

Foreword

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Urantia Book, celestial beings, deity levels, divinity essence, sevenfold path, universe reality, primal phases, paradise concept, personality energy, mental patterns, experiential deities, Supreme Being, God the Ultimate, cosmic mentors, spiritual growth

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah

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Sarah 00:00

What if, like, everything we thought we knew about God, about the universe, even reality itself, was just a little bit like off, you know, that's the question we're kind of diving into today with this. Forward to the Urantia Book, and you've brought this fascinating, and, let's be honest, pretty dense document to our attention and clear. Right off the bat, we're not dealing with your average spiritual text here. This is some next level stuff. We're talking about multiple levels of reality, different types of infinity, even a seven fold approach to deity. Yeah, buckle up, because we're about to unpack some seriously big ideas. Yeah,

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John 00:33

the Urantia Book, it really kind of jumps right in. It claims to be a direct revelation from celestial beings, and it really aims to clarify what it sees as humanity's misconceptions about God, about divinity and about our place in the grand scheme of things. Yeah,

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Sarah 00:48

it's like humanity got handed this cosmic correction note. And the forward to this book is like our guide to try and decipher the message. And it's interesting, you know,

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John 00:57

because this book itself, yeah, it's generated its fair share of controversy over the years with reactions ranging from, you know, complete skepticism to, like, devoted followership. And I think that's something important to keep in mind as we go through this deep dive and we explore some of its core concepts Absolutely.

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Sarah 01:17

And you know, we're not here to tell you what to believe. We're just here to break down the ideas as we find them. Yeah. But I think one of the first things that jumps out when you start reading the Urantia Book is this vocabulary. I mean, they use words like deity and divinity, which, it turns out, don't mean quite what you might think. So can you walk us through that a little bit? What's the difference between deity and divinity according to

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John 01:37

this book? Well, you know, think of it this way. Deity is the source. It's the ultimate ground of all existence, the boundless energy, the uncaused cause, like the ultimate reality, divinity, on the other hand, that's the quality, the essence, that kind of flows from deity. So if deity is like the ocean, then divinity is the water itself.

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Sarah 01:55

Okay, so deity is like the what, and divinity is like the how, exactly.

J

John 01:59

And here's where it gets even more interesting. The Urantia Book claims that deity functions on seven levels, from static to ultimate, each representing a different aspect of its expression, seven

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Sarah 02:10

levels. Whoa. That's a whole lot of deity to wrap our heads around. What does that even mean in a practical session? Well,

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John 02:15

it suggests that our human understanding of the Divine, it's inherently limited. Imagine, if you will, trying to describe a vast, multi dimensional landscape using only two dimensional drawings, you'd need multiple perspectives, different angles, to even begin to grasp its complexity. These seven levels are kind of like that, different facets of a reality too vast for us to fully comprehend. So

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Sarah 02:38

it's not that deity is changing. It's that our capacity to understand it is expanding precisely.



J John 02:43

And this actually ties into another really key concept in the Urantia Book, and that is the concept of God. Now, in the Urantia Book, God isn't like a singular entity, but rather a title used for personalizations of deity. Okay, hold

S Sarah 02:57

on personalization. So it's like deity is trying on different hats for different occasions,

J John 03:02

not quite hats, but think of it more as like different expressions or manifestations of that one underlying source, the Urantia Book, really emphasizes that because we as humans have finite minds, we need different ways to relate to the infinite so

S Sarah 03:17

these different gods are like points of access To help us connect with something far greater than ourselves,

J John 03:23

exactly each one representing a particular aspect or function of deity, making the infinite a little more approachable, a little more relatable to our limited human understanding. It's

S Sarah 03:33

kind of like that idea that you can't fully understand the ocean by just standing on the shore. You need to swim in it, feel its currents, explore its depths. These different expressions of God are like different ways to kind of dive into that vastness. That's

J John 03:45

a great analogy. And speaking of diving into vastness, the Urantia books concept of universe reality is where things get really wild,

S Sarah 03:53

yeah. And from what I've gathered, it's not just about planets and stars. We're talking about different levels or types of existence altogether, like there's stuff out there that's not quite God, not quite not God. What is that all about?



John 04:06

So the Urantia Book actually describes three primal phases of reality, undeified, deified



Sarah 04:15

and interassociated. Okay, break that down for me. What do those terms even mean? All right. So imagine



John 04:20

if you wear a potter working with clay. Okay? The undeified is like the raw material, the pure potential that exists before the potter shapes it is not inherently good or bad. It just so it's not anti God. It's pre God, exactly. Yeah, then you have the deified, which is the realm of God, the realm where that raw potential has been shaped and molded according to divine will and purpose. But here's where it gets really interesting, and associated intersociate. Now that sounds complicated, it is, and to be honest, the forward only gives us like a small glimpse. But imagine spaces where the deified and the undeified overlap, where there's this like dynamic interplay between pure potential and divine purpose.



