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WHY DO I RECOMMEND READING THE URANTIA PAPERS?

Tigran Aivazian, 24th October 2022

I would like to explain the main reason as to why I recommend reading the Urantia Papers, particularly my own edition thereof called *The British Study Edition of the Urantia Papers* available freely on my website at:

<http://www.bibles.org.uk/study-edition.html>.

The Main Reason: The text of the Urantia Papers, even in its current slightly corrupted form, provides the most complete and applicable conceptual infrastructure for the smooth operation of a reasonably educated mind of a God-seeking and God-knowing person.

When a person is embarking on the adventure of seeking God he is in fact seeking Him who is spirit and who thus cannot be found anywhere in the entire vast stretch of galaxies, shining starry realms and these calm mundane shores of the evolutionary worlds we find ourselves upon the moment we are born into this life. However, being clothed with these material bodies, our minds are constantly using them for supporting our lives in this particular environment and so they naturally seek material support for any other undertaking which our personalities might also decide to embark upon. And so, when the writing was invented, the humans naturally produced the “sacred Scriptures”, by recording the events of life, deeds and teachings of those “holy men of God” who undertook these very same attempts to find God and presumably met with some degree of success therein.

When we seek God, we are seeking values higher than those already grasped by ourselves, and by using our minds to assimilate the steps,

made by those God-seekers who went before us, we (consciously or unconsciously) imitate them, hoping for the same results, just like our little children continuously imitate us when they are growing up. But for the men and women of XXI century to imitate even those spiritually advanced men and women of, say, VI century B.C., whose lives are recorded in the Bible, is rather burdensome, especially when such imitation is directed not at the extraction of the highest values (i.e. when the underlying texts are considered “spiritually”), but rather attempted naïvely and literally, taking every record we find at *at face value*, so to speak.

For historians and archeologists it is right and proper to attempt entering that ancient conceptual framework and “see with the eyes” of those men and women of old the very world they lived in, in order to better and more accurately reconstruct the historical events and understand each link of the whole chain of the ages. But when doing so the historian is surely *not* attempting to literally live again the lives of those savages, for otherwise he must needs observe their disgusting (to every normal mind today) practices of human or animal sacrifices and other such things. A wise historian will not attempt to judge the morals of even the best people of those times by the moral standards of today. And so we see that this ancient conceptual infrastructure is not necessarily conducive of spiritual growth for the *majority* of those living today and can at best offer only historical value. This is true only because for most people of average education it is well-nigh impossible to separate the wheat from the chaff, i.e. to penetrate the dusty pages with the eye of the spirit and discover the great advances of the prophets of old in the realm of *spirit value*, while at the same time safely ignore their material habits, deeds and sometimes even the particular choice of wording, all of which corresponded to the primitive level of development of civilisation of their time and place.

The choice of a conceptual framework, which is “temporarily joined” to our eternal daily path of the discovery of God is, strictly speaking, *arbitrary* — in the sense that no such framework, all of them being the inventions of our material minds, can ever lead to God or directly help us discover God — he being *spirit*. We can only discover God *within*,

but never on the pages of a book, any book. But surely the mind will be much less disturbed when faced with a logical and self-consistent framework, than with the one totally inapplicable to the present by contradicting the great scientific and cultural advances made by the humankind in the past millennia or by encouraging the observance of long obsolete rituals? And *The Urantia Papers* provide precisely this infrastructure, satisfying all the requirements, which can be reasonably expected today. First, they are self-consistent (apart from a few minor contradictions arising from the textual corruptions made by the not so honest original guardian thereof) and are mostly in line with the views of the material sciences of physics, astronomy, geology, biology, chemistry and archeology of the XX century. Second, as a source of inspiration for enhancing *spirit values* they are truly matchless. So the stress on the mind (again, a person of reasonable average education is assumed here) in separating the wheat from the chaff is hereby made much lower than, say with the Bible. While reading the Urantia Papers we can concentrate on the important task of extracting *spirit value*, rather than spending most of our mind's efforts on trying to make some "allegorical sense" of what it encounters, because those ancient things could never be applied literally and directly today.

Furthermore, the Urantia Papers, being an *epochal* revelation, contain an extremely complex collection of gems, gleaned from the thoughts of the best God-knowing mortals of both the past and recent times, up to the first half of XX century. Because of this the exact meaning of the Urantia Papers is understood by very few people at present and this makes them an excellent tool for the ministry of teaching.

And as to my specific edition of the Urantia Papers, mentioned above — the reason I recommend it is because it attempts to satisfy also a slightly more curious and better informed person than just the "one of average education", assumed above. It does so by providing the information on the human sources used for the synthesis of this text and also by highlighting certain errors made during this process, i.e. by not hiding, as all other editions are wont to do, the *human* origin — in partnership with God, as is the case with all that is made by humans *and is good* — of this Fifth Epochal Revelation of truth.