality? It seemed an impossible task--but he had to try for he truly loved his brothers.

Through trial and error he began to learn the unwritten laws of sharing spirituality (which is the name he gave his gift). First, he found he had to be credible to those he approached. He must be a true friend, an upstanding citizen with down-to-earth goals (the earth of unreality, that is), a worker and a compassionate companion. Then he could approach his brothers with credibility, for they would already truly know him in their realm.

Next, he must learn to tune in to those who, like himself, were dissatisfied with this unreality. As he found them among the groups of seekers, he sadly realized (after several futile attempts) that he could

not give of his gift. Listening with expectation for a still, small voice was frightening to most. They were not willing to leave the security and constant chatter of their unreality.

Thus, he realized his path was not to be easy. Still having the constant solace and companionship of the still, small voice, he continued to try. And finally mankind began to question, to dare to wonder. Slowly, some individuals actually began to question even the very basis for their seeming reality. Ah, progress at last! But in this quest, the dark barb of fear yet remained. The enlightened spoke of the possibility of an existence based totally on love, yet when another in his earthbound fear dared to question the thought of such absurdity, even the enlightened leaped to defend their love-based reality. The barb of fear yet remained also in their flesh.

Slowly the dream evolved and there finally appeared a few who actually followed the guidance and will of their Comforter and dared to turn the other cheek. A very few who did not leap to defend won their small victories totally with love. All this took place quietly and began to spread like a virus.

Then as our mortal watched and guided, he realized it was only a matter of a short while now before one of these babes of the Spirit would finally break through the veil of unreality and find himself, suddenly, engulfed in the flood of God's love and light. Thus would begin the joyous exodus from this realm of fearful unreality to the totality of life and light and, of course, the true reality--God! ●

### — STAFF —

Sarah Andriani	Diane Dalrymple
Mike Appleby	Gene Joyce
Tommie Clendening	Lois Morris
Bill Cooper	Sherry Morris
Kaye Cooper	Pat Waterman
John Thomas Lipinski	

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** The Circles is published quarterly and distributed on a donation basis. Send your name and address (and a donation if you can) to:

the Circles, 2001 Woods Drive  
Arlington, Texas 76010.

# Things to Share

The Atlanta Area URANTIA Book  
Study Group  
is pleased to announce their  
Second Annual Southeast Conference

May 20-22, 1983  
Atlanta, Georgia

The theme of the conference will be "Sharing." For further information, contact:

Cap Van Valkenburgh  
459 River Valley Road  
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Bill Lindemann  
15 Mayfair  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35404

## The Resurrection of My Soul

*A poem in booklet form by David Glass. This extended poem takes the reader on a journey through the sleep of survival to awakening in the mansion worlds and meeting of one's earth companions, Guardian Seraphim, and Thought Adjuster. The booklet is offered at \$1.50. Contact:*

David Glass  
1533 4th Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 33505

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*A conference at Fountainhead Lodge  
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Hotel and camping, restaurant, and child care.*

July 29-31, 1983

*The religion of Jesus active in our lives, attaining real love for our brothers and sharing it, experiencing sonship, maturing in the kingdom—these are the goals and ideals of this conference. As sons of God our first concern is daily to live the religion of the spirit. Come and join in an exploration of this personal religion. Contact:*

The Dallas Fellowship, Inc.  
P.O. Box 12727  
Fort Worth, TX 76116

## The Art of Living

Applying The URANTIA Book teachings in our lives.  
A conference  
August 19-21, 1983  
Santa Barbara, California

The program is intended as an inspirational and practical experience, affecting each one of us personally in more effectively living The URANTIA Book teachings in our daily lives.

The meeting place will be the beautiful ocean-front campus of the University of California Santa Barbara. Cost for the weekend for dormitory room, meals and conference registration will be in the neighborhood of \$100 per adult. Child care can be arranged at additional cost. Contact:

URANTIA Book Study Groups  
P.O. Box 3915  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

"Picture" continued from page 8.

and-white. Where possible a negative should be sent along with its print, or in lieu of print. Negatives will be returned to contributors. Envelopes containing prints should include sufficient stiffening support material to ensure the print is not bent or ripped.

Photographs should not include mortals unless it can be seen that they are doing something in concert

with one or more unseen friends. Contrivance in subject matter will be politely rejected.

