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# The Pilgrim

*A Tennessee Voice for the Fifth Epochal Readership*

Volume 3, Number 3

October, 1992

## Responses Regarding Channeling

*Our last issue of The Pilgrim was dedicated to a few opinions about the channeling phenomenon which has taken center stage in many Urantia Book study groups. I think it is safe to say that our opinions were analytic and suspicious. Though the channeled "teachers" have given nominal endorsement to The Urantia Book, they have differed with the teachings of the Urantia Book revelators with respect to several noticeable details. This we found disturbing and difficult to condone.*

*The following two letters are written by members of the Utah (Woods Cross) study group. The Woods Cross group's involvement with channeling is the one with which we are most familiar and we requested their response. We are thankful to them for providing that and are glad to include their input in order to move this discussion toward the level of a dialogue. We hope that readers will continue to discuss this topic on our pages and other places because of its obvious import.*

August 10, 1992

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Tennessee,

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August 10, 1992

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Tennessee,

I am a Urantia Book reader and also a student of Ham's in Utah. I just wanted to write and comment on your July issue of "The Pilgrim."

In your opinion of channeling and Phase 2 I thought you were most fair in revealing to your readers to use a cautious and "decide for yourselves," attitude. Some have written us off as "nuts," or "lost to Caligastia." But you showed tact and intelligence. You expressed admonition, but not to disregard the idea. You did a wonderful job, and a great service to your fellow readers.

I thought I might take this opportunity to express a few thoughts of my own. I have been going to these meetings from the beginning. I have sat through meetings, sometimes in tears, sometimes laughter, sometimes confusion and many times in doubt. But no matter what, the outcome of my involvement has always promoted soul growth. The positive end results have always outweighed the confusion.

I have watched us grow from 8 barely acquainted mortals to a loving family of 40 brothers and sisters, just in Utah alone. It has also been widespread throughout the states. That's what gets me, is the amazing growth in such a short time. I asked myself, if this is negative, would there be such growth? Of course there have been contradictions, and Ham said there will be due to the transmitter-receiver's own human emotions and thoughts. I myself have experienced this mixing of human thought and divine message. Even the U.B. warns us to use caution when trying to interpret divine message.

It is not that we need a guide or we are a bunch of sheep who need to be herded and that is what Ham is saying, it is within all of us to communicate with our Father. The U.B. says we hardly have any concept of God, but I can tell you since this all began, my concept has grown 100 fold.

You have to admit the world is pretty screwed up, and we definitely could use a gentle nudge in the right direction. It's like man's ego is too big, causing us to stumble, time and time again, making progression way too slow. The teachers are just here to help us, help ourselves. We are not hypnotized, or brainwashed, or even desperate for spiritual recognition. We're just Urantia Book readers, accepting a wonderful gift from Father. Being U.B. readers, are we not fortunate to have such insight that enables us to more easily spot a force. (Forgive my spelling, ya know my second favorite book is the dictionary -ha-ha.)

Anyway, to disregard the mission because of the spiritual names or changes that have occurred may be a sad mistake. On page 36 of the U.B. says:

The reactions of a changeless God, in the execution of his eternal purpose, may seem to vary in accordance with the changing attitude and the shifting minds of his created intelligences; that is, they may apparently and superficially vary; but underneath the surface and beneath all outward manifestations, there is still present the changeless purpose, the everlasting plan, of the eternal God.

I suppose I just want to share the joy I've experienced, in the hope that all God's Children may know this joy. This closeness to Father and Michael is available to all, not just Utah. But, take it from me, the only thing special about Utah, has been our celestial visitors, its livened the place up, ha-ha.

Anyway, I sincerely thank you for your concern for your fellowman and your article. It's obvious that you and your group will be a great light to all.

God's love go with you always,  
Love, your sister in Christ Michael

Nina

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P.S. Feel free to print this, or write me back

Nina  
P.O. Box 701802  
West Valley City, Utah

August 11, 1992

Greetings,

I read the July, 1992, copy of *The Pilgrim*. It was very informative and I have great respect for the contents. First I should inform you that I am a student of Ham. I have been in attendance of the channeling meetings since the beginning. I know that my beliefs are my own and I can not change or interfere with the beliefs of others. I just had the desire to write and tell you of my own experience with Ham.

When the very small group started in Woods Cross with Ham we didn't have much in common. We were all readers of the *Urantia Books*. We were all at different spiritual levels. We were a group of people with no real friendship or love for each other. We were all very skeptical of the channeling and each other. Being readers of the *Urantia Book* helped us not be in a hurry to believe without some spiritual insight.

