

Part 3, Paper 105, Deity and Reality, Melchizedek

📅 Thu, Oct 03, 2024 8:49PM ⌚ 9:56

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

I Am, eternal potential, seven absolutes, Universal Father, eternal sun, Paradise, conjoint actor, deity absolute, unqualified absolute, universal absolute, finite reality, primary maximums, secondary maximums, cosmic evolution, cosmic quest

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah

J John 00:00
Ever get that feeling like when you're just about to grasp something massive, like your brain's doing gymnastics? Yeah,

S Sarah 00:05
I know that feeling. Well,

J John 00:06
that's what we're diving into today, talking reality infinity. You know, the origins of everything. And we're using the Urantia Book as our guide,

S Sarah 00:14
a book that definitely isn't afraid to ask the big questions, not

J John 00:17
at all. And lucky for us, you've offered to help us navigate some of its more, shall we say, intricate passages. We're specifically looking at excerpts from paper 105, deity in reality, huh? You ready to stretch those brain muscles?

S Sarah 00:31
Oh, help us for a cosmic workout. Let's do it. Perfect.

On, he's up for a cosmic workout. Let's do it. Perfect.

J John 00:33

All right, so right out of the gate, the Urantia Book throws this concept at us, and it's a big one. The I Am, and I don't mean I am like, Hey, I'm here drinking my coffee, but I am like, the source of all that is ever was and ever will be. It's

S Sarah 00:48

really trying to point us to something beyond our everyday understanding of existence, even beyond how we think about personal or impersonal, or something being static or dynamic. The I am in just is encompassing everything, every possibility. It's kind of

J John 01:03

like trying to explain awe to someone who's never seen a sunset. You know, we're struggling with putting this into words, because it's so far beyond our everyday experience. Yes,

S Sarah 01:12

exactly. Analogies are never perfect, but they can be helpful sometimes. Imagine, if you will, walking into a sculptor's studio before they've even started working. Okay, I'm picturing it. You've got your clay, your marble, all the tools, the potential for endless creations, right? But until that first chip of stone falls away, or that clay is molded, the potential is just there, unrealized. Okay, I think

J John 01:34

I'm starting to see where you're going with this. So the unformed clay, the untouched marble, that's kind of like the I am before anything exists. And it's not that things don't exist at that point, but more that the idea of existing hasn't even emerged yet, right?

S Sarah 01:48

And here's where it gets really wild. The Urantia Book describes this moment, this first volitional expression within the IMM.

J John 01:56

So hold on a second. You're not saying there was some kind of specific moment when the I am suddenly decided I think I'll exist now exactly.

- S** Sarah 02:03
Remember, we're in the realm of eternity here. Our linear understanding of time doesn't really apply, of
- J** John 02:10
course, because how can something eternal have a beginning? It would be like trying to find the edge of a circle exactly.
- S** Sarah 02:15
It's more about trying to conceptualize that very first impulse, the initial movement from perfect unity to the possibility of differentiation within the IMM.
- J** John 02:26
So even though our brains naturally want to put things in order first this, then that, when we're talking about the I Am, those rules go out the window. The im
- S** Sarah 02:35
just doesn't operate according to our human understanding of cause and effect, or before and after.
- J** John 02:41
This is definitely some seriously abstract stuff. But for listeners who might be thinking, Okay, but why should I care about this? I am concept. Why does any of this matter?
- S** Sarah 02:49
Because even if we can't fully grasp it, this idea pushes us to think outside of our own limited experience. It forces us to consider the ultimate source of everything, the wellspring of every single possibility, and that question has some really profound implications, even if the answer ultimately is beyond us. Okay,
- J** John 03:08
my brain is definitely feeling the burn in a good way, but we've only just scratched the surface. So we've got this infinite, this eternal I am, this mind boggling source of, well, everything, it's a lot to take in. It really is. But how do we get from that to well, everything else, stars, planets,

podcasts, you know, the works. That's

- S** Sarah 03:27
where things get even more interesting. The Urantia Book introduces us to the seven absolutes of infinity. Seven,
- J** John 03:33
okay, absolutes of infinity. I'm intrigued, but you're gonna have to elaborate on that. Think
- S** Sarah 03:37
of them like the fundamental aspects of reality, these eternal principles that the I am uses to express itself. Okay.
- J** John 03:44
So if the I Am is like this pure, completely unified potential, what are the absolutes? Imagine
- S** Sarah 03:50
them like lenses, each one a different way that that potential can become, well, real, and they're not really separate things, as much as they are facets of the I Am, eternally connected and always in perfect balance. Okay, I'm following
- J** John 04:03
so far. But who are these absolutes? Let's
- S** Sarah 04:06
start with the big one, the one the Urantia Book calls the first source and center. You probably know him better as God, the Universal Father.
- J** John 04:14
Okay, that one I've heard of. But what makes him an absolute? He's the only
- S** Sarah 04:19

absolute that actually is infinite. All the other absolutes come from him. They're expressions of His infinite nature. So everything else flows from him. You could say that, yes, he is the source from which all other sources spring. And

J

John 04:31

I'm guessing these other absolutes are a little less familiar. The next one

S

Sarah 04:35

is the second source and center, the eternal and original sun. If you think of the first source and center as ultimate creative power, the second is kind of like the blueprint for personality itself. So

J

John 04:47

like a cosmic father son, kind of dynamic, exactly. And what's a

S

Sarah 04:51

family without a home, right? That's where the third source and center comes in, Paradise. Paradise.

