



# JOURNAL

## Genesis of the Universe

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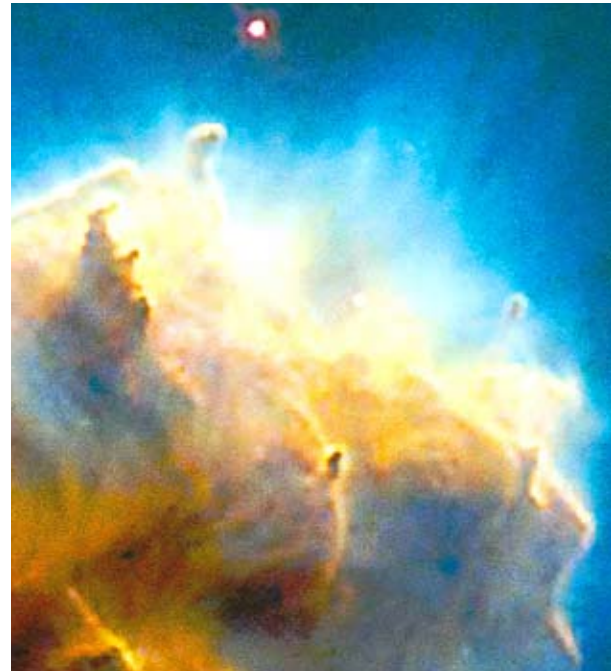
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**T**HE TWENTIETH CENTURY WAS A crucial century for planet Earth. During these last hundred years, natural and exact sciences took a gigantic leap forward, causing big progress in modern technology. A hundred years is a very short lapse of time—virtually a single lifetime—but during this short period of time science and technology can reach very far.

A hundred years ago, electricity hardly was present in our lives, it was the beginning of automobiles, flying, telephone systems, etc, but by the end of the twentieth century, not only earth flight but also space flight, satellite communications, organ transplant surgery, and the human genome studies were developed. Thanks to modern technology, the standard of living in developed countries has been significantly increased.

With every scientific discovery we take a step forward in understanding the workings of matter, but we must be aware that the more we learn, the more we have yet to discover.

Science does not follow a straight path; what seems definite to us today, mathematically justified, tomorrow could be taken over by a bolder and more real idea. Scientific achievements and technological breakthroughs have placed earthly science on an unprecedented pedestal. In the mind of the twentieth century, human beings prevail in the idea that what is not approved by science and by mathematical calculations is not true. Most of the contemporary scientists are quite dogmatic; they do not realize that exact sciences could describe only material processes on our planet.



Cosmic cloud photo

At the new particle accelerator functioning in southern France, physicists are conducting experiments to confirm the Big Bang Theory. They are apparently ignoring the possibility that neither experiments, nor the more advanced mathematical calculations, can describe the emergence of the Universe. The Universe is not mechanical or made only by the matter we know, rather, it is made up of energies and substances which are yet unknown on our planet.

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**G**REETINGS FELLOW Urantia Book readers and readers of the UAI Journal!

Welcome to the September 2009 Edition of the UAI Journal! In this fall issue we begin our intellectual escapade in space, via the telescopic and verbal visualizations of Tamila Ragimova from Medellin, Colombia. In “Genesis of the Universe,” Tamila does an outstanding job of portraying the creational aspects of the starry realms, in our universe and beyond, utilizing related passages from *The Urantia Book*, stellar graphics and astral photography. We are enlightened both pictorially and speculatively as we are reminded that “Science does not follow a straight path; what seems definite to us today, mathematically justified, tomorrow could be taken over by a bolder and more real idea.” This statement reflects what Niels Bohr implied when he said: “The opposite of a profound truth may well be another profound truth.” The adventure continues!

Our second contribution is from Phil Taylor on “The Privilege of Service,” an essay that he originally delivered as a sermon at the North Charlestown United Methodist Church in New Hampshire. In this retrospective, Phil recounts the service experience that led him to a personal epiphany as he discovered that “Service is as much about fulfilling a need as it is rendering the servant into a source for divine revelation.” Phil is renowned for his interfaith work and is indeed in service to mankind.

The third contributor, Neal Waldrop, once again graces our pages. His article takes us down “Three

Paths to our Planet’s Destiny” beginning with philosophy, then segueing into the experience of brotherhood, and finally directing us to the inevitable path of *Idealistic Service*, about which he states “the path of idealistic service is not only a framework for cooperation among human beings, but also a partnership with God and his angels.” Neal continually advances our understanding of the ideals he has garnered from his long time study of *The Urantia Book*.

In “Truth, Beauty and Goodness and You,” we are given an enticing preview of a forthcoming secondary work titled *Truth, Beauty and Goodness in The Urantia Book*, by Richard E. Warren. In this first chapter Rick eloquently summarizes the three-fold concept on which our comprehension of Divinity is based: “Father God wants to give you the universe as a gift, wrapped in the finest cloth imaginable. It has living truth, boundless beauty, and eternal goodness at its center—that is, our Father and the Paradise home.” Ahhhhhh! There is no place like home!

This issue culminates in the morontial classroom of Bill Sadler Jr. and brings us full circle on the voyage into the known and unknown, on and off, “such a planet.” In this speculative foray into the future, Bill asks and attempts to answer a galactic question: “How big is the first outer space level? Well, it’s just beginning to wind up now. They’re pouring concrete out there. Haven’t opened up the subdivision yet. Just laying sewers. And already there are 70 thousand aggregations of matter—each one is bigger than a superuniverse” Wow! There goes the neighborhood—and there and there and there!

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In this edition we began at the beginning, found a purpose, were offered several directions, touched the fabric of spiritual needs, and peered into our possible destiny. “There and back again”—more than just one Hobbit’s tale!

Happy and enlightened reading!

**Suzanne Kelly** ■

*Genesis of the Universe, continued from page 1*

*The Urantia Book* says:

*The universe is neither mechanical nor magical; it is a creation of mind and a mechanism of law.... The universe...is mind planned, mind made, and mind administered. But the divine mechanism of the universe of universes is altogether too perfect for the scientific methods of the finite mind of man to discern even a trace of the dominance of the infinite mind. For this creating, controlling, and upholding mind is neither material mind nor creature mind; it is spirit-mind functioning on and from creator levels of divine reality. [481:5-6]*

In *The Urantia Book*, an account is made of the initial emergence of matter, an assertion that does not have a response in the calculations of the Big Bang Theory. Likewise, *The Urantia Book* describes the construction of the Universe in stages, the transformation of Paradise energy into matter, and the making of space bodies out of nebulae.

#### THE CENTER OF CREATION

*The Urantia Book* describes the structure of the universe as consisting of different cosmic levels. At the geographic center of the entire creation we have the Eternal Isle of Paradise, the most gigantic cosmic body of the Master Universe. Paradise is not spherical; unlike any other cosmic body, it is a flat ellipsoid. Paradise is a stationary isle out of time and space; because of this, its areas are absolute and useful for manifold purposes beyond mortal mind concept. [119-120]

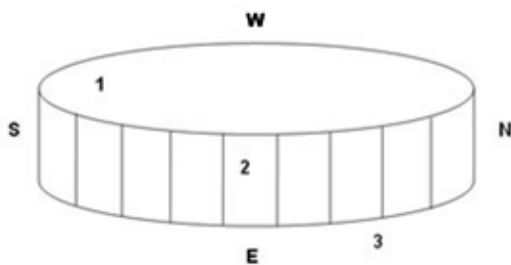


Fig. 1. The Isle of Paradise.

Paradise serves as a fundamental reference to fix geographical directions in the Universe: north, south, east, and west. The Central Isle is basically flat in shape, and is divided in three areas of activity: 1 Upper Paradise; 2 Peripheral Paradise; and 3 Nether Paradise, fig 1.

Upper Paradise is the abode of the Universal Father, Eternal Son, and Infinite Spirit. Peripheral Paradise is used, in part, as a landing and dispatching field for transport supernaphim and other traversers. Also there can be found the seven transmission stations for certain Paradise energies to the seven superuniverses. The Isle is big enough to house Paradise activities incomprehensible to human mind. [121]

Figure 1 depicts in a simplified form the Isle of Paradise; its dimensions remain unrevealed, so they are only indications of the real magnitude, the bigger diameter of ellipsoid being a sixth part greater than the smaller diameter thereof. The literal substance of Paradise is a homogeneous organization of space potency not to be found elsewhere in the entire universe. Such a substance is known as Absolutum. *This Paradise source material is neither dead nor alive; it is the original nonspiritual expression of the First Source and Center; it is Paradise, and Paradise is without duplicate. [120:1]*

Nether Paradise generates a pure substance which, after many transformations, becomes Universe Power, the foundation of all cosmic matter. Mid-zone of nether Paradise acts as a gigantic heart whose heart-beats send space energy streams toward the outer limits of physical space. All forms and phases of this energy travel throughout the universe along certain circuits, and return to Paradise through definite paths. The circulating period of this energy takes more than a billion years of Urantia time.

The Isle of Paradise has a central gravity known as **absolute gravity**. Every space body and universe energy is under its grasp. Absolute gravity operates in the elliptic circuits of diverse space levels of universe creation. All cosmic realities and physical bodies move around Paradise, circulating along a big ellipse. Absolute gravity, or Paradise gravity, is unknown on our planet. Gravity known by earthly physics is called linear or local gravity. Local, or linear, gravity pertains to the electrical stage of energy or matter; it operates within the central, super-, and outer universes, wherever suitable materialization has taken place. [125]

All around Paradise are three rings of seven spheres each, revolving clockwise. The first circuit of seven spheres belongs to the Universal Father, the second to the Eternal Son, and the third to the Infinite Spirit.