Sarah 04:59

So there are. Are realms out there that are still being formed, where the creative process is ongoing, even for God,



John 05:06

that's one way to interpret it. And this notion of a dynamic and evolving reality extends even to the most fundamental aspects of existence, including the very concept of paradise. Okay,



Sarah 05:17

now, when I hear paradise, I usually think like pearly gates and fluffy clouds, but the Urantia Book has something very different in mind, right?



John 05:23

Absolutely. This isn't about a place you go to after you die. This is about the absolute center of reality, the anchor point from which everything else flows. The Urantia Book describes paradise as the source of all energy and gravity, the literal and metaphorical grounding point for all that is so instead

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Sarah 05:38

of harps and halos, we're talking about a more fundamental kind of paradise, the very foundation of existence itself, exactly.

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John 05:45

And this idea of a foundational source, a cosmic center, connects to another fascinating trio of concepts, personality, energy and pattern.

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Sarah 05:55

Okay, let's unpack those. What do those terms signify in the Urantia Book?

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John 05:59

So personality refers to the individualization of spirit, that unique spark of consciousness that makes you you. Energy encompasses all forms of power and activity, from the smallest atom to the largest galaxy. But it's the concept of pattern that really caught my eye. And I think it's

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Sarah 06:14

so interesting, because it's not just about physical patterns, right? The Urantia Book talks about mental patterns too. It's like our thoughts, are ideas. They have a kind of structure, like a blueprint that exists on a different level of reality. And

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John 06:25

here's where it gets really mind bending the forward suggests that these mental patterns, these blueprints of thought, might actually influence the universe around us, so

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Sarah 06:36

our very thoughts could be shaping reality. That's a pretty powerful idea,

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John 06:39

it is, and it opens up a whole new way of thinking about our role in the universe and the potential impact of our consciousness. But to really understand that impact, I think we need to explore another level of this cosmic hierarchy, those beings that the urantian book refers to as the Supreme Being and beyond.

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Sarah 06:57

Okay, so we're back, and if your brain isn't already doing like, backflips from our last segment. Get ready, because we're about to dive even deeper into this Urantia Book, cosmic ocean. You know, last time, we kind of left off with this idea of like mental patterns, those blueprints of thought, potentially like influencing the universe. But the forward doesn't stop there. It introduces us to like these beings of unimaginable power and scope entities that it calls experiential deities. Yeah. And,

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John 07:25

you know, this is one of the places where the Urantia Book, it really sets itself apart from, like, traditional religious texts, because it presents this view of divinity as not static or fixed, but as, like, evolving these experiential deities, they're not finished products. They're on a journey of growth and self discovery, just like, yeah,

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Sarah 07:41

it's a pretty radical concept, right? I mean, to think that even God in the Urantia books view, at least, is not done evolving. But where does this supreme being that we keep hearing about fit into all of this?

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John 07:55

So the Supreme Being is described as like the culmination of all the experiences and achievements of every creature in the grand universe. So imagine, like, every act of creativity, every moment of love, every struggle, every triumph, all kind of woven together into this single, incredibly complex and powerful being. So not

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Sarah 08:14

some like distant, aloof deity, but a being that's actually like intimately connected to the evolution of everything in the universe, exactly,

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John 08:21

and what's even What's even more kind of mind blowing is that the Urantia Book suggests that the Supreme Being isn't even the end of the line. There are even more ultimate beings beyond it, God the ultimate, and even God the absolute. Okay,

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Sarah 08:32

so now we're talking like cosmic heavyweights here. What are we to make of these beings such a absolute name? Well, think of it this

J John 08:40

way. Remember how we were talking about deity functioning on seven functioning on seven levels. It's like those levels continue to expand outward, encompassing greater and greater realities. So God the ultimate represents the unification of everything in the grand universe, all the galaxies, all the beings, all of their experiences like synthesize into a single, all encompassing entity

S Sarah 09:00

in God, the absolute. I mean, that sounds about as big as it gets. Yeah,

J John 09:03

even the forward is hesitant to put any kind of limitations on what God the absolute might represent. It suggests realms of existence that are so vast, yeah, and so complex that they're really beyond our comprehension, even for the beings who inhabit those realms, it's really pushing the boundaries, yeah, of what we can even imagine? Yeah, it's

S Sarah 09:21

definitely a lot to wrap your head around. But if I'm understanding this correctly, the Urantia Book is basically suggesting that reality itself is constantly evolving, and that even like the most fundamental aspects of existence, like God, are on this journey of growth and self discovery. That's a key

J John 09:38

takeaway, and it's not just like a passive evolution either. The Urantia Book suggests that we as individuals and as a collective have a role to play in this grand cosmic drama.

