

Part 1, Paper 11, The Eternal ... Paradise, Perfector of Wisdom

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Paradise concept, cosmic travel guide, tangible place, elliptical shape, upper paradise, peripheral paradise, spiritual navigation, cosmic neighborhoods, most holy sphere, concentric zones, spiritual attainment, material memories, cosmic scrapbook, eternal existence, cosmic scale

SPEAKERS

Sarah, John



John 00:00

All right, everybody. Welcome back. Ready for another deep dive. Today, we're tackling a topic that's both awe inspiring and a little mind bending, Paradise, according to the Urantia Book,



Sarah 00:10

definitely one of the most intriguing concepts in the book. Now,



John 00:13

when you hear the word paradise, what comes to mind? I think



Sarah 00:16

most people picture something pretty vague, right? Maybe fluffy clouds, angels playing harps. Hmm, usual, exactly.



John 00:23

But the urchy book takes a totally different approach. Forget vague metaphors. This book dives into the nitty gritty details of paradise. It's almost like a cosmic travel guide laying out the supposed dwelling place of God, the Universal Father. It's really remarkable



S Sarah 00:39
how specific it gets, right? And

J John 00:41
that's what we're here to explore. So first things first, yeah, what does the Urantia Book actually say about the nature of paradise? Well,

S Sarah 00:48
it gets right to the point saying paradise is a real, tangible place, not just a concept, not a feeling, a real place, a gigantic, organized body of cosmic reality. To quote it directly,

J John 01:01
wow. So it's saying that God's location on Paradise is as definite as any city on Earth, like London or New York, precisely,

S Sarah 01:07
which really challenges our typical understanding, doesn't it? We often think of God as being everywhere at once, right?

J John 01:13
Omnipresent. It's kind of ingrained in how we think about a supreme being. But here we have this idea of a specific, pinpointable location. It makes

S Sarah 01:21
you wonder about how that works, right? Like, if God has an address on Paradise, how does that line up with being present throughout the universe? Luckily, the book delves into a whole system of spiritual navigation, but that's probably a deep dive for another day. Absolutely.

J John 01:33
Okay, so tangible place, check we've got our cosmic coordinates, but what about its actual structure? What does this paradise look like?

S Sarah 01:40
Well, the Urantia Book even gives us details about its shape. Forget your first exposure, like the

well, the Urantia Book even gives us details about its shape. Forget perfect spheres, like the planets we see in our telescopes. Paradise, according to the book, is elliptical. Elliptical. Really? Yeah, a bit longer from north to south than it is from east to west. Now, that's

J John 01:56

not a shape you hear every day, especially not when describing celestial objects, elliptical any ideas. It

S Sarah 02:02

doesn't explicitly say, but, you know, it definitely sparked some curiosity. Makes you wonder about the forces that might have shaped Paradise and the universe around it, right? Absolutely.

J John 02:11

Okay, so we've got this massive elliptical Island floating in the vastness of space, but it's not just one big empty Island, is it

S Sarah 02:19

definitely not. The Urantia book divides paradise into three main areas. We've got upper paradise, peripheral paradise, okay,

J John 02:28

I'm already intrigued. It's like we're zooming in on a cosmic map. But hold on, you. Said three areas, right? What's the third one? Ah,

S Sarah 02:34

that would be another paradise. And trust me, it's as mysterious as it sounds. We'll get there, I promise. But first,

J John 02:41

let's start with what we do know, or at least what the book tries to explain. Upper paradise, what's it like? Imagine

S Sarah 02:48

a place of dazzling beauty filled with activity. Imagine distinct zones that are almost like cosmic

neighborhoods. Cosmic

J John 02:56

neighborhoods. So we're talking different areas for different kinds of beings. You got

S Sarah 02:59

it? Imagine paradise citizens. They're native to this central universe called havona. Then imagine designated areas for beings who've come from all the different universes out there, each with their own unique experiences, their own stories. Wow,

J John 03:13

that's a lot of residents. This paradise must be absolutely massive to accommodate everyone.

S Sarah 03:19

Oh, it is. And the Urantia Book isn't shy about emphasizing the sheer scale of it all. It gives these mind boggling figures for how many beings each section can hold, and it's nowhere near capacity like it really wants you to understand. This isn't just some little cosmic Village. This is a creation of truly mind blowing proportions. Makes you feel pretty small, doesn't it? It certainly puts things in perspective. Okay,

J John 03:44

so we've got these cosmic neighborhoods in Upper paradise. What else is going on there? Well,

S Sarah 03:48

at the very heart of upper paradise, we have the most holy sphere, and this area, it's described as being purely spiritual, purely spiritual meaning, meaning. It's beyond our current comprehension, a place of worship, of profound spiritual attainment. Even the book acknowledges that wrapping our human minds around a purely spiritual reality is pretty much impossible. That's

J John 04:10

fair enough. We're a little too attached to the physical down here, but hold on, doesn't the Urantia Book also say that even if you make it to Paradise, there's still a way to access memories of your material life.

S

Sarah 04:23

It does. It mentions these historic and prophetic exhibit areas where you can revisit memories of your journey through the universes, almost like a cosmic scrapbook, right? Wow,

J

John 04:32

that's a cool concept. It's like, even in this purely spiritual realm, your experiences as a material being still have significance, right?

S

Sarah 04:40

It's not about erasing your past, but integrating it into your eternal existence. Okay,

J

John 04:45

I love that. All right, so we've got the most holy sphere at the center. What else makes up upper paradise?

S

Sarah 04:49

So radiating outward from the Most Holy sphere are seven concentric zones, and these zones make up the holy area. Think of it like the cosmic suburbs of paradise. Okay? I'm picturing. Or something beyond even the immense Cosmos described in the Urantia Book. Food for thought, I'd say it is. That's

J

John 15:05

a question I'll be pondering for a while, and I bet our listeners will too. So there you have it, our deep dive into the Urantia book's vision of paradise, a place of unimaginable scale, unimaginable power and unimaginable possibility. It's a lot to process, but hey, that's what makes these explorations so fascinating, right until next time?