



URANTIA®

URANTIA FOUNDATION

533 DIVERSEY PARKWAY CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60614

February 21, 1978

Mr. David Kantor
2584 Craig Court
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Dear David:

John has passed along your January 10 letter regarding the proposed multi-media presentation, "How Jesus Taught," inasmuch as it touches on copyright considerations. The Trustees appreciate the fact that you advised us of your plans well in advance of their accomplishment so that we can counsel with you.

Your past programs have been excellent and I would think your proposed program would have the Trustees' approval, sight unseen, for presentation to the 1978 URANTIA Brotherhood General Conference. However, the matter of additional copies of the presentation and public distribution adds another dimension in that this would amount to publication and therefore may well require the approval of the Trustees.

There is no problem with including URANTIA Book page and paragraph references, nor even the mention of The URANTIA Book itself. From your letter we can't tell how long your presentation will be or how extensively it will employ concepts and events from The URANTIA Book but it would seem that it could be wide ranging since The URANTIA Book is the only work we know of which gives many distinct lessons or facts as to how Jesus did teach.

We note that you plan to use no direct quotes; perhaps you intend to paraphrase or express the ideas in your own words or even follow Vern's example of using inspiration from The URANTIA Book and its methods of teaching by drawing on current examples. Quotations do offer the advantage of the unsurpassed clarity of expression of the URANTIA teachings and could be elaborated upon further as you wish, but pointing out that such elaborations are your own views and not necessarily those of the Foundation. We would not object to the use of quotes per se.

The point is that the avoidance of the use of quoted material does not necessarily exempt a work from the copyright law. This statute also protects such things as narrative story elements, sequence of arrangement and/or relationship of facts and events even if no quotes are used. Interestingly, the law can even safeguard the manner of expression of a particular idea. The copyright law also protects against paraphrasing of passages from The URANTIA Book.

Mr. David Kantor
Castro Valley, CA

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We would appreciate your advising us of The URANTIA Book references to be included, just how the content of these passages would be employed and the scope and general approach to the subject for our review when you can. This will enable us to evaluate the program at an early stage from the standpoint of the copyright law since you will want to make copies available.

This letter is intended to be both of timely assistance to you and of necessary service to the integrity of this latest revelation. Between us we can set a standard of co-operation and legal excellence as required that will serve as an example for all to follow.

We will enjoy working with you. For the time being, we can only encourage you to continue developing your work. We hope to hear from you soon regarding what we know will be an excellent presentation.

We all send our best wishes to you, Sue and Heather. May God bless you.

Cordially,

Thomas A Kendall
c

Thomas A. Kendall
President

TAK:kfm

cc: Mr. Vern B. Grimsley
Mr. John Hales