Subject matter and composition are completely open. A brief description of location and camera technical information are required. Contributors may add other comments if desired.

Contributors will be credited.

DEADLINE: END OF 1983

Co-editor of the project is Jim

Harris, writer, photographer and professional racing-bus driver. Criteria for acceptance rests at his end. A panel of advisors will assist.

Please send material and inquiries, if necessary, to:

Jim Harris,  
Porcupine Run at Swift Rapids  
c/o the Post Office,  
Hydro Glen, Ontario  
Canada L0K-1K0



January 10, 1983

Dear Editor:

I would like to respond to Meredith J. Sprunger's article, "Fields of Ministry." I agree that *URANTIA Book* students should participate whenever possible with any of the various institutional and traditional religious organizations. However, it would be disastrous personally as well as for the *URANTIA* movement itself for anyone who embraces the concepts in *The URANTIA Book* to engage in the deceptive practice of pretending to believe in or even teach religious ideas that are contrary to one's own personal beliefs simply as a means of introducing *The URANTIA Book* to people who believe otherwise. It is a self-degrading attitude which devalues the personalities of those whom it seeks to convert; a clandestine method of religious subversion which is not worthy of the character of a spiritualized child of God.

I hope Dr. Sprunger will eventually see the futility of such misguided ambitions. The fact is that leaders and participants who do not entirely subscribe to specific church doctrines and dogma are eventually discovered and are rooted out as infiltrators and deceptive heretics who seek to alter the beliefs of the church followers by gaining influence in these organizations. "Wolves in sheep's clothing" is a New Testament quote which is used to describe them. The disaster is inherent in the act itself. When a sincere *URANTIA Book* student tries to pretend that he or she really accepts or even teaches as a minister the basic Christian doctrines such as the "blood atonement," etc. and then introduces *The URANTIA Book* which clearly deplores such concepts, the teacher is exposed as having been dishonest. The end does not justify the means because even though *The URANTIA Book* concepts are better, they have been thus associated with the subtle manipulative techniques of the teacher. The message becomes tainted emotionally.

Jesus told his followers that they would be "thrown out" of the religious institutions of their day because of the new revelation they would bring. He did not instruct them to teach the old message, but the new spiritual one. He never told them to be dishonest and afraid to proclaim the good news for fear of rejection, and he certainly did not encourage them to deceptively sneak the new teaching into other

religious diets as a dessert that would never quite mix with the meal.

We can only hope that the Spirit of Truth will eventually bring us all together as a unified movement in the world. When we can express such light, we will be inspirational enough to draw unto us the brothers and sisters who are desperately looking for such light in the established traditional religious institutions. I think that the Father is more interested in servicing the sincere truth seekers of the world than in making mass conversions from one religious institution to another of people who, in general, are seeking a psychologically secure system of established beliefs and rituals. I don't believe that such is the purpose of the *URANTIA* revelation. We are to become the new standard of enlightenment that Jesus intended to illuminate the world with the restatement of His life and teachings, the world which before the *URANTIA* revelation had only misunderstood His real gospel of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. Our generation will interpret this message in ways that will supersede the traditional religious institutions of the past.

Sincerely,

Anthony Porzio  
 Managing Director  
 Institute for Spiritual  
 Enlightenment  
 Florence, Oregon

January 20, 1983

Dear Anthony,

The Editors of *The Circles* thank you for your letter of January 10, 1983. I would like to respond to your letter, not only as an editor, but as an individual with first-hand knowledge of the area of personal ministry which you wrote about. The second article in Meredith's section this last issue was entitled "Interface with the Church," and was written about me and my family.

I had resisted the printing of this article for quite some time, because I did not want my family or my church specifically singled out. Now, after hearing several people react to the article as you did, I realize I should have stuck by my original intention and refused permission to print.

I have followed spiritual guidance in my life for quite some time. I always seek first the will of the Father and then act upon my perception of His will to the best of my ability. In this way I was guided to this church, etc. I never joined this church specifically for the purpose of bringing in *The URANTIA Book*. Just because I believe in *The URANTIA Book*, does not mean it is the spiritual guidebook for everyone. That would be a silly assumption. There are probably as many paths to spiritual enlightenment as there are people.

Now, when I feel guided to share *The URANTIA Book* with someone, such as with my Sunday School Class, I share it. But I have never pre-planned these experiences. They just happen.