#### PERVADED AND UNPERVADED SPACE

Space originated beyond Paradise is divided in two parts: pervaded space and unpervaded space, fig 2. Pervaded space extends north-south horizontally in relation to Paradise, and embraces all material universes and space energies. It is composed of the Central Universe of Havona, the Seven Superuniverses, and four outer space levels. Unpervaded space extends east-west vertically, it is not pervaded by any force or energy, nor by any matter, power, or presence existing in pervaded space, fig 2.

In attempting to imagine these space reservoirs' volume outlines, you might think of an hourglass or maltese cross, fig 3.

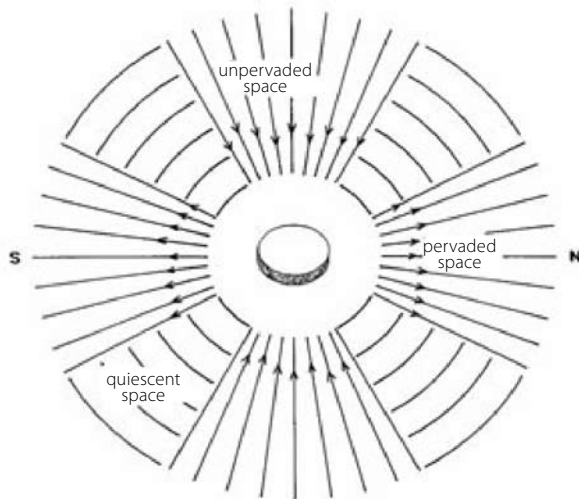


fig.2. Pervaded space and unpervaded space

Pervaded and unpervaded spaces are in a constant respiration process. When universes in horizontal extension expand, vertical unpervaded space contracts, and vice versa. Expansion-contraction cycles last about two billion years. [123]

Pulsations in Nether Paradise, regulating space energy output and input, are synchronized with space expansion-contraction cycles. At this moment in time, pervaded space is approaching the mid-point of the expanding phase. The outermost limits of both space extensions are now approximately equidistant from Paradise. Figure 2 shows that there are other separating quiescent spaces between pervaded and unpervaded space.

Measurements made by the physicist Edwin Hubble in the year 1929 on galaxy withdrawal perhaps were observations of the pervaded space respiration.

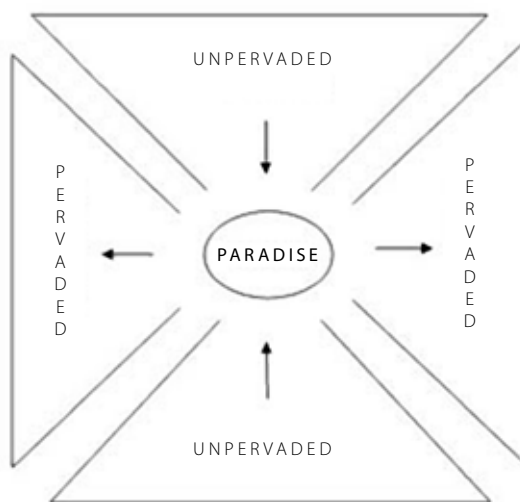


Fig.3. Maltese cross

**OUTER SPACE LEVELS OF THE MASTER UNIVERSE**

*The universe of universes is not an infinite plane, a boundless cube, nor a limitless circle; it certainly has dimensions. The laws of physical organization and administration prove conclusively that the whole vast aggregation of force-energy and matter-power functions ultimately as a space unit, as an organized and co-ordinated whole....The final proof of both a circular and delimited universe is afforded by the, to us, well-known fact that all forms of basic energy ever swing around the curved path of the space levels of the master universe in obedience to the incessant and absolute pull of Paradise gravity. [128:4]*

The successive space levels of The Master Universe constitute the major divisions of pervaded space—total creation—organized and partially inhabited, or yet to be organized and inhabited. The Master Universe consists of a series of elliptical space levels, alternating with zones of relative quiescence. Matter and energy ever whirl, always swinging onward in the track of the great space circuits, fig 4.

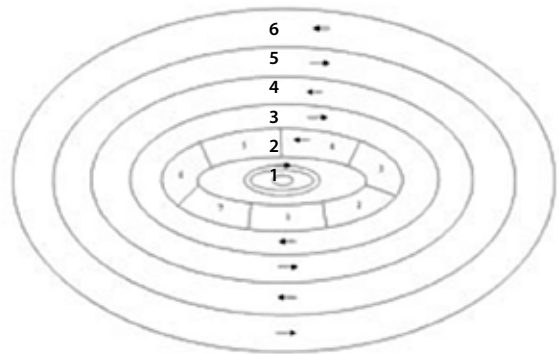


Fig.4. Six space levels of Master Universe

Proceeding outward from Paradise through the horizontal extension of pervaded space, the master universe is existent in six concentric ellipses, the space levels encircling the central Isle:

1. The Central Universe –Havona.
2. The Seven Superuniverses
3. The First Outer Space Level.
4. The Second Outer Space Level.
5. The Third Outer Space Level.
6. The Fourth and Outermost Space Level.

All six space levels with its energies organized into the matter of cosmic bodies, or yet unorganized, perform a circular motion around Paradise. Motion at each level is opposite to the adjoining level. Havona, the Central Universe, swings clockwise; the seven superuniverses, counterclockwise; first outer space level, clockwise, and so on, as depicted in figure 4.

**THE CENTRAL UNIVERSE – HAVONA**

The Central Universe, Havona, was created directly by the Universal Father and the Eternal Son; there is no record of its creation. This universe is perfect both in its physical construction and in the creation of its spirit beings—perfect beings who do not need to evolve. Havona forms a vast plane and has a billion inhabited planets, which do not require any sun for its heating, fig 5. [152]

The one billion worlds in Havona are arranged in seven concentric circles, which immediately surround the three rings of twenty one satellites of Paradise. There are upwards of thirty-five million worlds in the innermost Havona circuit (the first circuit) and over two hundred forty-five million in the outermost (the seventh circuit).

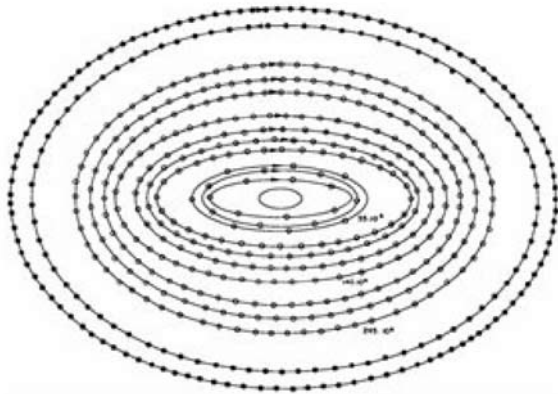


Fig.5. Havona, the Central Universe

The world numbers increase proportionately from the innermost to outermost circuit, each containing thirty-five million worlds more than the previous one. The Havona planetary rings are not superimposed. Havona whirls clockwise around the stationary Isle of Paradise in one vast plane.

From a physical point of view, the Havona and the Paradise circuits are all one and the same system; their separation is in recognition of functional and administrative segregation. The multitudinous dark masses surrounding Havona, the Central Universe, in two elliptical rings are quite unlike black holes. These gravity bodies neither reflect nor absorb light; they are nonreactive to physical-energy light, and they completely encircle and enshroud Havona as to hide it from the view of even near-by inhabited universes in the next space level. The inner belt of dark bodies revolves counterclockwise; the outer revolves clockwise. These alternate directions of motion, coupled with the extraordinary mass of dark bodies, so effectively equalize the lines of Havona gravity as to render the central universe a physically balanced and perfectly stabilized creation [153]

The inner belt of dark gravity bodies is tubular in arrangement. The outer circuit of tremendous dark gravity bodies is arrange perpendicularly, being ten thousand

times higher than the inner circuit. The longitudinal diameter of the outer circuit of dark bodies is fifty thousand times that of the transverse diameter. The life and activities of the perfect beings in Paradise and the Central Universe are beyond human comprehension.

**THE SEVEN SUPERUNIVERSES**

Outside the Central Universe, in the first post-Havona space level, there are the seven superuniverses of time and space, fig 6. Early in the materialization of universe creation, the sevenfold scheme of the superuniverse organization and government was formulated. The first post-Havona creation was divided into seven stupendous segments, which were called superuniverses. Superuniverse headquarter architectural worlds were designed and constructed first. Paradise, the central universe of Havona, and the seven superuniverses make up the **Grand Universe**. The Grand Universe together with the four outer space levels are designed as the **Master Universe**, fig 4. The present scheme of administration has existed from near eternity, and the rulers of these seven superuniverses are rightly called Ancients of Days.

