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Science: The Interface of Evolution and Revelation



By Joanne Strobel, Urantia Foundation, Georgia, United States

In November 2019, at the conclusion of Science Symposium II, co-organizer

Ralph Zehr passed the baton to biochemist and symposium contributor Marjorie Ray. Margie approached her challenge with vigor, and in May of 2021 the planning for Science Symposium III commenced.

Like its predecessors, this symposium would delve into the dual perspectives of current science and *The Urantia Book*, exploring ways in which evolution continues to approach and validate revelation.

An announcement went out that June, actively seeking presenters from the fields of anthropology, archaeology, biology, chemistry, cosmology, paleontology, philosophy, physics, planetology, and psychology.

As proposals rolled in, Margie convened a team of science-minded readers to serve as a selection committee.

Meanwhile, the Omicron variant and travel restrictions caused concerns about meeting in person. A decision was made to replace our usual venue of Urantia Foundation headquarters in Chicago with an online event.

Nine presenters were invited to join Margie, with seven months to complete their research. You can view each session on YouTube by clicking the links below.



A New Model of the Universe by George Park



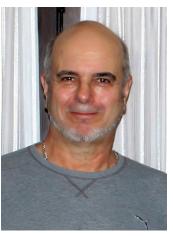
A Unifying Theory of Physical Interactions by Philippe Hatt



Explaining Large Doppler Redshifts Without a Big Bang by Philip G. Calabrese, PhD



The Fractal Nature of Urantia Book Concepts: Surprising Properties and Possibilities by Conrad Lavallée



Understanding Revealed
Cosmology through
Visualization by David Neufer
and Marjorie Ray



Understanding Revealed
Cosmology through
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and Marjorie Ray



<u>Dynamic Developments in</u> <u>Epigenetics by Ralph Zehr, MD</u>



Evolution and Revelation: The Question of Race by Gard Jameson, PhD



The Problem of "Natural Evil"
in Biological Evolution: How
the Revelation Solves a
Theological Predicament
by Byron Belitsos



Science and Thought Adjuster
Fusion by Jenny Martin, EdD

As Gard Jameson, trustee and Education Committee chair, observed, "In this day and age in which science has been questioned at the very highest levels of policy making and governance, these gatherings are more important than ever."

On June 17 and 18, the virtual Science Symposium III was enjoyed by presenters, discussants, and more than 250 audience members alike.

Philippe Hatt enthused, "It was amazing to participate in your symposium and to meet other religionists dealing with science issues. *The Urantia Book* includes scientific

revelations such as, *inter alia*, the existence of the ultimatons—the first manifestation of mass energy particles. So, it is up to us to discover the ultimaton. In this respect, the recent discovery of the Higgs boson giving their mass to the particles and especially to neutron, proton, and electron, is of utmost importance."

He added, "Just as the human body is made of biological cells, molecules, and finally neutrons, protons, and electrons, one can assume that the human brain, made of electronic matter, has a counterpart made of ultimatons nested in nether Paradise. These give mankind the possibility of accessing the superior world of morontia, the next step after matter. As Jenny Martin brilliantly discussed it, some scientific authors have already demonstrated that possibility."

Jenny Martin shared, "I have always loved and believed in the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. This appreciation has only grown through exploring the science behind concepts such as Thought Adjuster fusion."

Conrad Lavallée of Québec observed, "Apart from the fact that it was an absolute thrill to participate, I must emphasize the importance of these events. They open new vistas, enlarge our understanding of The Urantia Book, trigger unique and fascinating questions, and unveil new paths of exploration and journeys of priceless discoveries. I will continue my research, connecting dots with the multifaceted implications presented by the other panelists."

Paper 42, "Energy-Mind and Matter" was meaningful to David Neufer, who commented, "In Section 12, 'Pattern and Form-Mind Dominance,' we learn that creative mind reaches toward the 'discovery of hidden mysteries.' Mystery Monitors live our lives with us. The revelation holds a treasury of mysteries with clues to attract our creative minds. There is divine value in reflecting on how the universe operates and on the one who operates it."

Byron Belitsos summed up his experience by saying, "All the papers were edifying, but I think what was most important was the deep and timely discussion of race led by Gard. This sort of honest

inquiry and thorough scholarship is essential as we prepare for increasing exposure worldwide.