It is my personal opinion that all we have to do as citizens of this universe is live our lives in the love and guidance of Jesus and our Father. And share this love with our brothers and sisters in whatever way seems appropriate. Just live in the moment and listen to that "still, small voice" - then, when you've properly attuned your will, the Angels and other unseen helpers will provide the materials you need to work with and guide the individuals who need what you have to give, to you. (Not you to them.) (Restated from *The URANTIA Book*, pg. 1726) It's not necessary to understand the why's, how's and where-for's of all the relationships that develop - only to accept your personal guidance and give, give, give in loving service.

I cannot speak for any other's motives but my own - but I do know from experience, that when the angels, etc. are guiding me "things" just fall into place, easily, almost as if by magic. Therefore, I just kind of feel that surely this must work in reverse too: If my motives were in the wrong place, I'd find my efforts strangely thwarted.

Thank you, again, for bringing this to our (the Editor's) attention. We shall certainly be more aware of the tone of our articles from now on.

With Love,

As we do the Father's work,

Tommie Clendening

February 7, 1983

Dear Dr. Mr. Porzio,

I believe you missed the point of the *Outreach* article "Fields of Ministry" and misinterpreted the motive and intent of service in the

## Letters

church by students of *The URANTIA Book*.

First of all, my basic beliefs now are the same as they were when I was an active pastor in the United Church of Christ before I read *The URANTIA Book*. I am not active in the church because of deceptive pretensions and I do not wish to undermine the church nor would I recommend such behavior to others. I am a devoted church member because I believe in the purposes and mission of the church. I am a member of the United Church of Christ because I believe in their open and enlightened theological orientation.

No one should join the church or any other organization under false pretensions or to proselyte! We should be active in the church (or any other religious institution) because we love its purposes and people and because we truly want to strengthen, upstep, and improve it. This is exactly what Jesus did; and he did not leave the church of his day (synagogue) until he was barred from its doors. We can use any or all of the five levels (Spring, 1982 *Outreach*) of communicating the gospel according to our wisdom.

We are interested in stimulating evolutionary growth and spiritual enlightenment in the church - certainly not in undermining or harming it! The revolutionary approach where we leave the church and start other "better" religious organizations will appeal to some students of *The URANTIA Book* and I would encourage them to do this if they feel called to such a project; but for myself I prefer the evolutionary, upstepping kind of ministry.

There are many students of *The URANTIA Book* who do love the purpose and people of the church and who find a denomination or fellowship where they feel their faith and philosophy fit. These are the people who will bring a spiritual renaissance to Jesus' brotherhood on earth - and the church has been a vital part of this brotherhood for centuries.

Sincerely,

Meredith Sprunger

Christmas 1982

Dear Folks,

I enjoyed the articles on reincarnation, archeology, spiritual ministry and adoption. [Fall 1982]

It seems that *The URANTIA Book* will require a new ritual outside the church. Other

new revelations in the past have been rejected by traditional institutions.

Why are people so anxious to adopt babies without their mothers? I know of several cases where mother and child were adopted. It is sad to me that so many women are shunned and without financial help in their struggle as single parents. This is one obvious reason for the fact that one out of every four pregnancies in the U.S. is violently ended in a medical abortion.

I have friends who have seen dead friends or family as ghosts. *The URANTIA Book* teaches against this. Could they be mid-wayers? The Book downplays faith healing, yet I've seen and experienced miracles. I was spiritually healed from a terrible sickness. I hope you all will have articles on some of the harder to understand aspects of the Book. It's hard for me to get past the apparent racism and sexism. Why was a holy book made so difficult for the masses?

Claire Yellow Poplar  
Village of Golf, Florida

December 31, 1982

The Circles:

This issue of *The Circles* was especially good, I thought. Just a comment to M. Seklemian about re-incarnation: Page 1258, second paragraph, might give another clue as to how knowledge can pass from one personality to another.

Helen Hutchinson  
Knoxville, Tennessee

January 2, 1983

Dear M. Seklemian:

I read with interest your article on the "experience" of reincarnation. As a phenomenon experienced by humans, it cannot be denied, but, like you, I believe *The URANTIA Book's* emphatic denial of the reincarnation of the soul leads us to seek a different explanation.