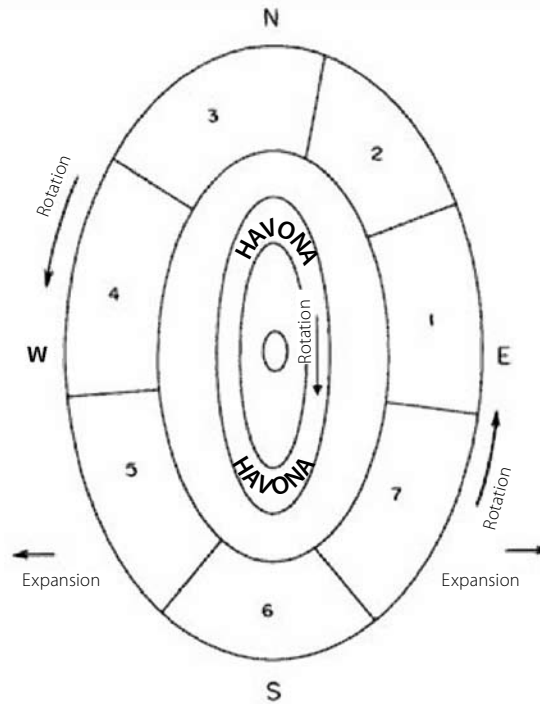


Fig.6. Seven Superuniverses of time and space.

The seven superuniverses traverse a great ellipse, a gigantic and elongated circle, pursuing a counterclockwise course under Paradise absolute gravity. The seven superuniverses' present location is shown in figure 6 and a description thereof is revealed on page 165. Our planet, Earth-Urantia, is in the seventh superuniverse, called Orvonton. Each superuniverse has one hundred thousand local universes. Our local universe is called Nebadon and our Creator Son of the Universal Father Michael of Nebadon, who created our local universe.

### CREATION OF THE SEVEN SUPERUNIVERSES

The seven superuniverses were planned by the Architects of Paradise and built in stages from the cosmic center outwards. Space taken up by the seven superuniverses is huge and their construction is not yet completed. [467]

The creation of the universes of time and space is so intricate that it cannot be calculated even using modern mathematics. Neither can contemporary physics account for the emergence of cosmic bodies, such as suns, planets, black holes, etc, because it ignores universe energies through which primitive elementary particles materialize, which, in turn, leads to the formation of matter and celestial bodies.

The celestial commission assigned to reveal *The Urantia Book* decided to use some terms from earthly physics in order for them to roughly explain the formation of the universe. This celestial commission uses these terms since, through them, there arises in the human mind a certain comprehension of cosmic concepts, enabling it to understand the divine creation methods. Physical creation celestial processes are extremely complex and remain unknown to present sciences, such as physics, astronomy, and cosmology; in spite of that, *The Urantia Book* says that it is possible to explain universe creation to a fairly suitable comprehension level.

The seven superuniverses are designed as universes of time and space, for they were created by the so-called time-space technique. A Mighty Messenger explains processes of this method, which are very intricate Paradise phenomena and the comprehension of which requires introducing some cosmic concepts [469]. The new concepts introduced by *The Urantia Book* in order to explain such a technique are:

1. **ABSOLUTA or Space Potency:** This is a cosmic pre-reality; it is the domain of the Unqualified Absolute. The phenomena springing out from Nether Paradise embrace three zones of absolute or primordial force presence and operation. These three zones appear as three concentric circles of cosmic reality. Space potency/ABSOLUTA is modified by special beings called primary force organizers. In order for a local universe to be created, cosmic space must become ready. In this area of the universe, and under the Paradise phenomena, there arises the space potency/ABSOLUTA, which later becomes Universe Power. [469]
2. **SEGREGATA or Primordial Force:** This represents the first basic change in space potency/ABSOLUTA. Primary Force Organizers activate space potency into primordial force, which in turn is able to react to the initial motion activated by the Universal Father. [329]
3. **ULTIMATA or Emergent Energies:** Primordial force passes through two stages of transmutation before emerging as universe power. These two stages are designated puissant energy and gravity energy.
  - a) **Puissant energy:** This is a powerful-directional and mighty-tensioned energy, which Primary Force Organizers set in forcible motion. This

energy is not at first responsive to Paradise-gravity pull, but through the manipulations of Primary Force Organizers, this energy begins to transform itself and increasingly appears the initial response to Paradise-gravity. From this moment on, energy manipulation is transferred to other special beings, the Transcendental Force Organizers.

- b) **Gravity energy:** This energy form is responsive to Paradise absolute circular gravity pull, and holds the universe power potential, from which all cosmic matter arises. The Transcendental Force Organizers keep on changing the energy, and quickly transmute puissant energy into gravity energy, which begins circularly swinging around Paradise. Moreover, this energy phase begins to exhibit certain responsiveness to linear gravity characteristic of cosmic matter. These puissant and gravity phases of energy are called **ULTIMATA**. [470]

4. **GRAVITA or Universe Power:** This is a stage of the energy transmutation where begin to act the Universe Power Directors, who manipulate ULTIMATA into another estate called GRAVITA or universe power. Directors ripen this power to that point where Gravita can be directed into distributing channels. Gravita is existent in thirty phases of energy.

Apart from Universe Power Directors, there are other living and semi-living entities who manipulate different energy phases; they are Power Centers and Physical Controllers—the latter knowing how to handle antigravity. Living entities are difficult to understand beings; some of them do not have will—they do not make choices—but despite being automatic, their functions are highly intelligent. These entities are highly specialized beings. [471 and 320]

The last Paradise energy transformation phase, i.e. Universe Power, serves the manifold Creator's purposes and is used in the seven superuniverses' creation, as well as in the creation of physical bodies of outer space. Space potency and primordial force metamorphosis are the secret of Force Organizers and Universe Power Directors. Such a secret is revealed to nobody, not even to Paradise-origin beings like Mighty Messengers. Neither is the handling of Paradise energy comprehensible to high order beings. Beings of Melchizedek order denominated this phenomenon as *infinities of divinity*. [471]

Apart from universal power, there are in the cosmos other orders of energy which operate at diverse space levels. For example, Havona energy is totally different from space potency and primordial force. Havona is a material universe, but the matter of the central universe is totally different from the matter we know.

In Upper Paradise there operates a transcendental energy denominated **TRANOSTA**. Divinity energy, a Paradise living energy, is denominated **MONOTA**. [471]

On the morontia worlds, there operates an entirely different energy called morontia energy, which is so diverse that each sphere has its own class of such an energy. On

architectural planets, plant and animal life, and the bodies of beings, were created with such an energy class. [543]

Orvonton, the seventh superuniverse, has a hundred thousand local universes. Our local universe, Nebadon, is not yet completed. Eventually, every local universe will have ten million inhabited planets; Nebadon is now in possession of three million eight hundred forty thousand inhabited planets, the rest under construction.

Creation of a local universe can be divided in two stages. The first stage is in connection to physical creation of space bodies, and the second, to creation of living beings, who can be in existence in spirit, morontia, or material status.

In order to physically create a local universe in a certain space, Primary Force Organizers begin the origination of nebulae. Such beings are able to start up those primordial force huge cyclones around them, which once initiated can never be halted or restricted. Inside the nebulae, these special beings carry out the following substance-energy transformations:

**ABSOLUTA – SEGREGATA – ULTIMATA – GRAVITA**

Out of universe power, GRAVITA, materializes ultimaton—the first particle—which is the foundation of all elementary particles and universe matter. This particle, the ultimaton, is unknown on earth. According to *The Urantia Book*, an electron consists of a hundred ultimatoms. [476] Power Directors carry out universe power materialization and matter emergence through the following process:

**GRAVITA – ULTIMATON – PARTICLES – ATOMS – MATTER**

Every such process is carried out by Power Directors inside nebulae, which can exhibit diverse shapes. Nebulae undergo extremely high temperatures, big pressures, and very high energy revolution rates. Force Organizers function inside nebulae, and Universe Power Directors catalyze this energy, that is, by their presence they carry out, segmentation, energy organization in phases, and subsequently its materialization. This entails that there is something inherent in energy thus to function in the presence of these power entities. [319]

**SPACE BODIES**

Suns, planets, black holes, comets, and other space bodies, originate in nebulae wheels. Nebulae pass through different maturing stages and alter their shape. Materialization of emergent energy and sun birth is carried out inside nebulae. [169]

In the first nebula development stage, the shape is circular, though it can be some wider in its center, and forms a vast plane, fig 7. During the second stage, the nebula shape becomes helical, as shown in figure 8.

In the third development stage, the nebula begins to disgorge suns by its two tangential sides, as shown in figure 9. Such young suns quickly become spherical, and start out on their course as the stars of space. Their orbits are little by little settled, being determined by their path of escape and by linear gravity of nearby space bodies.

[169 and 652]



Fig. 7. Nebula



Fig. 8. Cat Eye nebula. Second development stage



Fig. 9. Third development stage



Fig. 10. Fourth development stage

During the fourth stage, the nebula enters the second and last cycle of sun dispersion, with the mother nucleus becoming either a globular cluster or a gigantic sun functioning as the center of a terminal solar system, fig. 10. In such an estate is now Magellanic Cloud, fig 11, which is near the outer margins of Orvonton. [170]



Fig. 11 Magellanic Cloud

Between nebula development stages there are billions of years. Nebulae periodically expand and contract in million year periods. As they contract, the revolution rate increases, and as they expand, the rate decreases. [653]

*The Urantia Book* describes the emergence of our solar system, called Monmatia. This system originates in the vast Andronover nebula, which began its formation 875,000,000 years ago. Our sun is a product of this nebula. [652]

4,500,000,000 years ago, the enormous Angona system began its approach to the neighborhood of this solitary sun. The center of this great system was a dark giant of space, solid, highly charged, and possessing tremendous gravity pull. [655]

At moments of maximum expansion for our sun and under the strong gravity pull of Angona, streams of gaseous material were shot out into space as gigantic solar tongues. Such gas emanations detached at certain points from the sun, forming independent bodies which assumed a spherical shape and immediately started to revolve about the sun in elliptical orbits. Thus, most of our solar system planets were formed. Moreover, another three planets were detached from the Angona system because of our sun's gravity pull, and they became satellites of Jupiter and Saturn. This is the reason why their orbital swings are in opposite directions to the other satellites. [656]

The total number of suns thrown out by the Andronover nebula is 1,013,629 [655]. This nebula passed through same metamorphoses now seen by our astronomers as they turn their telescopes spaceward and observe gigantic nebulae in different shapes. Every space body, excepting architectural spheres, has had this evolutionary origin in the respects that have not been made by fiat by God.