J

John 04:55

Okay? Now you're speaking my language, so we're talking Pearly Gates, sheets of gold. All That Jazz.

S

Sarah 05:01

Think less about the imagery and more about the concept. Paradise is the eternal Foundation, the anchor of reality. It's outside of time and space as we understand it. It's the pattern for everything material.

J

John 05:13

Wow, we're really getting to some heady stuff now. Yeah, we're not even at seven yet. Are

S

Sarah 05:17

we not even close? We've still got the conjoint actor, deity absolute, the unqualified absolute and the universal absolute. Okay, well

and the universal absolute. Okay, well,

J John 05:25

now you have to tell me more. Who are these other players in the cosmic drama? What do they do? Well, let's

S Sarah 05:30

start with the conjoint actor, because that's a fascinating one. Imagine, if you will, a cosmic Weaver bringing spirit and energy together to form the entire cosmos. He's like tailoring the universe exactly, taking the raw materials of existence, the spirit that comes from the father and the energy inherent in the sun, and weaving them into this incredible tapestry we call the cosmos. Wow.

J John 05:53

Okay, and what about the others? What roles do they play? Well,

S Sarah 05:57

those other absolutes are pretty mind blowing, too. But before we get totally lost in the vastness of the cosmos, I have to ask, where do we fit into all of this? I mean, humanity seems kind of well, insignificant next to infinite beings and cosmic weavers. That's

J John 06:11

a big question, and one the Urantia Book actually spends quite a bit of time on, because it turns out we're not just here by accident. Our existence, this whole experience of being finite in the universe that seems to go on forever. It was intentional,

S Sarah 06:25

a deliberate expression of the Infinites potential. So

J John 06:28

you're saying we're not just along for the ride. We have an actual purpose, according

S Sarah 06:31

to the book, yeah, we do. And it gets even more interesting. We were talking earlier about how

the first source and center is the only truly infinite absolute, right, right? Well, the Urantia Book describes two different kinds of finite reality that come from the I Am, two flavors of finite. Okay, I'm listening to the first type. Those are called primary maximums. They are inherently perfect, like the Central Universe of Havona, for example, it exists along with all its inhabitants in this state of total perfection, perfectly in sync with the I am

J John 07:02

pure, unadulterated perfection, right from the get go, or whatever counts as a beginning in eternity. What about type two? Are we in that category?

S Sarah 07:10

That's where we come in. We're what the book calls secondary maximums. And unlike those perfect Havona folks, we aren't born into that state of perfection. We're more like works in progress, you know, capable of reaching that perfection through growth and evolution.

J John 07:24

So we're on a journey, a cosmic quest for perfection. I like it, but it kind of makes you wonder, if everything comes from the I Am and The I Am is all about perfection, then how did imperfection even become a thing? Why aren't we all hanging out in Havona?

S Sarah 07:39

That's where the concept of time and our existence within it becomes really key. The Urantia Book suggests that imperfection comes from this kind of built-in delay in the evolutionary process. Built

J John 07:51

in delay like a cosmic lag time. Yeah,

S Sarah 07:53

think of it like baking a cake, right? You can't just throw a bunch of ingredients in a bowl and expect a perfectly decorated cake to just appear instantly. Takes time exactly. There's a natural progression. It takes time for those ingredients to combine, for the cake to rise, for the flavors to develop.

J John 08:09

So that time between the potential for the cake and actually having a delicious cake, that's

where things can go wrong, like maybe you accidentally put in salt instead of sugar, or forget to set the timer precisely.

S

Sarah 08:20

It's not that the potential for the perfect cake isn't there. It's that existing in time means there's gonna be this gap between where we start and that ultimate potential. And that gap, it creates the possibility for mistakes, for choices that take us further away from that ultimate harmony. So even our

J

John 08:38

imperfections, our mistakes and wrong turns, they all have a part to play in this whole cosmic evolution thing,

S

Sarah 08:44

absolutely. And this actually, is where those four other absolutes we didn't have time to talk about come into play.

J

John 08:48

Man, always next time, I guess we're gonna have to dive back in another day and really get into the weeds with those. Sounds like

S

Sarah 08:55

a plan. But for today, I think the main takeaway is this, if the Urantia Book is right? Then we're not just little specks in some meaningless universe, right? We're all vital parts of this unfolding story, a story that started with the IAM and that continues with every single choice we make, every single step we take on this journey toward perfection.

J

John 09:16

Wow, I'm gonna need a mint to process all of that. It's a lot, but it's also strangely hopeful, like I might not have all the answers, but at least I know I'm a part of something much, much bigger than myself.

S

Sarah 09:27

And that's the beauty of grappling with these big questions, isn't it? We may never fully grasp infinity, but just trying to understand it can change how we see everything



John 09:37

absolutely and on that note, a huge thank you to everyone listening for joining us on this deep dive into the Urantia Book. If you found this even a little bit interesting, I highly recommend checking out the book for yourselves. And as always, keep asking those big questions, keep searching for those aha moments, and keep exploring until next time.