The genetic memory approach is interesting and may have implications for my theory in regard to the selection process. My own thoughts have led me more toward a variation on Jung's collective unconscious. In brief terms my idea is as follows:

Our minds are individual parts of a larger mind circuit which is divided into increasingly larger units going from the individual circuit to the world circuit and up through the divisions of the universe culminating in the mind of the Infinite Spirit or perhaps the Supreme (pro-

bably the Supreme since the Infinite Spirit as mind must be the culmination of the minds of both perfect and perfected). On an evolutionary world of space that mind pattern is evolving through the experiences and decisions of the individual inhabitants and their use of individual mind circuits. These mind circuits are part of the permanent history of the planet and are used repeatedly by different individuals, each adding to the evolution of the circuit. Those decisions which are more spiritual are strengthened by their resemblance to the perfect pattern. Hence we stand on the shoulders of our ancestors. Decisions and acts which are evil are less real and have less staying power. It would seem that some mind circuits crystallize evil and are probably destined to disappear.

If this approach to thought is on the right track, then it seems reasonable that the experiences of the persons before us who used our mind circuit would be accessible on a deep-mind-level - hence the "experience" of reincarnation.

This idea has many implications ranging from the discovery of personality and the recognition of the equality of worth to social issues, such as the death penalty and our stewardship responsibilities. For example, much of our self worth and identity is wrapped up in operations of the mind. If in fact we are simply "plugged in" to a particular mind circuit then mind ceases to be an important fact in the determination of personality or personal worth, since many of the inequalities on which we divide human society are based on mind attributes or lack thereof. However, the mind remains an important tool of personality. I have found it exceedingly difficult to separate personality reactions from mind reactions in my own experiences. However, I think it would be spiritually enlightening and psychologically helpful to be able to do so.

These are just some of the ideas which have occurred to me in trying to resolve the conflict between "reincarnation" and *The URANTIA Book's* denial of such. Many, many questions remain. In fact the entire hypothesis is open to question, although it is able to explain most of what I am aware of in regards to reincarnation.

Other questions which occur to me are: "What is the selection process for mind circuits - how does physical inheritance affect mind inheritance?" "How does this 'evolution' take place - how do our individual lives affect the evolution of the planetary mind circuit?" "What are the social implications if in fact we do inherit mind circuits whose evolu-

tion is affected by our thoughts and decisions?" "What kind of thoughts-experiences are preserved - is there a discernable pattern of memory recall for past lives? (This might give us insight into spiritual pattern creation.)"

I would certainly welcome any additional thoughts you might have on this subject. I think it is an interesting one, although sometimes obscured by the ritual and myth surrounding the phenomenon.

Sincerely,

Peggy Bartel  
Charlottesville, Virginia

December 27, 1982

Dear Editors,

I have just finished reading your latest *Circles*. Both my husband, Richard, and myself enjoy the articles very much, and I was especially interested in the "Outreach" section. As it is often hard for most people to accept *The URANTIA Book* as a true revelation, it is sometimes difficult for *URANTIA Book* followers to acknowledge other revelations as being valid. In the past year and a half, Richard and I have been studying and coordinating many different books and writings, both ancient and modern, which we correlate with *The URANTIA Book*. I'm sure most *URANTIA Book* readers have experienced the thrill of discovering a concept from the Book in other sacred writings or books. I would like to list those books which we have found to be instrumental in our studies. We had to first learn to be open-minded, as our initial reaction was, "there could be no other revelation but our beloved *URANTIA Book*." But we have learned that many revelations have occurred in order to appeal to a diverse human population. The same way the Bible is studied, so too can these writings illuminate and expand the concepts brought forth in *The URANTIA Book*. They are:

1. *The Keys of Enoch: Book of Knowledge* by James Hurtak.
2. *The Oahspe* by John Ballou.
3. *Aid to Bible Understanding*, Watchtower, Inc.
4. *The Lost Books of the Bible and the Forgotten Books of Eden*, Meridian Books.
5. *Dictionary of all Scriptures and Myths* by G. A. Gaskell.
6. *Book of Mormon, Doctrines and Covenants, Pearl of Great Price*,

Mormon Church.