Many architectural spheres have been built throughout the cosmos using special techniques unknown on earth. Such planets are the superuniverse, major and minor sectors, local universes, constellations, and system headquarters. Architectural headquarters regulate universe power into their respective sectors, balance and control Gravita circulating through organized space, and they are planets where a lot of celestial beings, unknown on earth, are living.

Architectural spheres are lighted by a sun, emitting light without heat, and they are heated by certain energy currents near the surface of the sphere [174]. Architectural headquarters are located near the astronomical center of their administrative division and are surrounded by many satellites, which are also architectural spheres. The seven superuniverses are planned to contain five hundred billion such worlds.

According to *The Urantia Book*, the Milky Way, our galaxy, is composed of vast numbers of former nebulae. Our neighboring galaxy, Andromeda, fig 12, is outside Orvonton boundaries and is now forming many suns—as many as a hundred million. Andromeda light, which we behold from earth, left those stars a million years ago, that is, when the first human being was born on our planet. [170]

Our Satania system headquarters is Jerusem, which seems to be in the Orion cluster, fig 13. The star cloud of Sagittarius is the center of our minor sector, fig 14. [168]



Fig. 12 Andromeda galaxy



Fig. 13 Orion cluster



Fig. 14 Sagittarius cluster

*The Urantia Book* is a path of human evolution, and it is our privilege to be able to learn its teachings. The book's knowledge is so valuable as to afford human mind progress, and also, through a spiritual evolution path, soul progress.

*The Urantia Book* says, *The spiritually blind individual who logically follows scientific dictation, social usage, and religious dogma stands in grave danger of sacrificing his moral freedom and losing his spiritual liberty. Such a soul is destined to become an intellectual parrot, a social automaton, and a slave to religious authority.* [1458] ■

# The Privilege of Service

PHIL TAYLOR  
USA

*The following is a sermon I had recently given at the North Charlestown United Methodist Church in New Hampshire. I was asked to speak by a friend of mine, and after some prayerful consideration, wrote this sermon. I did not quote from The Urantia Book in this sermon, but as you will see, it is reflective of a life inspired and guided by this great revelation and my relationship with our Creator Son.*

## Good Morning to You All and Peace Be with you

I WISH TO THANK HEIDI AND ALL THE congregation for giving me the opportunity to speak these words with you today. It is indeed a privilege to speak on the subject of service to a group such as yours who I know to be committed to sharing your lives in service to your fellows. And for me, this is a great comfort to know that as I share with you some of my experiences as a servant I know my words will be heard with a sympathetic ear.

My service experiences began eight years ago when my wife and I made a decision to move to a small town in Southern Vermont. And this was a big change from where we had previously lived. For the first time in our lives, we had the opportunity to live in a small community. For the first time in our lives we had the opportunity to become a part of a larger family, a small town setting, when neighbors and community members could be known and loved in a more personal, familial setting. For the first time I had a real opportunity to live among men and women who I could come to know as brothers and sisters. Such is inevitable and unavoidable in a small town setting.

Soon after my arrival in this small town and in recognition of the new relationship that I had with this larger family community I began to ask the question of God "What is my role in this family?"

In response to that question I knew but one answer. I knew that like Jesus, I wanted to assume the role of the servant in this new home. I wanted to seek and find those opportunities to love and serve my fellows in a greater capacity. And upon this decision I made my petition to the Lord. It was a simple petition; A petition with no expectation of what may come. I said "Father, I pray to be of service."



Community cooperation illustration

Now, though I had no expectations as to what this request would lead to, I did hold in my mind that I would likely serve God in some spiritual capacity, be it the opportunity to lead others to God, uplift another's soul, or minister to friends in need. But in every way, I held the assumption that I would serve the spiritual needs of my fellows.

And then, my petition was granted. I was given my first opportunity to serve. I just didn't know at that time that the opportunity being presented to me was the answer to my petition.

I was asked to serve as chairman on a committee for the local school board. The committee's purpose was to find a solution for the existing high school that was badly in need of repair. It was not an enviable position to be in. Our town has some of the highest taxes in the state. Already two bond proposals had failed. To the state of Vermont, we were considered a "gold town" because most of the properties in our town are high priced homes belonging to second home owners. But this gold never stays in our town. The second home owners go home at the week's end and their property taxes go to the state coffers.

It was not long since accepting this opportunity to serve as chairman that I began to learn of the depth of the community's fear, anger and frustration. I began to understand the difficult position many were in about whether to pay taxes for their grandchildren's education or whether to make their mortgage payment. Whether they could continue to afford to live in this town or whether they would have to leave this home to find one that was more affordable.

And this fear, anger and frustration came out at our meetings. One particular community meeting was so contentious, so bitter and mean spirited that I went home in shock. I found it so troubling that my community family, my brothers and sisters could treat each other in such a way.

After this one particular meeting I was left emotionally in turmoil and went home to a sleepless night. I awoke the next morning only to call a friend and share with him the story. After recounting the story of what had transpired in this last meeting and after shedding a few

tears, my valued friend said to me “You had prayed to be of service, did you not?”

I said, “Yes, I had.”

He said, “You may not know it right now but this is the service that you had prayed for and right now you are being trained to become a better servant.”

After these words were spoken, I realized that this service work that I was rendering was not a just a material service, it was a spiritual service, because I came to the realization that in order to get me through this work to which I had been entrusted, I was to be entirely dependent on God.

From that point on, my outlook was transformed. I became invigorated and enthused with the struggle that lay before me. I knew that I was not in this endeavor alone—the Father was by my side.

Previously, I had held in my mind the expectation to serve in some spiritual capacity, but I had failed to realize that this material service that I was rendering was intended to be spiritual and it only waited upon me to make the decision to share and dedicate this work of the committee to God and by so doing it would become spiritual.

From that point on I began to appreciate the value of spiritual decision making in this material work. I resolved that from here on in I would refuse to make choices that were politically expedient. Instead, I would base my decisions on the highest degrees of truth, beauty and goodness. I would base my choice on those decisions that appeared to be most reflective of God’s choices. In all matters—material and spiritual I would choose the Father’s will.

Before my committee meetings and I would pray mightily to the Father, I would say to him “Father, I know that it is your will that these meetings become productive, civil and conducted in the spirit of brotherhood and understanding. I want you to know that it is my will that these meetings become civil, productive and conducted in the spirit of brotherhood and understanding. And I am asking you to make me an agent of change to make our will a reality.”

I don’t know how, but these meetings began to be turned around. They became more productive, they became friendlier and they became more civil.

I was beginning to learn some of the real challenges of brotherly love. In times past, I have worked with groups of my fellows who were easy to get along with. I had found it so easy to love my fellows because they had proven themselves to be loving in return. But now I was beginning to love even those who despised me and refused to offer me any level of understanding. I began to learn unconditional love.

And though the difficulties that confronted us still remained, the problems of finding a solution for the high school still went unsolved; the attitude of those involved had begun to change. We began to bestow upon each other the respect of brother and sister that is expected of a heavenly Father.



Community service activity photo.

I have not yet found a solution for our high school. It’s been three years since I took this position as chairman. We are moving in a positive direction, but the outcome is unsure. But regardless of the outcome, whatever material successes or failures may come. I know I will have rendered this service a spiritual victory, because I chose to share this work with God.

We are all privileged to have the opportunity to serve in some capacity. Each man, each woman, each child of God can, if they so choose can find that area of service where the Father needs him or her to be. We may serve in different areas, according to our ability, and according to needs. We may serve by ministering to families suffering from divorce, economic hardships, or misfortune. We may serve troubled students, the elderly, the homeless, the neighbor in need, or even our own family. We may serve as individuals, through the school board, through local organizations, in the government or simply as we go about living our daily lives. God knows of those in need and he knows of our needs too. And he will apply all his wisdom and supreme knowledge to direct us where we need to be.

All we need to do is to say, “Father, I pray to be of service.”

For you see, service is not just about doing good, it’s more than that. It is about doing good with God. Can we serve without God? Many do. But the call will go out for a new breed of servants. A new breed of servants filled with a dynamic affection to love and serve and by so doing will transform themselves to meet the challenges of a new age.

Service is inherently a struggle. By its nature service is often difficult. It is difficult because when you are in service to others you are fulfilling a need, a want—something that is lacking and in need of supply.

Such needs often exist because there are difficult to fulfill and they wait for those spirit led men and women to come forth with abundant supply. Such needs call on servants of spiritual strength. Men and women of character,

**...I have worked with groups of my fellows who were easy to get along with. I had found it so easy to love my fellows because they had proven themselves to be loving in return. But now I was beginning to love even those who despised me and refused to offer me any level of understanding.**

spiritual stamina, divine ideals, prayerful initiative and worshipful problem solving to make whole that which is found to be incomplete.

