

from

TALK WITH SONNENDERS

knoxville students of
THE URANTIA BOOK

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VOL IV No. 4 April 1985

EASTER - Our Reason for HAPPINESS

Then WHY is there so much
Unhappiness ?

On page 1098 the Urantia Book states: "Of health and sanity man understands much, but of happiness he has truly realized very little".*

Why is that?

In my opinion it is because the vast majority of people have no idea of why they are here on this planet.

They think they are here to make money, have fun, attract the opposite sex, have adventures, discover things, conquer things and on and on.

And, of course, there is nothing wrong with doing these things if they could only realize that they are means, not ends - and that the end is God.

There is one, and only one, purpose for our being on this planet. And that is to realize our potential - begin to learn to be children of God.

And we can do this by living our lives according to God's will. Nothing else works.

Several decades ago (before I knew the Urantia Book) I came to the conclusion that



On page 1674 it says, "Much of man's sorrow is born of the disappointment of his ambitions and the wounding of his pride. Although men owe a duty to themselves to make the best of their lives on earth, (pg. 1204 - pr. 5) having thus sincerely exerted themselves they should cheerfully accept their lot, and exercise ingenuity in making the most of that which has fallen to their hands.".....

"Seek not, then, for false peace and transient joy, but rather for the assurance of faith and the sureties of divine sonship which yield composure, contentment, and supreme joy in the spirit". * (*italics mine*)

We are told on page 1220 that "Happiness and joy take origin in the inner life." *

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Several decades ago (before I knew the Urantia Book) I came to the conclusion that the only ambition I had for my children was (as I then expressed it) that they would "be strong in the lord". Then they could work anything out.

Again, why is there so much unhappiness? On page 1766 the U. Book says, "Increasing happiness is always the experience of all who are certain about God." *

Notice the word increasing. You won't be suddenly perfectly happy. But you will get happier and happier.

And I take it that being certain about God

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All through the book we are told to have patience ! On another world we will have a chance to accomplish all the things we wanted to do here and were not able to - if they are worth accomplishing.

And, of course, if they are not worth doing, we will have quit wanting to do them.

The beatitudes start on page 1573. The book says they strengthen moral character and create happiness.

We wish you happiness !

We are proud to be able to bring you this helpful material from Dean and her group.

A TIME FOR OUR CHILDREN

By Dean White



Almost five years ago the Watauga Valley Study Group met in my home for the first time, with three young couples, myself and no children. After the first meeting I considered our study group to be my extended family and I called the first child born to this group my adopted grandchild. That was only the beginning of a population explosion. To date, I have seven "grandchildren" with an eighth on the way. It is a real joy to share in the experiences of these beautiful, well-adjusted children of Urantia Book readers, but it is also a problem. How many study groups have tried to seriously study with several small children in the same room?

I am sure you get the picture. We tried just ignoring the noise of toddlers and infants. We tried letting the toddlers play unattended in another room. Things just became more and more difficult until finally we knew we would either have to disband until the children grew up or find a real solution to a real problem.

We pooled our resources and "fixed up" an old vacant farm house owned by members of our group. We also called the local high school and asked the guidance counselor to help us find a mature student with a career interest in teaching to be our nursery keeper. We planned to have our study session in one room and the nursery in another room, the two rooms being separated by a kitchen and divided by doors.

Since it is vitally important to us that our children feel a part of our study and that they develop their own unique relationship with our Creator and our Eternal Parent, we decided to start each study session with a fifteen minutes story time just for them. The children would then go with the nursery keeper to participate in follow-up activities in art and play.

One of our parents, Ms. Billie to the children, teaches pre-schoolers and has early childhood credentials. She agreed to develop the stories from the Urantia Book and to plan activities for the nursery. Ms. Billie sits on the floor and uses a small flannel board to tell stories about Joshua, his friends, family and apostles. It has been a real joy to watch the children become familiar enough with the stories to request to hear some favorites over again. Matthew will say something like, "Ms. Billie tell us the story about Nalda and her little girl again." Then Nathan will say, "No Matt, I want to hear about Jesus and the little lost sheep again." When Ms. Billie asks who wants to thank God for something Wildyn will say, "Thank-you God for Mommy and Daddy and Nathan and Matthew and Grandma Dean and Even Elliott and Willie, our two year olds, want to be near their friends on the



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Our children's story time is working well for us so we have decided to expand our efforts and prepare some packets with stories and flannel patterns to share with other groups. Surely there are other study groups who have faced similar problems and could use some early childhood material. Hopefully some packets will be ready by Tennessee Conference time in August. In the meantime, I would enjoy hearing from groups who have suggestions to offer. My address is: Dean White

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No Need for Money



I don't mean now. But I'd be willing to bet that away in the future, toward light and life, money will be out of date—passé.

Just think. When most people desire to do God's will, and love their neighbors as themselves, they will have gotten rid of greed, selfishness and sloth. So everybody does his job as loving service rather than to amass wealth and power.

The teachers will be assigned a classroom and go teach— with no thought of drawing a salary. When they come home they will go to the store and get groceries with no thought of paying for them. The farmers will supply the stores, with no thought of getting money for their produce. Why should they want money? They won't need it. The factories furnish their implements free. They send their children to the schools the teachers are teaching free. If anyone wants to travel, he simply gets on a bus, train, or plane and takes off. Everybody is doing his job the best he can as loving service for everybody else.

Their sense of power doesn't come from having a big bank account, but from realizing that with God nothing is impossible.

What if there are a few who won't do their part? Well, you know, Jesus quoted with approval the old Hebrew saying, "He who will not work, let him not eat"

Can you imagine the angels and other celestial beings drawing a salary for their services in the universe? — and going on a strike for higher pay?

But it will be a long time before we're ready for that. We're now going through the capitalist stage. Which is necessary. HBH

Disgusting Remarks department:

"I don't teach subjects. I teach children."

[And if you hear a teacher say that, you can almost bet that she doesn't teach subjects.

That's one thing wrong with the world. Nehad.

The following quotations were clipped from The Eugenics Bulletin, which is published quarterly by a 'Mensa special interest group (SIG). It is edited by:

Marian Van Court
P.O. Box 5181, Austin, Tx. 78763

QUOTATIONS ON EUGENICS

I wish very much that the wrong people could be prevented entirely from breeding; and when the evil nature of these people is sufficiently flagrant, this should be done. Criminals should be sterilized and feeble-minded persons forbidden to leave offspring behind them. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, 1914.

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"I don't teach subjects.
I teach children."

[And if you hear a teacher say that, you can almost bet that she doesn't teach subjects. That's one thing wrong with our schools. Nobody has taught our children the basic subjects, like reading, writing, arithmetic, history, geography, science. When I was a teacher I taught those subjects to children — and tried to do it in such a way that the children would also grow in social and moral attitudes.]

H. B. H. T

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We have seen more than once that the public welfare may call upon the best citizens for their lives. It would be strange if it could not call upon those who already sap the strength of the State for these lesser sacrifices, often not felt to be such by those concerned, in order to prevent our being swamped with incompetence. It is better for all the world, if instead of waiting for their imbecility, society can prevent those who are manifestly unfit from continuing their kind. The principle that sustains compulsory vaccination is broad enough to cover cutting the Fallopian tubes . . . Three generations of imbeciles are enough. CHIEF JUSTICE OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES IN BUCK VS. BELL, 1927.

Vastly more effective than ten million dollars to "charity" would be ten million dollars to eugenics. He who, by such a gift, should redeem mankind from vice, imbecility and suffering would be the world's wisest philanthropist. CHARLES B. GAVENPORT, 1909.