7. *The History of the Great White Brotherhood in America* and others in a series of books published by the Church Universal and Triumphant, Clare Prophet.
8. *The Nag Hammadi Library*, J. Robinson, ed.
9. *The Morning of the Magicians* by Pauwels and Bergier.
10. *The Book of Enoch the Prophet*, translated by R. Lawrence.
11. *Introduction to the Kabbala and A Kabbalistic Universe* by Z'ev ben Shimon Halevi
12. *The Aquarian Gospel of Jesus the Christ* by Levi.
13. *Secret Books of the Egyptian Gnostics* by J. Doresse.
14. *Uri: A Journal of the Mystery of Uri Geller* by A. Puharich.

These are just some of the books that we find invaluable in our studies. We are not saying that they are 100% true, but we use our knowledge of *The URANTIA Book* and help from our indwelling Adjuster to try to discern the Truth as we study. I think it would be an excellent idea to have a column in *The Circles* devoted to new discoveries in books, made by the readers with an explanation of what the book is about. This way, the plan of the Father can be studied on many different levels. Imagine my surprise, when reading a paperback novel of love after death, when the author described the seven mansion worlds, the concentric spheres of existence that surround the earth, and the angelic beings who guide us through the death-transition.

Also, studying the sacred literature of all religions provides a background for approaching people with the advanced concepts of *The URANTIA Book*.

Sincerely,

Martha M. Groh  
Elyria, Ohio

July 8, 1982

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for sending me *The Circles*. I was moved by it, and it awakened in me a desire to do something - that is, to be really a giver, and not just a taker. We have a group here in Muskegon which is growing, and I know, will continue to grow. *The URANTIA Book* is an inspiration to all of us. I have read it

once and am starting over to read it over again.

I am a "working poet" and perhaps in my small way, I can be a bit of inspiration to someone else. If I can, it would make me very happy - and of course, I will plant seeds for *The URANTIA Book* where I find fertile ground.

I am enclosing something I wrote - if you can use it, that is fine, but if not, that is all right. I seek the Lord's direction in my life.

With love in the Lord.

Mrs. Lola E. Hahn  
Muskegon, Michigan

## YOU CALLED ME, LORD

You called me, Lord,  
I heard your firm, clear voice  
tell me to do your work,  
to go forth and further your kingdom;  
at convenient times I tried,  
especially after a glowing companionship  
of fellow Urantia believers,  
we felt our angels about us;  
in uneven waves of spirituality  
I sent small monies or  
spoke of our Book to others  
then blanketed the voice  
of my Thought Adjuster  
under layers of indifference.

Oh Lord, please set me straight,  
let me put you first,  
send me on my way,  
you know my best and worst;  
help me make the choice  
one final time, to be  
your servant and your voice  
in full sincerity.

Lola E. Hahn  
Muskegon, Michigan

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

We appreciate your sending us notice of any address changes. If we aren't notified, three things happen: (1) we have to pay for each change of address the Post Office sends us; (2) the person who has moved doesn't get that copy of *The Circles*; and (3) people who leave no forwarding address no longer receive *The Circles*. Thanks for your help in this detail.

"How" continued from page 2.

niche in society which best allows his natural interests to harmonize with his desires to help.

Of course, those of us who have discovered the Urantian revelation have a fantastic and unique opportunity to lead our unenlightened brothers into the cosmic spiritual awakening. To assist the angels in the task of bringing this new revelation to the world is to become a living example of how righteousness can surmount the problems faced in

everyday human living. High philosophical concepts and sophisticated ideas will not win the hearts of people. *Spiritually impoverished souls need to feel loving sonship with the Father, not merely comprehend the mechanics of universe operation.*

The angels' business already is our business. The backwardness, despair, and spiritual darkness of God's children on this world are prime concerns of our caretakers. We cannot help our unseen friends in any more

appropriate way than for each of us, in this own chosen way, to devote himself to fostering the maximum overall development of this planet's peoples.

The Seraphim labor with the hope that our human races should someday attain a high level of culture and civilization. Our indebtedness to our elder brothers is beyond words. We must join with our angels to lead our home planet into an age of light and life. ●

## Coming Attractions . . .

### Relationships—Divine?

*Everything nonspiritual in human experience, excepting personality, is a means to an end. Every true relationship of mortal man with other persons—human or divine—is an end in itself. And such fellowship with the personality of Deity is the eternal goal of universal ascension. \* (p. 1228).*

Relationships, our connections with those around us, seem ultimately important if we take this URANTIA Book quote seriously. Friendship, marriage, sibling relations, boss and employee, co-workers, neighbors, government, organizational relations, etc. How can we make the most of these opportunities at fellowship with Personality?