"Also essential in my view is that papers draw from existing scholarship. It seems almost urgent that we do the hard work of comparing the teachings of *The Urantia Book* with the work of scholars outside our community. I tried to do that in my paper, which

compared today's advances in evolutionary biology to the revelation's unique teaching on the evolution of life."

Most presentations were accompanied by a scientific research paper, all of which will be posted on the Foundation's website. In the meantime, you may peruse the cache of materials from past symposiums here.



UPDATES FROM THE APRIL 2022 TRUSTEE MEETING



By Judy Van Cleave, secretary, Urantia Foundation, Idaho, United States

Operations Overview

Books

- Urantia Book sales for Q1 are down 2%. Sales, including The Parables of Jesus and The Untold Story of Jesus, are up 1%.
- Downloads were 18,015 for Q1, down 26% from the high volume experienced during COVID-19.
- Books that were out of stock due to supply-chain issues finally arrived in the warehouse and are selling again.

- The new free Android app containing *The Urantia Book* in 20 languages launches soon.
- The Audio Enablement Project has begun. We anticipate launching audiobooks in 20 languages in early 2023.

Moving forward in Q2, the focus will be:

- Resolving the remaining issues on the Android app and promoting its launch in the Google Play Store.
- Streamlining our internet ad campaigns.
- Working to establish more distribution in Latin America—specifically Argentina and Ecuador. In addition, looking for possibilities in Africa and Asia.

Education

 Urantia Book Internet School (UBIS)—Georges Michelson-Dupont and Joanne Strobel explained some organizational changes at UBIS. The new trimester is beginning with increased enrollment and well-nigh full classes. German, Hungarian, and Polish courses will be offered in September 2022.

- Study Group Directory—the directory now contains over five hundred study groups.
 The directory gets updated annually, so you can expect that listings are accurate.
- Science Symposium III— Urantia Foundation's Education Committee sponsored another science symposium. Over 250 people attended via Zoom Events. Click here to view the recorded sessions.

Fundraising and Finances

• Donations—Q1 unrestricted donations were \$140,944, 164% above the budget of \$53,325, and up 190% from the same period in 2021. (2021 Q1 unrestricted was \$48,518.92.)

Q1 restricted donations were \$4,049, 35% below the budget of \$6,253, and down 16% from the same period in 2021. (2021 Q1 restricted was \$4,795.)

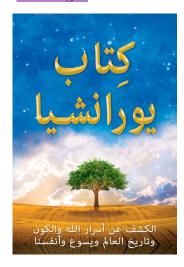
Q1 estate donations were \$26,122.

• Expenses—The big picture is that expenses were up 3% from 2021 but 15% below budget.

• Mustard Seed Grants
Program—The request
template for Mustard Seed
Grants is almost complete. We
expect the program to be
operational in Q3 or Q4 2022.
The Outreach Committee
members will be reviewing
grant applications according
to the guidelines developed
and make recommendations
to the Board of Trustees.

Translations and Revisions

- Continued progress was reported on the following translations and revisions: Chinese, Farsi, Greek, and Portuguese.
- The Arabic translation was published online at urantia.org/ar.



Standard Reference Text

The board passed a resolution accepting the four corrections recommended by the Standard Reference Text (SRT) Committee. To learn more about the SRT and its purpose, click here.

Cultural Advisory Council

Marcos Dalmolin gave a wellprepared and informative PowerPoint presentation on the history and culture of Brazil. He also detailed the many activities of the readership there.

Invited Guest—Sue Seccombe

Sue, president of the Urantia Book Fellowship, shared some of her personal history, her dreams for the Urantia community, and some of the activities currently taking place in the Fellowship organization.



THE CULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL WELCOMES BRAZIL



By Marcos Dalmolin, São Paulo, Brazil

It was an honor to be invited to join Urantia Foundation's Cultural Advisory Council, and I consider this position to be of great importance. I value learning more about Urantia Foundation and its projects so that I can share this information with readers here in Brazil. Many local readers are unaware of the scope of the Foundation's work, and that it goes far beyond printing books and publishing translations. Being in contact with other readers from different cultures adds a new perspective to our activities here. It is helpful to learn what they are doing in relation to the experience of the teachings and dissemination of The Urantia Book.

My presentation to the expanded board of trustees was given in April, in which I reviewed a myriad of cultural, economic, and religious issues relevant to the future of *The Urantia Book* and its teachings in Brazil. Following are some of the points I shared.