As time and events progressed there was a very apparent change taking place. It was very subtle, but the change was there just the same. We all started looking forward to seeing each other and sharing our lives with each other. This was a first for me. I have always been very distant and private. I started to feel, **really feel** love for these people. It was as though something was growing inside of us that could feel compassion and love that wasn't there before.

In looking back on the past year and a half of our experience with Ham, I can see the growth in this small group of people that will extend to the world someday. There has been a change. The correction starts with a small group and grows outward into the world. I know how this is unsettling for some, for it is change and change is uncomfortable. Please let the love that has started to grow in this small group flow out to you, my brothers. Please see the love that awaits you from the people who have been touched by the Teachers waiting to show the way. This is not on a conscious level, my friends, this is much deeper. This is a change so great that it will never stop growing. I only feel compassion for you in your doubt, because that is where I came from. I know the confusion of change. I send you my love in hopes it will start the growth that will bring you into understanding of this great unconscious event that is going to bring us into Light and Life. Rest assured that this is the beginning and nothing will stop this growing entity of spiritual love that will someday pervade into the world. I know how the intellect of the human is cautious and not willing to really let go of the old. This is something old. This is the teachings of Christ Michael that He so longed for us to learn many, many years ago. Trust your Indwelling Spirit to spring forth this love that is being sent to you. I long for the day when we will all see each other as brothers and sisters.

It is my sincere prayer that you receive this letter with an understanding heart. I have tried to share some of the love and compassion I feel for you and this great mission that has begun. This mission will stop at nothing short of the brotherhood of mankind on *Urantia*. Where this compassion and love comes from is not important. What part Ham played in this is not really that important. In my understanding, what is important is that it is there and it was not there before this all started. There has been a seed planted in our hearts and it is going to grow into the strong faithfilled human race of *Urantia*, where there is only room for love for each other and the very Father who has deemed it to be so. Trust in God, my

write and tell you of my own experience with Ham.

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Your sister in love,

Ellen



# Confusion? (!)

by Bruce McCoy

Some say The Urantia Book was channeled. However, Dr. William S. Sadler, key leader of the small group who received the book from its celestial authors, extensively and thoroughly studied the field of phenomena variously called spiritualism, channeling, trance-mediumship, etc. He concluded that the process used to communicate the book was different with respect to one very important aspect from the vast majority of other similar processes found in this field. The human contact through which The Urantia Book was communicated was **completely** asleep. Thus, there was no overlap between the wills of the celestials and his will.

By this means the celestial revelators avoided breaking the cardinal rule of loyal (to God) celestial caretakers; that they not violate the wills of their human charges. This may be dismissed as too fine a point but, isn't it really very pertinent? God may make changes but I don't think He changed the rule about nonviolation of the free wills of humans. In the currently occurring channeled teaching there is definite overlap of the wills of the non-human teachers and the humans through which they speak.

When one considers the idea of God making changes in order to accommodate "the changing attitude and shifting minds of his created intelligences" (UBK p.36) as was quoted by Nina earlier, one has to use ones' own judgement (interaction with the internal spiritual truth witnesses) in order to decide what changes are likely just as one must use personal, internal deliberations to decide if the UBK is true or if channeled information is true (and there is usually considerable truth in channeled information, otherwise it would not gain the notice of large numbers).



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It does not seem likely that celestials would overlap their wills with those of humans when speaking with groups of humans just as it does not seem likely that the basic pattern which involves assignment of spiritual names at the time of adjuster fusion would be changed. Such possibilities do not seem nearly so likely as the possibility that malevolent beings might use truth to deceive us. We see this with our own political leaders who are not so malevolent as they are confused and jaded. It doesn't seem likely that celestial spiritual teachers are excusable as confused, misinformed, or jaded.

One logic used by the channeled teachers to justify and sell themselves is that this channeled kind of contact is ancient and therefore acceptable because of familiarity. This is



true. We have been hearing about such contacts for ages and this is probably a major reason for skepticism in accepting the UBK on the part of clergy and religious scholars.

Something that is overwhelmingly noticeable about this huge body of channeled material, however, if it is considered as a whole, is its pervasive discontinuity. Material from one source of channeled material may be consistent within itself but there is almost always disagreement from one source to another at least in detail.