We are going to devote our next issue to the theme of

### Relationships

What are your feelings about this supremely important topic? Do you have techniques, ideas, anecdotes, quotes, "special" relationships to share? Let us hear from you. Send your articles, art work, etc. by June 31, 1983 (remember we try to limit articles to three double-spaced, type-written pages) to:

The Circles  
2001 Woods Drive  
Arlington, Texas 76010



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# Outreach

Vol. 1, No. 3

Winter, 1982

## Fraternal Relations Committee Program

The September report of the Fraternal Relations Committee to the Executive Committee of URANTIA Brotherhood marks a milestone in outreach ministry. The following is a condensation of their report.

The commission of the Fraternal Relations Committee is to "foster and develop fraternal relations and good will with the churches of various denominations and with the religions of the world." We have spent a generation in preparation. It is now time to start doing what we were organized to do. We must promote an outreach ministry to the religious institutions of the world. This ministry begins with individual members of these religious groups.

We can best contact and develop creative relationships with individuals in churches and other religious bodies when we are active members of these fellowships. Loving and patient service within these religious groups is the most effective way to foster spiritual growth. We would encourage all students of The URANTIA Book who enjoy such fellowship to participate in the activities of the various religious institutions of the world.

We believe outreach ministry is best engaged in by individual students of The URANTIA Book or by organizations designed for specific types of ministry such as The Family of God Foundation, The Christian Fellowship of Students of The URANTIA Book, and BEAM rather than being officially directed and controlled by URANTIA Brotherhood. Many organizations structured to minister to particular religious groups will come into being in the future.

These organizations should have no organic connection with URANTIA Brotherhood. They will be able to serve as resource, ministry, and buffer functions for URANTIA Brotherhood. Such service groups will evolve a loose network co-ordinating creative outreach ministry to all religious

and cultural groups on our planet. It is hoped that these organizations will not be deceptive or surreptitiously undermine the religious institutions which they are attempting to serve or fail to support the basic purposes of URANTIA Brotherhood.

The Fraternal Relations Committee does not intend to structure the nature of outreach ministry for individuals or organizations but we wish to encourage creativity and diversity of ministry and to furnish counsel and resources for outreach service for those who desire it. We hope that we may be able to constructively co-ordinate outreach activity among the religious institutions of the world.

Preparatory evolutionary ministry is necessary before many people are ready to be introduced to The URANTIA Book. The great majority of the people on our world are living at the Third or Traditional Level of spiritual understanding. They will need Fourth Level communication and ministry before they are able to receive the great truths of the fifth epochal revelation. To help co-ordinate such Fourth Level ministry we have appointed the following subcommittee:

Vern B. Grimsley - Chairman  
Bettina Gray  
Sally Schlundt

A substantial minority of our population now live at the Fourth Level of spiritual comprehension. These individuals living at the growing edge of the religions of the world, especially within mainline Christianity, are evolutionally prepared for The URANTIA Book. To help co-ordinate such Fifth Level ministry we have appointed the following subcommittee:

Meredith J. Sprunger - Chairman  
James J. McNelly  
W. A. Van Valkenburg, Jr.

We would invite those interested in out-

reach work to contact either or both of these subcommittees. We are at the beginning of the public phase of ministry. We hope to concentrate this ministry in local communities so that the message of the fifth epochal revelation may become established at the grass roots of society.

### CHURCH INTERFACE

One URANTIA Book reader has done some interesting interface work in her church. She belongs to a class which studies and discusses such books as On Being A Christian - Hans Kung, The Christian Agnostic - Leslie Weatherhead, The Road Less Traveled - M. Scott Peck and The Religions of Man - Huston Smith. The class is a group of searchers who have questioned the virgin birth, the atonement, miracles and many other traditional and contemporary positions. Kung's assertion that we need a religion of Jesus instead of a religion about Jesus inspires the class.

The reader, feeling that the class was ready for Fifth Level communication and remembering the advice, "Let the book present itself," decided to use The URANTIA Book in class. She was teaching a section out of the Smith book on Hinduism and for two Sundays she let The URANTIA Book pages 1031 and 1032 act as material to be read in summary of the discussion in The Religions of Man. She read and quoted pages 1132 through 1135 in order to establish a background of understanding before the class proceeded on into Smith's discussion of other world religions.