I represent Brazil, the largest country in all Latin America. It is the world's fifth-largest country by area, and its sixth most populous. Unlike the rest of South America, we speak and read Brazilian Portuguese.

Brazil is a multicultural and ethnically diverse nation, due

to over a century of mass immigration from around the world. About five million people from over 60 countries migrated to Brazil between 1808 and 1972. most of them from Portugal. Italy, Spain, Germany, Ukraine, Poland, Russia, China, Japan, Syria, and Lebanon.

Most of our population is

Roman Catholic. However, in the last 10 years Protestantism, particularly Pentecostalism and Evangelicalism, has spread throughout Brazil, while the proportion of Catholics has dropped significantly.

Recently, I was elected to the position of vice president of Urantia Association of Brazil (UAB). Over the past two years, UAB has been building an infrastructure to serve a growing community of readers. This includes a website, database, publications, communication channels, 409 YouTube presentations, WhatsApp groups, and the launch of Radio Urantia Brazil.

Urantia Foundation can help local groups of volunteers such as UAB by providing information, getting to know their cultures, and encouraging their work. I also believe the Foundation should encourage affiliates to have clear objectives.

I envision a united Urantia movement with strong leadership that can provide support and guidance for individual or collective efforts. And I would like to encourage all countries to share their best practices regarding the formation of study groups and dissemination of the revelation.



Christ the Redeemer, Sugarloaf Mountain, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

URANTIA BOOK INTERNET SCHOOL— STUDY GROUPS FOR NEW READERS



By Tim Duffy, Academic Director of UBIS, Illinois, United States

Since 1999, Urantia Book Internet School (UBIS) has offered free classes to readers of The Urantia Book who wish to study its content with the help and fellowship of other readers. The first UBIS courses were offered by email. The teacher-facilitator (TF) of the course would send out study questions, and students would answer back with their responses. In 2006 the school moved to a web-based platform. Now TFs could post reading assignments and study questions, students could log in and post their responses to discussion boards, and they could see and comment on one another's answers.

Over the past two years, video conference technology has moved from a high-end office amenity to a routine feature of daily life for work, social activities, and all forms of education. It has even become commonplace for delivering healthcare services-not to mention almost all forms of commerce. The use of platforms such as Zoom. Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, and countless others has become as common as (if not more common than) a telephone call.

For many readers of The Urantia Book, the COVID-19 pandemic and the rapid adoption of these new technologies have changed the way they read, study, and share their thoughts and questions about the book. The traditional once-a-week, inperson study group was forced to move online. And while we all missed the in-person fellowship that was no longer possible, there is no question that the "new normal" has made it easier for many to participate in study groups or other interactive events. Even with the easing of formal and informal restrictions on gathering, this is still the rule rather than the exception.

Although the written, asynchronous format of UBIS courses has not changed, many TFs have added Zoom sessions to their courses. The opportunity to meet others (virtually) and engage in realtime conversation has generated uniformly positive feedback. We therefore wanted to test offering something (a study group)? that took place fully on Zoom. We did not, however, want to simply move our study questions over to a real-time virtual classroom.

Our standard courses utilize an approach that requires study and reflection, so we landed on testing the interactive waters with a read-and-discuss study group. We also decided to create a study group for newer readers, who might be coming to UBIS more out of a desire to explore than a wish to study a text with which they were already familiar.

In January of this year, we enrolled 11 students from the United States, Canada, Germany, and South Africa in a study group entitled "The Universal Father." With one exception they were all new to UBIS. Over the course of eight weekly two-hour Zoom sessions, we read and discussed Papers 1 through 5 of *The Urantia Book*. As the facilitator of the group, I personally found hearing the thoughts and questions of these curious and thoughtful students to be an amazing and fulfilling experience.

As many of you very well know, the opening papers of *The Urantia Book* introduce us not only to God as a loving father, but the central truths of our universe and our existence—powerful and thrilling concepts that underlie the subsequent papers of the revelation. What a joy it was to see and share with these students the experience of reading and thoughtfully discussing this text for the first time.

It is a testament to the drawing power of the revelation of truth that only a single student dropped out. Of the remaining 10 students, 7 of them went on to enroll in a course in April.