This kind of disagreement between the various channeled sources parallels the confusion and disintegrated state of our planet which has resulted from the Lucifer Rebellion, not the kind of unification and harmony one would expect from celestial leaders on a normal planet where rebellion had never taken place. Unfortunately the information coming from channeled sources which have insinuated their way into the UBK movement, is in significant disagreement with The Urantia Book. They claim to be in harmony with the book, but, when one looks closely (thoroughly considers the evidence), they are not harmonious enough.

In this context The Urantia Book is just another document among many documents which have come to us "from the other side". One must, of course look more closely to know how to make comparisons. In fact, what one must really decide is if the book is what it says it is. If it is that then it is an official book; commissioned by the rulers of the superuniverse themselves. If it is that then it takes priority. It rises above the others. The others must fit within its basic outline, for that is indeed what it is ... an outline. It is a basic sketch of the structure of the universe of universes. It is a synopsis of the things we need to know in order to tackle the future here on Urantia. It is, as such, a touchstone.

The whole body of literature from channeled sources, therefore, forms a kind of free market of ideas from which one can pick and choose but which does not have the kind of integration which would be expected on a planet unified under celestial leaders who are completely loyal to God. It has particularly been true of channeled information which has been reaching our people for generations that they endorse the notion of reincarnation. The Urantia Book clearly denies the reality of the reincarnation phenomenon (UBK p.1029A) just as it clearly discredits the phenomenon of "mediumship" (UBK p.865B). In an effort to more fully understand ideas about reincarnation which have pervaded the wider channeled literature, Dean White has written the following article.

## REINCARNATION AND THE URANTIA BOOK

by Dean White

Among new readers and visitors to our Urantia study groups, after the usual questions about who wrote it, one of the first asked is, "Does the book teach reincarnation?" My answer has usually been an unequivocal no. Many times this has brought a reply saying they cannot

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Among new readers and visitors to our Urantia study groups, after the usual questions about who wrote it, one of the first asked is, "Does the book teach reincarnation?" My answer has usually been an unequivocal no. Many times this has brought a reply saying they cannot accept the book as a revelation because it does not teach reincarnation. I have even had people who were obviously on a spiritual journey and searching for new revelation to say, "I know reincarnation is true" or "I have been given memory of past lives and nothing will convince me I did not have a past life."

Before reading The Urantia Book I had read other materials teaching reincarnation, such as the Seth books, the Edgar Cayce material, and Initiations by Elizabeth Haich. These were all convincing, so I also believed in reincarnation. The Urantia Book so reached out and grabbed me that I really had no problem giving up this belief. I soon accepted the book for just what it says it is and satisfied myself that the concepts had not been tampered with by the

contact commission, as was implied by an early forum reader. I then started wondering if there is anything in our revelation that would explain some of these memories and experiences our fellow searchers feel so sure about. This paper is not necessarily about what I believe, it is about thoughts and possibilities I have enjoyed exploring and questioning.

The revelators say over, and over, and over that they cannot tell us much. They are restrained by their revelatory mandate, our limited ability as mere mortals, and our paucity of language. Much of what they tell us is a philosophical concession, can be distorted, or will soon be outdated when we discover new truths in science. A Melchizedek of Nebadon tells us that reincarnation is a philosophically debilitating teaching (1029 b) and an Evening Star calls the belief an absurd doctrine of twentieth-century barbarianism (953 b). So to quote a dear friend, Helen Hutchinson, "I do not believe they lied to us." But I also ask, is there anything in our revelation that would allow for these memories and not be considered reincarnation, as it was understood in the 1930's when our revelation was given to us? This was the same concept to which a midwayer was referring when he said, "The master found it difficult to make men believe that their souls had not had previous existences" (1181 d). Also, we are told that the Spornagia is the only creature in Nebadon that experiences this or any other type of reincarnation (528 b), when referring to their return to the same world in another book.

The seven possibilities I have asked about in this paper regard the following as they might relate to reincarnation:

1. The Reserve Corp of Destiny
2. Our Guardian Seraphim
3. Our Morontial Soul
4. Our Thought Adjuster
5. Personality
6. The Cosmic Mind
7. Higher Beings returning

(1) The first experience that seems the most obvious to me is the one concerning the Reserve Corp of Destiny. A Chief of Seraphim tells us, "Many times, upon the death of a reservist a transfer of certain vital data from the mind of the dying reservist to a younger successor is made by a liaison of the two Thought Adjusters" (1258 b). Could this transfer of mind data from a reservists to a successor lead to successor to feel they had lived before on this planet or had some kind of previous experience here?