She feels that her class is approaching "spiritual unity" instead of "theological uniformity." As The URANTIA Book states on p. 1135, "A religious group should be able to enjoy the liberty of freethinking without having to become 'freethinkers.' There is great hope for any church that worships the living God, validates the brotherhood of man, and dares to remove all creedal pressure from its members."

Several members of the class are becoming interested in reading The URANTIA Book. A study group is being established.

### LIBRARY PLACEMENT PROGRAM

We should like to call attention to an article which recently appeared in Planetary Prints written by Russell W. Hauck on placing URANTIA Books in libraries. "For the past five years," Russ says, "I have felt that the Library Placement Program is, or could be, the single most important arm of our outreach program." Following this conviction Russ during the past year called on fifty libraries in the Denver metropolitan area and placed copies in all of them which did not already have the book. Some of these URANTIA Books are in college, university, and seminary libraries. Think of the potential effect of this program if individuals in every major community undertook such a mission! URANTIA Brotherhood has library donations available but we need your help in placing them.

Russ assures us this is not too difficult: "I have been in sales and marketing for thirty of my fifty-four years and have trained hundreds of salesmen. Take my professional opinion that it doesn't take much of a salesman to give away a thirty-four dollar book to a library that is on a tight budget and is always anxious to improve their collection and better serve their patrons."

His approach is also interesting and informative. He makes an appointment with the acquisition librarian and calls in his best three piece suit--first impressions are important. Russ says, "While I carried my copy of The URANTIA Book with me, I only showed it on request. My approach was that I had a book that had meant much to me for the past fifteen years in the areas of cosmology, religion, and philosophy and that if the library didn't have a copy I would like to consider having a copy donated. I would then indicate that it was a \$34.00 deluxe printing and should be a valuable addition to their collection. I would offer the brochure ("The URANTIA Book, A description") for their inspection and avoided a discussion of the book or its contents beyond that. I don't feel capable of describing or summarizing the contents of the papers in a five minute visit with a stranger nor did I allow our conversation to drift into a

extent failed on earth..." (1866.1)

With some understanding of the previous four epochal revelations, how must we view time in relation to the fifth epochal revelation? And what is the measure of its success? Immediate and material results? Do we count this and count that and thus say we are succeeding or failing?

We are told, "You should not become discouraged by the apparently slow progress of the kingdom idea on Urantia. Remember that the order of progressive evolution is subjected to sudden and unexpected periodical changes... Neither make the fatal mistake, in looking for the age manifestation of the kingdom, of failing to effect its establishment within your own souls." (1863.7)

If faith will reign then we must not crown fear. If we would shake the paralysis of fear from our midst then must we devote ourselves to the love of God. If we would banish the misdirection of self seeking ambition then must we devote ourselves to selfless service.

If our work arises from this solid spiritual foundation then we will not fail. If we build without this foundation our work will fall upon us.

"Act now!" trumpet the heralds. "Yes," echo the hills, "Act now, with a clear eye and a persistent spirit."

We should like to thank David for this excellent article. Man perennially falls victim to the dilemmas of his finitude--either he is afraid and rationalizes a philosophy of "do nothing now" and buries his talent; or he has delusions of grandeur and rushes impetuously and prematurely into short cut schemes which are doomed to fail. Fortunately there is a middle way which can be found through experiential wisdom and divine guidance. We must be constantly involved in creative service based on the distant goals of evolutionary achievement which does not expect or need the rewards of material or tangible "success." David says it well, "Act now, with a clear eye and a persistent spirit." We must learn to live happily in the evolutionary perspective of the Supreme!

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Daniel Yankelovich, president of one of the nation's leading public opinion research firms, said in his speech to the annual conference of the Council on Foundations in 1982, "Fear of nuclear war, lowered economic expectations and a search for a stronger moral base will be dominant influences in the 1980's...When hard times come, people tend to fall back on their moral belief. Well, when a lot of Americans today look to their moral beliefs for support, they find a vacuum. They no longer have anything to fall back on. For most Americans this is an acutely distressing and anxiety-provoking moral dilemma. A form of searching underlies all of American life today."