The Urantia Book is unique among the epochal revelations that have been made to our planet. It is a text rather than a person (or persons). Thus we must read and interpret its words in our own minds in order to experience and know it. This can be a solitary endeavor, and indeed, we are told, it must be done by each individual as a part of his or her unique personal religious experience.

In reality, every human being defines religion in the terms of his own experiential interpretation of the divine impulses emanating from the God spirit that indwells him, and therefore must such an interpretation be

unique and wholly different from the religious philosophy of all other human beings. 103:1.1 (1129.8)

But we are also told that it is essential to share that personal experience with others.

> While your religion is a matter of personal experience, it is most important that you should be exposed to the knowledge of a vast number of other religious experiences (the diverse interpretations of other and diverse mortals) to the end that you may prevent your religious life from becoming egocentriccircumscribed, selfish, and unsocial. 103:1.3 (1130.2)

While this sharing of religious experience is what we have always hoped UBIS would foster, the format of study groups offers us an additional way to further this goal.

With the success of the school's first study group, we offered one in Spanish during the April trimester. There will be another one offered in English this September. If you are interested in participating, or even helping facilitate a future study group, please email Joanne at

joanne@urantia.org.



THREE WAYS TO HELP SPREAD THE URANTIA REVELATION



By Mo Siegel, president, Urantia Foundation, Colorado, United States

Good things can come in threes. Here are three outreach projects you can do to seed the revelation into the world. Accomplishing them is a team effort of individuals and organizations devoted to spreading the Urantia teachings. The goals are simple: place books in 2,000 alternative libraries, write 3,000 compelling Urantia Book ratings/reviews online, and form and sustain 1,000 active study groups.

Goal one: Place The Urantia Book and The Untold Story of Jesus into 2,000 alternative libraries

For years readers have placed Urantia Books in public libraries. While extensive placement opportunities remain there, equally fertile alternative library placements are readily available. The best example is the informal Little Free Libraries in front of thousands of people's homes. You simply put a free Urantia Book in the book stand. You might also place a little library outside your home. For more information, click here: littlefreelibrary.org

Thousands of hotels, cruise ships, bed-and-breakfast inns, youth hostels, coffee shops, restaurants, truck stops, hospitals, nursing homes, churches, and fraternity and sorority houses stock small libraries. The books you place in those libraries disappear into someone's possession. That's the point.

So next time you pass an alternative library, please leave a copy of *The Urantia Book* on the shelf. You place the books; the spirit helps give them away. To order *The Urantia Book*, click here: amzn.to/3zBpgF6.

For many, *The Untold Story of Jesus* is a gateway into the Urantia Revelation. It is an appetizer that can lead to the full meal. To order it for library placement, <u>click here.</u>

It's much better for Urantia Foundation if you order books for outreach from Amazon. Today, a copy of the English book in hardcover is only \$15.99, with free shipping if you're a Prime member. The Untold Story of Jesus is \$21.65.

Goal two: 3,000 compelling Urantia Book ratings on Amazon and Goodreads

Do you know how important ratings and reviews are on Amazon? It matters and is easy to do. Please rate and write a review of The Urantia Book on Amazon, Goodreads, and any online retailer selling the book. When we started asking you to rate the book on Amazon, there were only 210 ratings. Today, there are 1,785. Congratulations! Now, let's get to 3,000 by a year from now. If you've enjoyed reading The Untold Story of Jesus, please rate it too.



Little Free Library

Personal testimonials make a massive difference to people when choosing a book.
Compelling testimonies, book ratings, and reviews have the persuasive power to convince others to read the book that changed your life.

The higher the book ratings, the more credibility for new book buyers. Tell your story about how the teachings transformed your life. Your story might change someone else's.

- Click to leave a review on Amazon.
- <u>Click to leave a review on Goodreads.</u>

Goal three: Form and sustain 1,000 study groups

The first generation of Urantia Book readers believed that the most effective way of building a secure social and educational community was through the development of study groups. We know that over 500 worldwide study groups exist.

Attending study groups enhances your educational understanding of the complex parts of the book. Whether on Zoom or in person, they foster fraternization between international and local communities while providing opportunities for deep study, remembrance suppers, group prayer, and worship. For most, study groups stimulate lifelong



friendships, offer support for members, strengthen faith, and safeguard people from isolation and doubt. Every functioning study group is a pocket of revelatory light in the world.