What service requires in addition to a need being fulfilled is a servant who is willing to transform his or herself to be able to meet the demands of a difficult service.

Herein lies the privilege of service. Service is as much about fulfilling a need as it is rendering the servant into a source for divine revelation. Dynamic service calls on the transformed servant to show forth the fruits of spiritual living and to share these fruits with all who hunger and thirst. The privilege of service is becoming the servant who can reach down to the depths of their soul and upwards towards the heavens to find an abundance of love, a well-spring of mercy, an offering of peace, a plentitude of forgiveness, a supply of faith, a reservoir of trust, a wealth of goodness, and a gift of hope, for it is the privilege of the servant to share these things of God with all his children.

When I came to my town I had expected to transform the community in some way, big or small. But I have come to the realization that instead, my community transformed me and it was I who needed transformation. I was transformed not only by my dependence on God, but also by the realization that I was dependant on my community, and they in turn were depending on me.

The call of a new age is upon us and the call of this new age is indeed the call to serve. And this call to service begins with the recognition of the spiritual brotherhood of man. The realization that we are a family and this family has a divine inheritance that serves as the foundation for all relations found therein. The realization that we are all children of a heavenly Father and it is the rule of this family that we love and serve one another.

A new age is indeed upon us and a new time has come. Our planet, our country, our communities are struggling to rise to the challenge of social change, economic uncertainty and cultural upheaval.

The call has gone out to the servants from every walk and ability to come forth and serve in partnerships with God to bear the fruits of loving-service to their fellows. And many will answer this call.

But to some, these cultural upheavals, these economic uncertainties and this social change is a sign of the end times.

But I say "Fear not," for this is not the Father's way. What great God would give his children a home where they can come to know and love the heavenly Father and then let them leave this great house in disrepair? We are all servants in our Father's house and we are called upon to be loyal stewards of our Father's mansion.

#### Let me tell you the story of the good tenant

*There was good tenant who rented an old house from a landlord. Every month, this tenant faithfully paid his rent, until a stroke of misfortune rendered him with out funds. The next months rent came due and the tenant could not pay.*

*He went to his landlord and said, "I have no money to pay you but I still need a place to live." The landlord said to him, "you have been a good tenant, so instead of rent you will repair this house as payment for what you owe."*

*The tenant loyally fulfilled his part of the agreement. He mended the leaky roof, repaired the broken windows, painted the walls and made the house better than it had been. Three months passed with the tenant laboring on this dwelling and when the landlord returned he was pleased with what had become of his old house.*

*But the tenant was still without money and he said to the landlord, "I have been a good tenant. I have cared for your house as if it was my own, but I still have no money and I am afraid that I shall have to abandon this dwelling."*

*But the landlord protested. "Indeed you have cared for this house as if it were your own. You have been a faithful steward. You have proven yourself trustworthy for the care of my estate. But I need your service. I will take you to a greater estate were I am in need of loyal stewards and this future home is worthy of your care."*

Our Father in heaven is truly in need of dedicated servants who will prove themselves worthy of his trust. For I say to you that we will all be called to serve, not only in this life, but also in the next.

For that is our destiny in heaven: to serve in estates greater than that of our earthly estate and we are called to prove our ability by serving, now in this life. The Father in heaven is calling us to love; serve and find joy in the abundant labors for this is the privilege of membership in the heavenly family.

In the coming age we will labor through the birth pains of a new era. We may be fearful, we may be frustrated, we may be angry and we may shed tears. But these tribulations too will pass and we will all grow in our dependence on God.

We will struggle and we will grow. We will labor in the material affairs of men and we will prosper in the spiritual rewards of service to a heavenly kingdom. We may strive and we may fail, but through all these struggles we will wrestle from this life a spiritual victory that can not be undone.

In this age God will call upon his servants to come to the service of his earthly estate and to mend the repairs that are so desperately needed. To make that which is old — new; to make that which is incomplete - whole; to make those who serve — transformed.

The call will go out to those men and women, born of spiritual insight and filled with the love of God to present themselves before the bar of human needs and render themselves loving servants.

This call, this opportunity, this privilege can be answered with but one simple plea: "Father, I pray to be of service."

And in this petition a new age can begin and in this new age we will achieve a marvelous step forward in the realization of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. ■

***...the call will go out for a new breed of servants. A new breed of servants filled with a dynamic affection to love and serve and by so doing will transform themselves to meet the challenges of a new age.***

# Three Paths to our Planet's Destiny

NEIL WALDROP  
USA

**T**HE INSPIRING TRUTHS ENSHRINED IN *The Urantia Book* are a turning point in human history, both for the world as a whole and for every human being yet to inhabit our planet in the centuries to come. I believe that the three paths I describe below embody key elements of the spiritual challenges that will inspire humanity throughout the new millennium and on into the next.

Active pursuit of any of these paths—or of all three—is and must be open to every sincere human being of good will. I hope that their descriptions will stimulate imaginative initiatives by individuals and groups, while also inspiring readers of *The Urantia Book* to link arms with and welcome the efforts of these same individuals or groups. When these brothers and sisters act creatively to mobilize their own energy, insight, and dedication their efforts and ours will jointly honor the spirit of the revelation and will amply justify the revelator's confidence in the ultimate evolutionary triumph of the human race. [736:7]

## 1. The Path of Philosophy

Philosophy is a technique of the mind that helps us bridge the gap between matter and spirit [1136:4]. Revelation makes a crucial contribution to these efforts, for a key purpose of revelation is to synthesize the apparently divergent sciences of nature and the theology of religion into a consistent and logical universe philosophy, a co-ordinated and unbroken explanation of both science and religion, thus creating a harmony of mind and satisfaction of spirit which answers in human experience those questionings of the mortal mind which craves to know how the Infinite works out his will and plans in matter, with minds, and on spirit. [1106:0]

Over the next few centuries, human beings will endeavor to absorb the teachings of *The Urantia Book* and apply them to everyday life, while seeking to construct a new and appealing philosophy of living out of the enlarged and exquisitely integrated modern concepts of cosmic truth, universe beauty, and divine goodness [43:3]. Thus, these pilgrims on the path of philosophy will seek to promote:

- an understanding of the unity of matter, mind, and spirit and, by implication, broad acceptance of the Father's creative intent;
- an end to the antagonism that has often estranged religion from science and science from religion;



People walking in harmony photo.

- a substantial softening of the abrasive emotional overtones that pit “secular” against “sacred”; and
- a rejection of materialism and secularism as dominant cultural influences in contemporary society.

The path of philosophy will be an unstructured and informal search for truth that operates entirely by attraction and persuasion. With the understanding that personality (personal identity) is permanent and that personal relationships are never scaffolding, pilgrims on the path of philosophy will have ample opportunities to reach out to their fellows in benevolence, kindness, and friendship. [1235:4]

## 2. The Path of Spiritual Brotherhood

In the days of Abraham, Melchizedek of Salem did his utmost to explain personal religion—the religion of the spirit. When our sovereign Creator Son lived his bestowal life as Jesus of Nazareth, he illuminated the religion of personal spiritual experience and called upon all of us to love one another as God our Father loves each of us. Those who pursue the path of spiritual brotherhood will continue the same spiritual campaign. This commitment will provide profoundly inspiring opportunities.

*The future of Urantia will doubtless be characterized by the appearance of teachers of religious truth—the Fatherhood of God and the fraternity of all creatures. But it is to be hoped that the ardent and sincere efforts of these future prophets will be directed less toward the strengthening of interreligious barriers and more toward the augmentation of the religious brotherhood of spiritual worship among the many followers of the differing intellectual theologies which so characterize Urantia of Satania.* [1010:4]

*The hour is striking for presenting to Buddhism, to Christianity, to Hinduism, even to the peoples of all faiths, not the gospel about Jesus, but the living, spiritual reality of the gospel of Jesus.* [1041:5]

Thus, the path of spiritual brotherhood leads humanity toward:

- the spiritual renovation and renewal of all mankind that extends across all religions without regard for doctrinal or disciplinary authority;
- ministry to the spiritual needs and concerns of all human beings regardless of their convictions and beliefs;
- an increasingly active pursuit of personal religion—the individual’s relationship to God;
- the development of our character through acts of unselfish service that unfold through our moral nature and loving relationships with our fellows [1862:7]; and
- widespread adoption of the real religion of Jesus, so that men and women increasingly dedicate their lives in a quest to understand the will of the Father in heaven and consecrate the energies of living to the unselfish service of the brotherhood of man. [2083:2]

### 3. The Path of Idealistic Service

Just as God ministers to each individual, fostering personal growth and self-realization, so also does he show his love for the world at large by actively and unceasingly promoting the progressive growth of human society. Similarly, the path of idealistic service is not only a framework for cooperation among human beings but also a partnership with God and his angels.

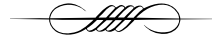
The authors of *The Urantia Book* link the idealistic strivings of men and women to God’s plans and goals for our planet. Their intriguing insights include:

- recommendations on five personal transformations and planetary adjustments that we need to make during Urantia’s post-bestowal age [597–598];
- an analysis of fifteen factors that play key roles in maintaining and developing human civilization [906–912];
- a description of the ongoing efforts of the master seraphim who encourage men and women to act on the highest insights of their own free will [1254–1256].