(2) Can our Guardian Seraphim make us aware of any previous experience? We are told they do not seek directly to influence us and their actual contact with us is very rare (1246 b), but we do have examples both in the Bible and The Urantia Book where an angel "whispered in the night" to a human (558 a). Seraphim are "the personal custodian of the mind patterns, memory formulas, and soul realities of the mortal survivor during that interval between physical death and morantia resurrection" (1244 c). "Personal Guardians whose subjects do not go immediately to the mansion worlds do not tarry there in idleness awaiting the dispensational roll calls of judgment; they are reassigned to numerous ministering missions throughout the universe" (1247 b). Can any of these mind memories be experienced by us? I doubt it since they say over and over that this is a custodial trusteeship. "Every identifiable factor of personality is effectually safeguarded in the custody of these dependable trustees of mortal survival" (1234 c).

However, they say, "when humans fail to survive, their guardians may repeatedly serve in similar capacity on the same planet" (1234 a). Can some sense of having lived before be given to us by our guardians if they had served before in a similar capacity and their trusteeship

belief an absurd doctrine of twentieth-century barbarianism (953 b). So to quote a dear friend, Helen Hutchinson, "I do not believe they lied to us." But I also ask, is there anything in our revelation that would allow for these memories and not be considered reincarnation, as it was understood in the 1930's when our revelation was given to us? This was the same concept to which a midwayer was referring when he said, "The master found it difficult to make men believe that their souls had not had previous existences" (1181 d). Also, we are told that the Spornagia is the only creature in Nebadon that experiences this or any other type of reincarnation (528 b), when referring to their return to the same world in another book.

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However, they say, "when humans fail to survive, their guardians may repeatedly serve in similar capacity on the same planet" (1234 a). Can some sense of having lived before be given to us by our guardians if they had served before in a similar capacity and their trusteeship did not survive?

(3) What of our souls? Some of the main concepts concerning souls tell us they are evolving, they are the joint child of our human self and our Thought Adjuster, and they constitute the surviving elements that are resurrected on the mansion worlds (1234 c). They are immortal, the embryo of the future morontia vehicle (1219 b). They leave the body at death, or may be taken out of our bodies by our seraphim. Being morontia material we know they are outside our range of seeing with material eyes. Could our souls possibly leave our physical bodies also during deep sleep or trance as the Thought Adjuster can? Could this possibly account

for some out-of-body experiences? If so, can they contact other supermaterial phenomena, perhaps midwayers or angels?

As for contact with souls of sleeping survivors, I do not think so, since they tell us "these souls gain nothing between death and resurrection (1234 c), and they are in custodial trusteeship with their seraphim. But, can we say for sure that our souls cannot be conscious of other mind or psychic experiences since they may be able to leave the body and may contact other supermaterial beings.

(4) Can we receive consciousness of other lives via our Thought Adjusters? First we can exclude any previous Urantia experience since they tell us that the Thought Adjuster who indwelt Michael was the only one who ever functioned in two minds on Urantia (1016 a). They also tell us, "Never does a departed Thought Adjuster return to earth as the being of former indwelling; never is personality manifested without the human will; and never does a dis-Adjusted human being after death manifest active identity of in any manner establish communication with the living beings of earth. There can be no exhibition of any sort of personality or ability to engage in communications with other personalities until after completion of survival. (Does this exclude those who have gone on and fused, since this may constitute completion of survival?) Those who go to the mansion world are not permitted to send messages back to their loved ones. It is the policy throughout the universes to forbid such communication during the period of a current dispensation." (Can they communicate after fusion and in the next dispensation?) (1230 d).

All of our Thought Adjusters have had previous experience. They tell us, "on two-brained worlds such as Urantia, subsequent to a bestowal son, virgin adjuster are seldom assigned to persons who have unquestioned ability for survival. It is our belief that on such worlds all Adjusters indwelling intelligent men and women of survival capacity belong to the advanced or to the supreme type" (1198 a). Our Adjusters have all had previous experience, but where and how? "If mortal man fails to survive natural death, the real spiritual values of his human experience survive as part of the continuing experience of the Thought Adjuster (195 d). When a Spirit-fused mortal awakens on the mansion world, their Thought Adjuster can then indwell others (451 a). The Adjuster of a sleeping survivor must wait for repersonalization and cannot indwell another until a new dispensation (1231 a). Can we sometimes become conscious of some previous experience our Adjuster had, on another planet similar to our, with another personality who did not survive or who became spirit-fused or son-fused?