Schedule a study group in your weekly routine. Your involvement is vital for those currently hosting or attending one. If you don't attend study

groups, please consider the value they offer you and your fellow believers. If there is no study group in your area, start one or attend a virtual one. To find study groups and study group information, visit:

- Study Group Directory
- <u>Urantia Association study</u> group resource guide

• The Fellowship guide to study groups

Please work with your fellow believers in accomplishing these three crucial tasks. We can do this!

> Just as certainly as men share their religious beliefs, they create a religious group of some sort which eventually

creates common goals.
Someday religionists will get together and actually effect co-operation on the basis of unity of ideals and purposes rather than attempting to do so on the basis of psychological opinions and theological beliefs. Goals rather than creeds should unify religionists.

99:5.7 (1091.6)

A Tribute to Dr. Marta Elders— Our Love of a Lady



Editor's Note: Marta Elders served on Urantia Foundation's Expanded Board of Trustees since 2008. In addition, she was an integral part of Urantia Book Internet School for 12 years. She graduated on May 7 of this year, and we all miss her! Please enjoy reading the following two accounts of how Marta impacted our lives.

By Judy Van Cleave, secretary, Urantia Foundation, Idaho, United States

Marta's first meeting as an associate trustee was at the Hotel Kyriad Roissy Villepinte near the Charles de Gaulle airport in April 2008—springtime in Paris. She had planned for April 2022 to be her final meeting and personal farewell, though when the time grew near, she grew too weak.

During her 14 years on the board (two terms as



Marta Elders

associate trustee, and the remainder as an emeritus)
Marta served on the
Education Committee, the
Planning Committee, and with
the Urantia Book Internet
School. Early on she prepared
and directed the board's
planning sessions.

In 2014 she held a stellar workshop on "The Soul" at 533. She co-facilitated a "Circle of Trust" retreat for the expanded board in 2016. She was a member of the team who planned and held the fabulous Global Cultural Symposium in April 2019 and

remained enthusiastically devoted to increasing the cultural awareness of our board.

Marta rarely, if ever, missed a board meeting, and brought her sage and soulful presence to everyone. Many were the times that her clarity of thought and wisdom cast our conversation into a new, illuminating light. Her insights were informed, seasoned, and loving—passionately devoted always to preserving the mission, vision, and values entrusted us by the revelators.

Marta touched deeply the lives



of her fellow board members throughout her years of service at Urantia Foundation, her value among us so clearly felt. I have always resisted being without her. She served with us until she left this world and she served well.

Marta was gracious and warm, the embodiment of easy, casual elegance and effortless beauty—that which is soul deep. Does that seem excessive? It's not meant to be; it simply describes the essence of our lady. And she was—she is—fun, so very much fun!

We shared years of laughter and wine tastings in the evenings with the ladies on the balconies at 533 after our long flights and long meetings—pinch-me giddy at the privilege of service and the coming together again and again for the joy of the lasting friendship it brings.

The fellas even joined us on occasion. Later we would slip into our beds and share softly into the night or wee hours of morning about our lives, our loves (mothers and grandmothers, we), our losses, and our work together and at home. It was magical, meaningful, in so many ways.

After our last 533 meeting in 2019, Marta rather suddenly lost David, her husband and lifelong companion. In 2015 when I lost Wayne—whom



Dave Elders

she'd met and won over soundly in Paris—she texted me daily with tender words of encouragement and timely insights. It amazed me then, her skill, her gift, of striking just the right chord at just the right moment.

By comparison, I had little skill or expertise to offer her. She seemed much better equipped at graciously, gracefully accepting the alteration of her world at losing David. When reality settled in, having intimate familiarity with the way of the widow, I found my experience to be of value and meaning to her. There is nothing, it seems, quite like shared experience for deepening our understanding.

My lasting lament is that I never made it to her enchanting Connecticut cottage, as I so longed to do, nor had the opportunity to give her the hug she was due. What a joy it would have been! One that must now await a roofless abode rendezvous.

At times I think of having commented once too often on the turquoise toiletry tote she would bring with her to the Foundation and place on our bathroom windowsill. When it was there, I knew she was, too. One day, a year or two past, I pulled a padded mailing bag out of my mailbox. I opened it to find Marta's tote with a love note inside.

In her own words in 2014, "My joy is soul work." No doubt, Marta, soul work is what brought you the angels' wings that spirited you inward and onward. Surely, you are the living testament of those words.