Pilgrims on the path of idealistic service will seek to propel human society toward the achievements and circumstances that characterize a normal world in the post-bestowal age. For example:

- human character undergoes tremendous transformations so that the golden rule can be put into practical operation;
- true self-government begins to function; fewer and fewer restrictive laws are necessary;
- the problems of disease and delinquency are virtually solved;
- the average length of life rises well above three hundred years;

- the penetration of cosmic reality and communion with spiritual reality becomes the mortal passion of this dispensation. [595–597]



These three paths are open, fluid, and flexible. They embody horizons and ideals that can inspire everyone on our planet. Therefore, while we endeavor to understand the aspirations of innumerable others of good will, these three paths can provide a broad framework to help readers of *The Urantia Book* reach out and share our revelation with the whole world as together we pursue Urantia’s destiny in a spirit of cooperation and dedication.

Nothing in these three paths gives reason to imagine that readers of *The Urantia Book* should focus upon themselves alone; the paths show no trace of *that persistently mischief-making error, the chosen-people delusion* [1005:4]. Just as the life and teachings of our beloved Creator Son—Christ Michael—are to become the common heritage of all religions and all peoples, so too will the ideals, perspectives, and prospects proclaimed in *The Urantia Book* become the common heritage of humanity [1330:1].

*...God’s love and mercy do not depend on doctrines, creeds, or ceremonies, but are instead freely and abundantly bestowed on all normal-minded men and women of good will.*

- The path of philosophy builds on what one of the authors of *The Urantia Book* calls *curiosity: the spirit of investigation, the urge of discovery, the drive of exploration; it assures us that these natural impulses were not given to us merely to be frustrated and repressed* [160:1]. The new millennium’s greatly accelerated pace of social adaptation and adjustment means that the art of living must be even more rapidly and frequently relearned than was the case in former ages; that reflective thinking, which is a key characteristic of the philosophical path, will make a major contribution to address this new reality [1772:4].
- The path of spiritual brotherhood will promote confidence and joy, fostering personal growth and development by capitalizing on the understanding that God’s love and mercy do not depend on doctrines, creeds, or ceremonies, but are instead freely and abundantly bestowed on all normal-minded men and women of good will. As our sovereign Creator Son Christ Michael assured believers while incarnate as Jesus of Nazareth, *You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free* [1796:4].

Pursuit of the second path stimulates and encourages

*that most thrilling and inspiring of all possible human experiences: the personal quest for truth, the exhilaration of facing the perils of intellectual discovery, the determination to explore the realities of personal religious experience, the supreme satisfaction of experiencing the personal triumph of the actual realization of the victory of spiritual faith* [1729:5].

- The path of idealistic service enables human beings to cooperate with each other—and with God and his angels—in building a more advanced and more enduring civilization. Of the five personal transformations that a Mighty Messenger recommends four are social or intellectual and only one is spiritual [597–598]. Of the fifteen factors that an archangel identifies as crucial in maintaining and developing civilization, only two could be considered partly spiritual (i.e., the character of torchbearers and the racial ideals), whereas the remaining thirteen factors are entirely mindal or material [906–912]. Of the twelve corps of master seraphim who are responsible for fostering progressive growth and development on our planet Urantia, only one corps has a specifically spiritual mission (i.e., the religious guardians); the remaining eleven serve a wide range of other purposes [1254–1256].

For all these reasons, the path of idealistic service definitely includes the systematic efforts modeled on the work of the master seraphim that constitute the core of the Global Endeavor (<http://www.globalendeavor.net>), but this third path is broader and also encompasses many other aspects and activities, both now and in generations to come. As a Melchizedek proclaims:

*It is the business of religion to create, sustain, and inspire such a cosmic loyalty in the individual citizen as will direct him to the achievement of success in the advancement of all these difficult but desirable social services* [1089:8].

### Our Planet's Destiny

One of the authors of *The Urantia Book* tells us that God's love for the individual brings into being the divine family of all individuals, the universal brotherhood of the freewill children of the Paradise Father. Further, he states:

*Brotherhood constitutes a fact of relationship between every personality in universal existence. No person can escape the benefits or the penalties that may come as a result of relationship to other persons. The part profits or suffers in measure with the whole. The good effort of each man benefits all men; the error or evil of each man augments the tribulation of all men.* [138:5–6]

Even though the inhabitants of Urantia really are the Father's beloved children, from a very practical perspective we remain seriously disadvantaged by the collective tribulations that have beset humanity as a result of the Caligastia betrayal and Adamic default. On the other hand, the bestowal of our beloved Creator Son Christ Michael was an extraordinary honor and privilege and we know that the spirits of the Father, Son, and Conjoint Actor continue to pour forth God's love, mercy, and ministry.

In spiritual terms, the three paths described above embody overtones that symbolize the first triunity—the threefold union of love, mercy, and ministry—the purposive and personal association of the three eternal Paradise personalities

who sponsor the ascension plan [1147:6–1148:7]. For example, aspects of the path of philosophy evoke the unifying character of the Universal Father, who is the absolute of Absolutes and the original absolute source from whom all matter, mind, and spirit descend; aspects of the path of spiritual brotherhood evoke the Eternal Son's limitless mercy, magnetic spiritual attraction, and magnanimous bestowal plan whereby Sons of the Eternal Son portray and illuminate the Father's love; and, aspects of the path of idealistic service evoke the unceasing ministry to matter and mind that the Infinite Spirit sponsors, on the understanding that on the finite level, many forms of ministry are carried out by his local universe children.

As the sole planet in Nebadon where our beloved Creator Son Christ Michael has appeared (or will appear) as a mortal of the realm, Urantia seems likely to become a shrine to his seventh bestowal, as well as a memorial to the final steps that earned him supreme sovereignty and made him a Master Son. We the people of Urantia owe Michael our most earnest efforts to efface the lingering aftereffects of previous epochal failures on Urantia while we fulfill our planet's destiny. Although, together with our successors and heirs, we have a challenging, steep, and arduous climb before us, I believe that vigorous pursuit of the three paths I have described can make crucial contributions during the next few generations and centuries.

Neal Waldrop

March 28, 2009

Derwood, Maryland, U.S.A.

### NOTES

- A Life Carrier, 736:7 [65:5.4].
- A Melchizedek, 1136:4 [103:6.9].
- A Melchizedek, 1106:0 [101:2.1].
- A Divine Counselor, 43:3 [2:7.10].
- A Solitary Messenger, 1235:4 [112:5.22].
- A Melchizedek, 1010:4 [92:5.13].
- A Melchizedek, 1041:5 [94:12.7].
- The Midway Commission, 1862:7 [170:3.10].
- The Midway Commission, 2083:2 [195:9.6].
- A Mighty Messenger, pages 597–598 [52:6.3–7].
- An Archangel, pages 906–912 [81:6].
- The Chief of Seraphim, pages 1254–1256 [114:6].
- A Mighty Messenger, pages 595–597 [52:5].
- A Melchizedek, 1005:4 [92:3.2].
- Mantutia Melchizedek, 1330:1 [120:3.6].
- A Perfectioner of Wisdom, 160:1 [14:5.11].
- The Midway Commission, 1772:4 [160:1.3].
- The Midway Commission, 1796:4 [162:7.2].
- The Midway Commission, 1729:5 [155:5.10].
- A Melchizedek, 1089:8 [99:3.11].
- A Perfectioner of Wisdom, 138:5–6 [12:7.10–11].
- A Melchizedek, 1147:6–1148:7 [104:3.7–104:4.5]. ■

# Truth, Beauty, Goodness and You

Excerpted from Chapter 1 of the forthcoming book

*Truth, Beauty and Goodness in The Urantia Book* by:

RICHARD E. WARREN  
USA

*...Divinity is creature comprehensible as truth, beauty, and goodness.... [3:3]*

**I**MAGINE YOURSELF, FOR A MOMENT, ON Paradise where you are finally to be received by our Father into eternity, on the day you meet God. Father notes where you originated as you gaze into his face, awed and love-struck. You reflect on your long, long path to God on Paradise from Urantia. You see the ghosts of the scaffolding of tremendous learning and teaching behind you, and you look forward to service in eternity, tirelessly helping Father with many a grand and stupendous project. The moment of moments in your never-ending career is upon you; that Spirit finality you reached by living truth, doing good and creating beauty all the way Home has culminated in your graduation from time into eternity. Congratulations Agondonter!

If you want to know God, then understand this truth-beauty-goodness trio. The authors say this many ways, indeed there are over eighty paragraphs wherein these three words are associated in the revelation. If you truly want to know and be like God, then you will delve into his being, for God is living spiritual value—perfection personified. As you discover and integrate Father's truth, beauty, and goodness, you become these living values. They act in you and through you. Genuine value is the substance of the Spirit realm wherein bestowed personality and deity affection combine to create the grand, diverse, divine family of personalities—including you.

The whole revelation has over three thousand sentences with the words “truth,” “beauty,” “goodness,” or one of their relatives; two thirds of which concern truth. Why does truth have the greater role of the three in the text? How can time/space-bound humans best approach comprehension of this primeval three-fold concept that attempts to define God's original, infinite, eternal, and personal values?

Father God wants to give you the universe as a gift, wrapped in the finest cloth imaginable. It has living truth, boundless beauty, and eternal goodness at its center—that is, our Father and the Paradise home. You will get there, but first you have to pass a quick test on this tiny soul nursery whirling remotely in space. The test is to see if you have the potential to develop the sublime values required for the Paradise challenge.



Beauty of individual artistic expression photo.

The material universe is strewn with floating islands that revolve around stars, whereon people like you, God's children, are born, take up life, learn, and progress to the next worlds of schooling in spiritual reality. We all circle Paradise, and sooner or later, come to know Father's truth, beauty, and goodness in perfection and by decisions.