S Sarah 09:49

Which brings us to, I think, another really intriguing concept, from this forward, this idea of a seven fold path to deity, again, with the sevens, is this like some kind of cosmic staircase we're all climbing. You

J John 10:00

could see it that way, but it's not so much a straight line. It's more like a spiral, with each loop bringing us closer to a deeper understanding of the Divine. So

S Sarah 10:07

who are we encountering on the sevenfold path? Like, what kind of cosmic guides are there to help us navigate this incredible journey? Well, according

J John 10:15

to the rantia book, it's not just one cosmic guide, but like a whole hierarchy of beings who are invested in our spiritual development, so think of it like, almost like a support system for the soul that extends from, like our local corner of the universe all the way to those ultimate levels of reality that we were just talking about.

S Sarah 10:35

Okay, so that's actually kind of a comforting thought. Uh, so who are these, like cosmic mentors? Yeah, and what kind of support are we talking about here before we introduce this to

J John 10:43

this pretty fascinating cast of characters, it starts with the paradise creator suns. And each local universe, like our own Milky Way Galaxy, has a creator sun in itself, a being of like immense love and wisdom who oversees its evolution. So

S Sarah 10:57

kind of like a cosmic architect designing the grand plan for our little corner of existence, more like

J John 11:02

a cosmic gardener nurturing the growth and development of everything within their care. I like

S Sarah 11:07

that analogy a lot better. So who else is on the sevenfold path? Who do we meet as we keep climbing that cosmic spiral? So

J John 11:14

as we ascend, we encounter the ancients of days who oversee the super universes.

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Sarah 11:20

So even bigger picture thinkers, then right making sure that the cosmic machinery it was running smoothly on a much grander scale, exactly.

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John 11:27

And then there are the seven master spirits who are even more masterful. I guess you could say they're described as representing these distinct aspects of the infinite spirit's mind and influence, and they're like shaping the very fabric of reality.

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Sarah 11:45

Whoa. It's like we're glimpsing behind the curtain of creation itself, seeing the gears turning, the energy flowing this intelligence at work. But I have to say, this is a lot to take in. Is there a way to make sense of all of these different beings, these cosmic guides, in a way that like doesn't make my head spin,

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John 12:02

sure. So think about it this way. Imagine that you are learning a new skill, like, let's say, playing a musical instrument. At first, you might have like a local teacher who guides your early steps. But then as you progress, you might seek out like mentors with greater expertise, maybe even attending like a prestigious Music Academy. The Urantia Book, sevenfold path is kind of similar. It's not about a rigid hierarchy, but about recognizing that there are all these different levels of support and guidance available to us as we kind of grow and evolve spiritually.

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Sarah 12:32

So the further we journey inward, the more we open ourselves up to these higher levels of connection and understanding, precisely.

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John 12:39

And you know, the other important thing to remember is that this journey, it isn't a solitary one. We have these incredible beings, these cosmic mentors who are actively invested in our growth and evolution. They're not just watching from a distance. They're actively participating in the symphony of existence. And are we, in our own unique ways, are also a part of that grand orchestra. It's

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Sarah 13:01

definitely humbling and inspiring all at the same time, this idea that we're not just like these insignificant specs in this vast and indifferent universe, but we're actually like active

participants in this cosmic drama with beings of unimaginable power and compassion who are actually like rooting for our success. And that's

J John 13:19

the really beautiful thing about the Urantia books message, it's not that it offers like easy answers or simple dogma, but it presents this vision of reality. There's just like brimming with possibility, a universe where growth and evolution, they're not just possible, but they're actually woven into the fabric of existence itself. So

S Sarah 13:38

I guess as we kind of start to wrap up our deep dive here into this truly mind bending forward. What would you say is like the most important takeaway for our listeners? What's the one thing that you really hope they hold onto as they continue their own explorations? You

J John 13:53

know, if I had to pick just one thing, I think it would be this, be open to new possibilities. The Urantia Book offers this really unique and complex cosmology. And while it might not resonate with everyone, it challenges us to expand our thinking, to question our assumptions and to approach like the mysteries of existence with a sense of wonder and curiosity. And isn't

S Sarah 14:13

that what it's all about? Really this like insatiable human desire to understand our place in the grand scheme of things, to connect with something larger than ourselves, and to try to find meaning and purpose in a universe that can often seem so chaotic and indifferent Absolutely

J John 14:28

and you know, whether you find yourself like aligning with the Urantia Book specific teachings or not, this emphasis on personal spiritual growth, on the interconnectedness of all things And on, like, the ever evolving nature of reality, I think those are ideas worth wrestling with, ideas that have the power to transform the way we see ourselves and the world around us.

S Sarah 14:49

Well, Said, we've definitely covered a lot of ground today in our deep dive from the nature of deity to the concept of paradise, from the power of like, our own thoughts, yeah, to these cosmic beings, yeah. Who share this incredible journey with us. It's a lot to process, and I have a feeling we've only just scratched the surface. If you're anything like me, your mind is probably buzzing right now with all these new ideas and questions, and that, I think, is the true

gift of the wrench books forward. It invites us to keep exploring, to keep questioning and to keep expanding our understanding of what's possible. So until next time, keep those minds open and those imaginations Ignite.