We shall miss you fiercely. There are, of late, many more loves with you now there: our loss, their gain. It brings great comfort and joy to think of you there, rendezvousing

among them.

By Judy Cosky, Urantia Book



Internet School, Michigan, United States

Wrote Marta, "Dearest Soul Travelers.

"I have no fear and feel only love and faith and being deeply held by the Father. I trust this beautiful, wise, challenging, and ever-loving opportunity we have been gifted with, and the sacred opportunity to join with the revelators in this sacred journey."

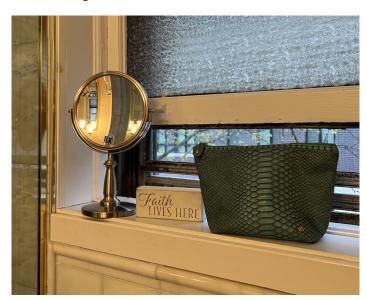
These were the last words written by our dear Marta Elders to the global board of

Urantia Book Internet School (UBIS), just a few days prior to her transitioning from her mortal body to her new morontia form on the glorious mansion worlds.

Marta served UBIS for 12 years with her husband Dave. She was appointed chair of the Curriculum Committee, where she helped develop constructive and vital modifications to the curriculum plan for the school. For many years she worked closely with Dave on the Course Review Committee helping to ensure the quality of the courses under development. When Dave made his transition to the mansion worlds in December 2019, Marta continued to faithfully serve in this capacity without skipping a

During the past two years Marta served as a valuable contributing member of UBIS as we expanded its educational outreach into new languages and countries. Marta truly epitomized the essence of the following declaration by a Mighty Messenger: "Service—more service, increased service, difficult service, adventurous service, and at last divine and perfect service—is the goal of time and the destination of space." 28:6.17 (316.4)

Marta has been a gracious,



Marta's turquoise toiletry tote

joyful, and engaging teacherfacilitator, and her courses were invariably filled to capacity. She had the rare gift of making each student feel cherished and valued, which was the way she lovingly and joyfully interacted with every person that she encountered.

Her courses were stimulating, transformative, and led her students into further soul growth.
Selections from the powerful courses that Marta taught over the years included, "The Soul—Offspring of Divine Spirit and Material Mind," "The Ordination Sermon: A Master Philosophy of Life,"

and "Mortal Mind—Genesis, Evolution, and Destiny."
Several of her courses have been translated for use in the Portuguese branch. Marta's last course, "Life After Life—What's Next?," was amazingly facilitated by her this past trimester while she was ill and undergoing final medical treatments.

Longtime colleague and UBIS Spanish branch director Olga Lopez shared the following words: "Marta is no longer with us, but she leaves an example and inspiration of life. I will always remember her balance, the way she tried to reconcile positions so that we all felt good with the

decisions made, how well she knew how to 'read' our inner selves. For me she is one of the most inspiring women I have ever met."

Georges Michelson-Dupont, UBIS trustee liaison, wrote the following tribute: "My relationship with Marta and Dave has always been one of brotherhood, spiritual unity, and a certain tenderness that makes me say that we are 'kindred spirits.' Marta is a woman of conviction and character who makes herself heard with tact and kindness. She wrote to me that she spent her last moments on Urantia in full awareness of the presence and spiritual

support of our Universal Father."

Though we grieve for the loss of our sister Marta, we also rejoice that her mighty soul has burst forth into eternity with all of her glorious gifts, talents, and spiritual butterfly beauty! What a supreme pleasure for her angelic pair and Thought Adjuster to now commune more directly with Marta's delightful soul. And such a comforting joy for Marta's friends and family to fully know that someday we will serve side by side together once again when we graduate to the morontia spheres, continuing to serve and eternally do the will of our Paradise Father!

WHAT THE URANTIA BOOK MEANS TO ME



By Jeannie Vázquez de Abreu, Uruguay

As a child, I would occasionally experience a brief sense of perceiving a reality that was beyond what I could see and hear. For a few seconds I perceived a reality so beautiful, peaceful, and happy that it seemed that a door to another world had opened.

As I continued to grow into adolescence and early youth, I went through a period of rebellion against the religion of my parents, which led me to feel anguish about life.

Everything was uphill for me, difficult, arduous. I began to

wonder if there was a God; if it was true that there was a soul and life after death.