This is yet another illustration of the remarkable way our society is being prepared for the fifth epochal revelation. The fields are, indeed, white for the harvest; but, as in the past, the laborers are few.

## RELIGIOUS FUTURISTS' NETWORK

At the First Global Conference on the Future sponsored by the World Future Society in Toronto (1980) a "religious caucus" expressed the need to establish a Religious Futurists' Network. The Joint Strategy and Action Committee, Inc., which is a consortium of more than a dozen denominations in the United States and Canada, has sponsored and is co-ordinating such a network. It is an association of people interested in the impact of religion on the future and the impact of the future on religion. It is open to all individuals, whatever their convictions.

If you should like to join the Religious Futurists' Network, send you name and address and a check made out to JSAC, 475 Riverside Dr., NY 10115, for \$15.00 to receive a copy of the current Network Directory and their periodical Visions.

Visions, published by the Religious Futurists' Network, in its 1/83 issue asks readers for information of their experience with The URANTIA Book.

detailed religious discussion. I did point out that the book was nondenominational, with readers and students from all faiths--Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish. I do suggest that the book is fascinating study in many areas and suggest that the librarian may wish to check it out herself on its arrival. On the few occasions when I was asked about the author, I replied that the book has many authors, that it is published by the URANTIA Foundation in Chicago with over 110,000 copies in print." Russ stresses the importance of following up each placement to see that the book has arrived and has been placed on the shelves.

Russ has written up a talk on library placement which was used at the Lake Forest Workshop. It is the best presentation on library placement I have read. If you would like to have a copy of the talk we would be glad to send it to you.

### GREAT EXPECTATIONS\*

by David Renn

Voices throughout the URANTIA movement herald the arrival of the time for concerted efforts, organized and redoubled, for dispersion of The URANTIA Book. Numerous ideas are proposed regarding the actions of the URANTIA Foundation, URANTIA Brotherhood, and the activities of URANTIA Book readers across the world. These ideas are motivated by a common desire for the revelation's success, likewise are these ideas imbued with a sense of urgency, the necessity for their implementation now if the world is to benefit most from the spiritual transformation germinating within the teachings of The URANTIA Book.

Each of us wants to expedite the maximum benefits of The URANTIA Book on this world and if we are to lend positive and effective assistance we must have learned the lessons of the checkered history of epochal revelation on Urantia. There are a few points relevant to both the urgency of the moment and the element of success which warrant examination.

The staff of the Planetary Prince was divided into ten councils responsible for nurturing progress in diverse areas of mortal life. "Each of the ten planetary commissions set about slowly and naturally

to advance the interests intrusted to them." (749.6) We're told that "this beneficent rule was so soon interrupted..." So soon, after 300,000 years of hard work.

The next dispensation was inaugurated at the request of a humble, temporary supervisor who noted Urantia's readiness for material sons. Almost 100 years passed before the arrival of Adam and Eve. Another hundred years passed and Adam saw little progress, the situation seemed "desperate." (839.1)

The divine plan was miscarried. We are instructed here that, "they would have sometime met with success had they been more farseeing and patient... They were not willing to settle down to the long, long endurance test. They wanted to see some immediate results..." (840.3)

We are warned, "Never...will you gain anything by impatiently attempting to circumvent the established and divine plan by shortcuts, personal inventions, or other devices for improving on the way of perfection..." (846.4)

About 3000 B.C. the concept of God had grown very hazy in the minds of men." (1014.3) The Melchizadek receivers petitioned the Most Highs "...that some provision be made for maintaining the light of truth on Urantia." (1014.4) One thousand years later Machiventa began his teaching.

It would serve us well, in considering the potential of our individual actions' influencing the success of the Urantia revelation, to note that in spite of the efforts of this master teacher and high son of Michael, "...except in Palestine, never was the idea of one God able to claim the continued allegiance of a whole tribe or race." (1022.1) And the Hebrews "...lost sight of the nature of his mission so fully and completely that very few of their progeny were able or willing to recognize and receive Michael when he appeared on earth..." (1024.2)

The fourth epochal revelation was inaugurated by Jesus, who "...fully understood the work before him..." at age 21. (1408.4) Yet more than 14 years passed and the Master could claim no more than a hundred openly loyal followers. (1717.4) And almost 2000 years after the completion of his bestowal we are told, "The kingdom as Jesus conceived it has to a large