Please do not let the universe-as-a-gift metaphor mislead you, because it is going to be tough all the way to Paradise. It will demand your full measure in every manner imaginable and more—but you wouldn't have it any other way. If attaining absolute perfection and the Paradise Father were simple and easy, the challenge would not be appealing, glorious, admirable, value producing, or worthy of pursuit.

*...To finite man truth, beauty, and goodness embrace the full revelation of divinity reality.... [648:2]*

What a grand adventure you are on! You are born on this tiny blob of cooling star matter on the fringe of one inauspicious arm of a galaxy spinning through space with the rest of the well-nigh infinite stellar aggregations. Here you will begin a new path to God, one never tread before or since. All of this is done by living a life loyal to Father's grand scheme—one experience at a time.

God requires of us eventual perfection in truth, beauty, and goodness. Our loving Father allows ample time and provides innumerable wise teachers to help us learn and use each in perfection as our Paradise journey unfolds.

Some people think the journey home could take twenty billion Urantia years! Others speculate there is a time condensation as one approaches Paradise, therefore the time factor is incalculable. Whichever it is, fix your attitude now, put your sights on Paradise, your journey has begun once you choose it. One step, then another, then Paradise! Beyond Paradise lies an even grander scheme, in which you will also have a role. See where perfection leads?

To become perfect in all ways is much more than planet-born creatures can imagine at first, but it is attainable in time and through exertion of freewill choice in seeking divine leading. If you hold fast to the goal, maintain faith and trust in the Father of everything, your true needs will be met at each decision point.

The cosmos is one vast school where God's creative power and desire to bestow freewill manifests in YOU! The Father provides you a world to take origin, a life of learning replete with teachers, and a way to fulfill humanity's deepest desire of the ages—a way to escape permanent death and find a loving God's arms. Goodness and love are the guideposts around every obstacle for all surviving souls, truth is the lighthouse, and beauty ever inspires creativity of being and acting along the way.

You are one soul—one pilgrim wandering an infinite universe in the great quest for perfect love and divine understanding. You travel alongside trillions and trillions of siblings also seeking the center of all things and beings, where the great Father holds a place for everyone who succeeds in this quest.

The children that descend from Paradise are born divine. They pour out into space and time to greet you with truth, beauty, and goodness. They show the way to Father's house and teach you how to be perfect in his sight. You do this because to know and love God is to succumb to his all encompassing and ever-radiating affection, charm, good will, and divine light. Imagine what God must be to have created the universe of universes with goodness as its touchstone. In such a universe, a framework for personality is required. The three main pillars of this scaffolding are truth, goodness, and beauty.

***Ignorance and error are not wrong or disgraceful, so long as they are seen and used as stepping stones to perfection. Is the child embarrassed because he is young?***

On the myriad soul nurseries of all the galaxies swinging through black space, the inhabitants capable of reflection must surely ask of themselves and their co-inhabitants: What is this life and who created it? Revealed truth, both personal and epochal, shows the true light in the form of a personal God, a loving Father of all. Our God is a creator and provider of both the universal purpose, as well as a personal love which manifests as living truth, goodness, and beauty.

Every self-conscious creature wants to know the truth of Father God at some point, and some do succeed in this, even on a world like ours where the signposts have been rearranged and confused by disloyal ones. Real revelation says that to know God one has to know and be truth, goodness, and beauty. God is all three alive and in all their absolute glory.

God designed the universe with you in mind as co-creator; God needs your experience. The Father also delegates free will to its farthest reach when granting it to terrestrial creatures like you—but there are many upstream from you who enjoy the gift of free will too. All that is expected in return for your free will is that you, by faith, sometime choose to become a member of the never ending, ever expanding cosmic family of God, and that you assist in the most stupendous of all projects: building this innumerable family of the children of perfection across time and space, even to supreme, ultimate and absolute limits.

***...The sincere pursuit of goodness, beauty, and truth leads to God....*** [2078:3]

Truth, beauty, and goodness originate in one great and mysterious Being-over-all, the one called God—our Father. God gives and craves affection; our Father personally and touchingly loves even the very least of his God-knowing progeny—you. How great is a Father who gives this personal love to such seemingly insignificant souls as us, each and every one, and still operate the lathes of the heavens?!

Perfect love is the Father's universal attitude toward you, while beauty is the inevitable expression of both truth and goodness. Apparently, God's goodness is primal, omnipresent, and ever expanding in the lives of his trillions of children scattered across the universe expanse. Goodness germinates, takes root, and flowers in the wake of Father's good gardeners, like Jesus. God populates the universe with a personal love—and love is truth, goodness, and beauty actualized.

Benevolence and mercy are Father's nature and attitude in dealing with your ignorance and shortcomings. Ignorance and error are not wrong or disgraceful, so long as they are seen and used as stepping stones to perfection. Is the child embarrassed because he is young? The road to Paradise is paved with good intentions, until perfection of intentions and actions are attained at road's end.

What diverse expressions truth, beauty, and goodness must take in such a vast universe as we inhabit! Humankind is quickly shedding fear and awakening to the facts of science. At the same time, humans, more than ever, suspect the truth of the existence of a great God, for no creation such as yourself and the cosmos could come from a random and purposeless reality.

Your personal experience occurs on three levels: the physical, the intellectual/emotional, and the spiritual. All are derived from a personal God, a loving Father of all. At the center of all beings and things is the Spirit Person of God. God must be a person, for is the creator of personality not a person? Indeed, God is the First Person, but what is God like?

Society's accumulations of revelation, and its relentless scientific searching, are bringing global civilization together for a long needed debate on the existence of God and nature of Truth, with a capital T. Only inner religious experience can confirm the existence of God, therefore, among religionists, there can be but one debate. What is God's Truth? If God is absolute Truth, then all other truth is related to God. Father God is the standard of Truth in the universe of universes.

***...On any level of existence God cannot exceed the conceptual capacity of the beings who live on such a level. Mortal man must, through the recognition of truth, the appreciation of beauty, and the worship of goodness, evolve the recognition of a God of love and then progress through ascending deity levels to the comprehension of the Supreme. Deity, having been thus grasped as unified in power, can then be personalized in spirit to creature understanding and attainment....*** [641:4]

# What Will we Find in Outer Space?

BILL SADLER  
USA

*William Sadler, Jr., better known as Bill, was a gifted student of The Urantia Book who also had a talent for distilling its most complex teachings into conversational language. Some of his informal talks were recorded and this article was developed from a transcript of such a presentation to a study group sometime in 1958 or 1959. He also authored A Study of the Master Universe and its Appendices. The following text, as it was transcribed, may occasionally contain feedback from the audience. While it may not be exhaustive of its original content, some UB quotes or references to such have been added for deeper study purposes.*

**L**ET'S EXPLORE WHAT WE MAY FIND IN outer space.

How are they going to run it? In the first place, the grand universe is going to change. Some beings who are stationary may not remain stationary. We know about the orders of stationary citizens. For example, midwayers are called stationary citizens. You know, they don't count us as citizens. We don't live here long enough. But the midwayers live on Urantia a long time. But even they eventually move. Adamites are stationary citizens of Jerusalem. But after a long, long, time, they, too, move. A very few are commissioned as planetary Adams. Some serve as non-reproducing assistants to planetary Adams in the era of light and life. Some finally get permission to start the Paradise journey direct from Jerusalem.

There are natives of the Father's worlds. Havona has its natives. Paradise has two kinds of citizens: Those who are born there who lack planetary experience and Adjuster-fused ascenders. Their status is going to change at the end of the present universe age.

Creatures who trinitize—a creature trinitized son—and who experience spiritual bi-unification—what does that mean? Don't ask me. I merely quote the word. Their status may change at the end of the present universe age.

There are a billion Universal Censors in Havona, one on each world. They haven't had a doggone thing



Discovering the cosmos illustration

to do since they were created. They're there, probably, in anticipation of the needs of a future universe age.

Well, what happens out in outer space? First of all, we've got two Trinities acting and interacting. We've got the Paradise Trinity functioning in functional relationship to the First Experiential Trinity. Secondly, we've got the Supreme Being functioning as the sovereign of the grand universe and as a super all-mighty functioning in outer space.

I think the Seven Master Spirits will still be functioning. Whether they'll operate in connection with the seven superuniverses or not, I don't know. But I'm sure they'll be operative in outer space. Remember, these Master Spirits are not only Supreme, they're Ultimate expressions of Deity. There may be two or three types of Creator Sons in outer space. More about this later.

We'll be out there. And one of our jobs will be to compensate outerspacers for the fact that they can never experience evolutionary growth such as we have experienced.

I believe there will still be finite reality, because there's finite reality in Havona, but evolutionary, experiential growth will no longer be attainable. Absomite growth will begin. That's a rough inventory.

What will these outerspacers be like? Can you imagine two Havona natives speculating on what superuniverses are going to be like, before Grandfanda ever got there? They know about the superuniverses, but they've never seen an imperfect being. All they've seen was born in perfection. And I don't believe a Havona native could imagine an imperfect being. He had to meet one. Similarly, I don't believe that we can imagine the nature of an outer spacer.

Let's consider this whole question of Creator Sons and Creative Spirits. You might put down a couple of references. Page 235, paragraph 4 speaks of more than 700 thousand Creator Sons. Page 1299, paragraph 5 speaks of well-nigh a million Creator Sons. There's an equal number of Creative Spirits, aren't there?