Despite my pondering, I did nothing to actively search for the answers. But one day my roommate purchased a prayer book. Being an avid reader, I asked her to let me read it. The prayers in it were different from the prayers of my parents and their congregation—those prayers were repetitive, and without spontaneous personal expression of the yearnings of the soul.

The prayers in this book were focused on the needs and problems of daily life. They were like conversations with God, telling him about anguish and difficulties, and asking for help to improve the quality of life. It was the first time that the existence of such prayers had come to my attention. It had never occurred to me that this was possible. I began to pray some of them every morning on my way to work, and every night before bed. At first, my progress in achieving inner

peace was like riding a bicycle up a hill—slow, laborious, difficult. But little by little my life was changing, improving.

Motivated by my discovery of personal prayer, I began reading books about angels, Jesus, God, and various religions. None of them provided satisfactory and convincing answers to my questions. I also attended conferences on a variety of esoteric topics. Nothing gave me peace, nor inspired me with confidence and certainty about the truth I continued to seek.

And so it went, until one

afternoon, about 25 years ago, I opened a magazine that had been on a shelf in my living room for months. Within its pages was a short article on *The Urantia Book*, stating that this book contained the entire life of Jesus, including his "lost years." That was enough to make me want to read it! I ran to the nearest bookstore and bought it.

I had finally found the reliable and clear answers I needed! I immediately recognized it as a true divine revelation. Reading and studying *The Urantia Book* has been an increasingly satisfying experience, teaching me something new every day.



However, even though I was fascinated by what I read, and even though I believed it without a doubt, it was a slow process to understand its teachings, to find the answer to the question "What must I do to save my soul and grow in spirit?"

A very dear person, one who is now my life and service partner, helped me to understand the instructions for personal growth. Living the teachings of the revelation became a source of joy and peace. Maintaining worshipful fellowship with the Father has been a source of personal spiritual growth.

The teachings of *The Urantia Book* are uplifting and transformative when we live them wholeheartedly. The happiness of having found the answers to my questions cannot be compared to experiencing the profound

impact of the Father's love, which I felt a few years after meeting the revelation, the day I decided to consecrate my life to doing his will with all my heart.

My life had been complicated and difficult, full of ups and downs. I was striving to achieve what I believed should be my goals. But things just weren't going my way. I felt like a victim of life and circumstances. Then one day I realized that everything I was experiencing was the result of my own choices, and that I could change if I wanted to. So I did!

I decided to wipe the slate clean, move house, change relationships, start over.
When I finished concretizing the decisions I had made, I sat and prayed, saying to the Father: "My father, until today I have done my will.
From now on, I give you my



life to do your will and only your will."

In that instant I felt an invasion of love that filled my entire being with the most wonderful happiness I have ever experienced, and which continues to bless me to this day. Every day I live the wonderful experience of feeling the love of the Father within me. That love is the force that drives me to follow in the footsteps of Jesus with

all my heart, seeking to serve my brothers with the best I have to give.

Living the inner relationship with our Father is a wonderful experience that has brought me everything I longed for and more. And now all I want is to serve him and help others to find the greatest treasure we all carry inside, our Father who loves us infinitely.

May God bless you all!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

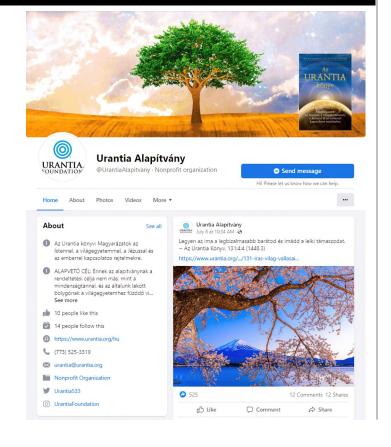
Hungarian Facebook Page

Urantia Foundation now has a Facebook page in Hungarian. Please visit and "Like" the page.

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Arabic Translation Now Available Online

We are excited to announce that the Arabic translation is now available online at <u>urantia.org/ar</u>.

Our Arabic team would love to hear feedback on this work.

Please help spread the word to any readers you know, encourage them to visit the site, and send feedback to tamara@urantia.org. Thank you!





Nothing of survival value is ever lost in all the wide universe. ~ *The Urantia Book*, 109:3:2 (1197.4)