(5) Is it possible to have actual memory of another personality, or of a different identity in some way? We are told that our personality is a direct bestowal from the Universal Father, is unique and unchangeable amidst change, and it is personality that recognizes personality (1226 a). A Solitary Messenger calls it presumptuous to attempt a definition of personality so any attempt on my part will only produce questions (I hope our revelators will be kind and say there are no stupid questions). A Universal Censor tells us that "If mortal man fails to survive natural death, the real spiritual value of his human experience survives as a part of the continuing experience of the Thought Adjuster. The personality values of such a non-survivor persists as a factor in the personality of the actualizing Supreme Being. Such persisting qualities of personality are deprived of identity, but not of experiential values accumulated during the mortal life in the flesh" (195 d). A Solitary Messenger says, "Man's personality is eternal, but with regard to identity a conditioned eternal reality. Having appeared in response to the Father's will, personality will attain Deity destiny, but man must choose whether or not he will be present at the attainment of such destiny. In default of such choice personality attains experiential Deity directly, becoming a part of the Supreme Being" (1232 c).

can exclude any previous Urantia experience since they tell us that the Thought Adjuster who endwelt Michael was the only one who ever functioned in two minds on Urantia (1016 a). They also tell us, "Never does a departed Thought Adjuster return to earth as the being of former indwelling; never is personality manifested without the human will; and never does a dis-Adjusted human being after death manifest active identity of in any manner establish communication with the living beings of earth. There can be no exhibition of any sort of personality or ability to engage in communications with other personalities until after completion of survival. (Does this exclude those who have gone on and fused, since this may constitute completion of survival?) Those who go to the mansion world are not permitted to send messages back to their loved ones. It is the policy throughout the universes to forbid such communication during the period of a current dispensation." (Can they communicate after fusion and in the next dispensation?) (1230 d).

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If we do not survive and our personality loses identity but not experiential value, yet these personality values persist as a factor in the personality of the Supreme Being, can we in any way experience any of these memories via the Supreme Being? We too are an actualizing part of the Supreme, so are these factors scrambled or re-used in any way in the mind of the Supreme?

(6) This brings us to the questions concerning Cosmic Mind, which is the space-time or finite level of mind. Absolute mind is the mind of the Infinite Spirit (102 a) and the mind endowment of the Seven Master Spirits which is distributed to the Super Universes is called the

cosmic mind (102 b). Cosmic mind, which encompasses all finite-mind levels, co-ordinates experientially with the Supreme mind (481 b). The morontial mind must evolve by direct contact with the cosmic mind, as this cosmic mind has been modified by and translated by the creative source of our local universe, The Devine Minister (1236 b). Again they say, "The Conjoint Actor is the ancestor of the cosmic mind, and the mind of man is an individualized circuit, an impersonal portion, of that cosmic mind as it is bestowed in a local universe by a Creative Daughter of the Third Source and Center" (1036 c).

All this tells us that mind reality is an impersonal reality and in our local universe it is a down stepping from the Infinite mind to the Divine mind, which is the source of our mind. When trying to understand what this means and realizing that nothing of value is ever lost in the cosmos, "anything that has cosmic value will always persist" (1235 c), then what of the mind factors of those personalities who did not survive mortal death? Could this mind memory be used by a mind tuning into the Divine Mind, that part of the cosmic mind which is our individual circuit? Can we in some way tap into this mind material? Would it also be possible to tune into the mind of survivors, perhaps similar to Carl Jung's collective unconscious?

(7) The last possibility I will cover in this paper was mentioned to me by another reader in one of our study groups. A Might Messenger in talking about light and life says, "When a settled world progresses beyond the third stage of light and life, all ascenders are destined, before attaining the minor sector, to receive some sort of transient assignment on a planet passing through the earlier stages of evolution" (625 d). Could this be an incarnate experience? If this personality is to receive actual experience, would it be a valid experience if they did not incarnate and would it be a valid experience if they did not incarnate and they were not unconscious of being from a higher realm? This would be a visit from a previous dispensation and after fusion with their Thought Adjuster.

Since exploring some of these possibilities and someone asks me what our revelation says about reincarnation, I usually say that it does not teach reincarnation in the usual sense, but it does tell us about experiences that may help us account for some feelings and memories of other lives. I always hope they will keep reading and reach their own conclusions.

I welcome any new insights, comments or rebuttals from anyone reading this paper.

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