Well, let's do some thinking. We know that there are exactly 700 thousand Unions of Days. One is created to function as the Trinity ambassador at the court of a Creator Son. We know that the plans of the Architects of the Master Universe provide for precisely 700 thousand local universes, because we're told that each local universe embraces 1/100 thousandth of the power charge of the superuniverse.

The exact number of inhabited worlds is a little indeterminate. But the number of local universes is not inexact. It is precise. But we've got more than 700 thousand Creator Sons. We've got well-nigh a million of them. And there's absolutely no indication that they're a fixed number.

*How big is the first outer space level? Well, it's just beginning to wind up now. They're pouring concrete out there. Haven't opened up the subdivision yet. Just laying sewers.*

I don't see that the Universal Father and the Eternal Son ever will stop conceiving identical thoughts, and every time they do, another Creator Son is born, and another Creative Spirit differentiates within the Infinite Spirit. So, there isn't enough room for all the Creator Sons in the seven superuniverses, is there?

And this means that when we go into outer space, there are two kinds of Creator Sons who are going into outer space: there are master Michaels, who have had the experience of functioning as creators in the present universe age, and there will be Creator Sons who will have their initial function as creators in the next universe age.

And there may be two kinds of these Creator Sons. Consider, type one: a Creator Son, now in existence, but who is destined not to be able to function as a creator in the present universe age. Type two: a Creator Son who is born in the next universe age, and who also functions in the next universe age.

So we can have three types of Creator Sons. Those who were born in the present age and who function as creators in the present age; Those who were born in the present age, who have personal memories of the present age, but who did not function as creators; and those who were both born and function as creators in the next universe age.

How big is the first outer space level? Well, it's just beginning to wind up now. They're pouring concrete out there. Haven't opened up the subdivision yet. Just laying sewers.

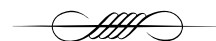
And already there are 70 thousand aggregations of matter—each one is bigger than a superuniverse. They're going to become tremendously bigger. If there are 70 thousand aggregations of matter, and 700 thousand Creator Sons, it suggests to me that each one of these aggregations will have assigned to it 10 Master Michaels.

I think of these Master Michaels as being senior to and supervisory of those Creator Sons who have never yet functioned. I can see the two levels of creator activity. All Michaels are the same in nature, as all Thought Adjusters are identical in divinity. But the Sovereign of Nebadon is something different from what he was when he came

out from Paradise. His nature has been augmented by experiential additions, right? It is in this respect that the pre-Supreme Michaels will forever differ from the post-Supreme Michaels. Whatever experience the post-Supreme Michaels have, it will not involve participation in the growth of the Supreme Being. We will have two different kinds of Michael Sons—not different in original divine nature, but quite different in acquired, experiential nature. Does this make sense?

If the Creator Son and Creative Spirit of Nebadon sometime trinitize an equal creator, this being will be expressive not only of their Paradise divinity, but also of their experiential growth, right?

These post-Supreme Creator Sons and Creative Spirits who never function as creators in the superuniverses may sometime also trinitize a being, but it will be a different kind of a being, won't it?



Let's follow a local universe Mother Spirit out into the first outer space level. She and her Creator consort have been commissioned to function as creators out there. Can she create seraphim?

*Audience:* I think so.

I don't.

*Audience:* Why not?

Because she's no longer working within the growing Supreme Being. Universe potentials have changed.

*Audience:* They contribute to the Supreme Being.

She is the same as the Creative Spirit of Nebadon. But what she's got to work with is different. I think she'll create ministering beings, but I don't think they'll be seraphim. I question that seraphim will be create-able after the present universe age.

You see how different it's going to be? We blindly assume, for example, that things which we see are universal, and they aren't, any more than air is universal. We know that if we go far enough off the surface of the earth, we run out of air. But we accept the Supreme Being as being a universal reality much as we accept the planetary atmosphere as being a universal environment.

The personalization of the Creative Spirit will be somewhat different out there than in here. She'll go out into outer space as a second stage spirit becoming a third stage spirit when she gets out there. But her achievement of personality must be something different from what it was in the present universe age. Her nature is the same; the environment is radically different; hence the experiential factor of growth will be radically different. I sometimes wondered if God the Sevenfold will remain God the Sevenfold. Or will God the Sevenfold articulate additional levels? Will God the Sevenfold become—let's just speculate boldly—God the Tenfold? Who knows?

How many levels of Creator Sons will there be? At least two, possibly three.

This seventh level of total Deity function is formidable, isn't it? Do you notice how this level sort of

starts real absolute and swings down and comes back real absolute? Can you think of anything that's parallel to that?

Let's take a look, just for comparison, at universal, non-spiritual, energy systems—physical energies. This thing starts out with something which they call *absoluta*, space potency. And then it evolves into something called *segregata*, primordial force. And then it evolves into something called *ultimata*, emergent energy. And then it evolves into something called *gravita*, or universe power. That's matter as we understand it. Then it begins to swing back towards something absolute, because in Havona, they speak of energy as *triata*. And up on upper Paradise, in connection with the transcendental peoples, there is a form of energy known as *tranosta*. And then, the energy of Paradise itself is known as *monota*, and it's pure energy.

And the only way you can tell the difference between *monota* and the spirit associated with Paradise Deity is to give it a different name. Paradise material energy and Paradise spiritual energy are indistinguishable except by name. Isn't that interesting? That's the same sort of swing that we're encountering here in the seven levels of total Deity function.

Of course you well know there's an eighth level that isn't listed here. That's the absolute level. Let's consider how big this master universe is.

I wanted to figure out how big the first outer space level was. I'm intrigued by the fact that they have ten times as many Architects as they do for the seven superuniverses. But if you take the number three in relation to the number seven, you don't get a true estimate of the difference between the size of Havona and the size of the seven superuniverses, do you?

I know that there are 70 aggregations of matter out there, but each one is already larger than the superuniverse. It's more than 70 times as big, isn't it? It's bigger, and more than 70 times bigger.

What do the papers give us that we can reason with? On page 360 they give us the radius of Orvonton. It's 250 thousand light years. That's not the absolute radius. It can be off somewhat. But it's the distance from Urantia to Uversa. And we're told that we're out on the edge of Orvonton. So I'm going to assume that we're at the edge, knowing full well that we're not quite. But close enough for this calculation. I'm going to assume that if it's 250 thousand years in from the outskirts of Orvonton to Uversa, it must be another 250 thousand years from Uversa in to the inner margin of Orvonton. What I'm seeking is the transverse diameter of a doughnut, where the hole is Havona. Do you follow me? So, I'm going to assume that the transverse diameter of the doughnut, which is the seven superuniverses, is a half a million light years. And for conceptual purposes, I want to give that a scale value of one inch. I can't think of a half million light years. Gee whiz, the distance between the earth and the sun is what—15 light minutes. These are years!

Visualize the doughnut. I got a doughnut that is an inch thick through the dough. The question is, I want

to know what is the diameter of the whole doughnut? I've got the transverse diameter of the dough, but how big is the hole? We have no information on this subject. So I raise this question: Can we ignore the hole, or not? I think we can, because I think Havona is very small as compared to a superuniverse. Let's reason now. Havona has got to have enough volume and space to contain one billion worlds. Forget the 21 satellites, and the dark islands. But the seven superuniverses have seven thousand billion inhabited worlds. There are seven thousand times as many inhabited worlds in the superuniverses as there are in Havona. And this completely ignores uninhabited spheres—suns, dark islands, architectural spheres.

Gee whiz, just for example—the number's worked out in here: "If all the projected local universes and their component parts were established, there would be slightly less than 500 billion architectural worlds in the seven superuniverses."

There are five hundred times as many architectural worlds in the superuniverses as there are in Havona. I'm referring to Jerusems, Edentias, Salvingtons, Uversas. Five hundred billion architectural worlds, just slightly less. In case you think these inhabited worlds are any criteria of how many space bodies there are, at the end of the paper on the seven superuniverses, on page 182, they make this statement: "The grand universe number of your world, Urantia, is 5,342,482,337,666. That is the registry number on Uversa and on Paradise, your number in the catalogue of the inhabited worlds" [182:7].

And I suspect they're registered in frequency, just as they are in Satania. We are 606 of the system of Satania, which means, 605 worlds developed human life before us. We were the 606th on which human beings evolved. That determined our number.

Now, that's a big number, isn't it? But listen to the next statement: "I know the physical-sphere registry number,"—in other words, they've got all physical space bodies registered, inhabited or uninhabited—"but it is of such an extraordinary size that it is of little practical significance to the mortal mind" [182:7].

It's an altogether bigger number. So when I reason here that the seven superuniverses, based on inhabited worlds, are seven thousand times as big as Havona, that is a major understatement. They're altogether much bigger, aren't they? And these worlds aren't moving at random. They're moving in the linear procession of seven circuits. It takes more room out here for the helter-skelter motions of Orvonton as compared with the regular, orderly motions in Havona. I have the belief that the central creation figures in at probably 1/100th of one per cent of the total volume of the grand universe. One one hundredth of one per cent. Or, the relationship of one penny to a hundred dollars. I think such a small percentage of such a large volume can be cheerfully ignored. I think the hole in the doughnut is so small that we can calculate without worrying about it. So, I'm going to assume that the diameter of the whole grand universe is twice the transverse diameter of Orvonton. ■



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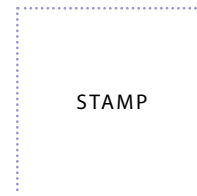
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