

Part 4, Paper 158, The Mount o...iguration, Midwayer Commission

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Mount Hermon, Lucifer rebellion, chosen disciples, cosmic battle, celestial beings, Father Melchizedek, divine validation, voice from cloud, spiritual growth, true faith, exorcism failure, spiritual lesson, self-importance, humility, compassion

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah

J John 00:00

Ready for a journey. Today, we're diving deep into the story of the Transfiguration, but through the lens of the Urantia Book, it offers some, well, really intriguing perspectives on this pivotal event in Jesus's life. Yeah, you're

S Sarah 00:13

right. It's definitely not just a rehash of the biblical account. We're going way beyond those familiar interpretations, uncovering like deeper layers of meaning here.

J John 00:21

I like that. And speaking of going deeper, the Urantia Book places the transfiguration on Mount Hermon, and that location is significant for a few reasons. What's the story there? It doesn't seem to be one of Jesus's usual spots.

S Sarah 00:35

So Mount Hermon is actually where a young Jesus, like really grappled with with the implications of the Lucifer rebellion. Imagine that even as a teenager, he's meditating on this cosmic upheaval, the fall of a celestial being. You know, it adds a whole new dimension to his understanding of like, good and evil, free will and the stakes of his own mission. Yeah. So

J John 00:57

— this mountain is almost like a touchstone for him, a place where he kind of confronts the larger cosmic drama Absolutely. And it's here that he chooses to reveal a glimpse of his true nature, but only to three disciples, Peter, James and John. Why these three? Specifically,

S Sarah 01:15

you might assume you know, maybe they were the most spiritually attuned or something, right? But the Urantia Book suggests something else entirely. Jesus often sought solitude with these three interesting they were his adventure buddies. Always up for a hike in a deep conversation. It's as if he knew that like no matter what they witnessed, they'd approach it with, you know, open hearts and a sense of adventure. So it's

J John 01:35

not just about their spiritual readiness, it's about their bond with Jesus, their willingness to just be present with him in these moments of awe and mystery. Yeah, and this particular moment has a connection to something we touched on earlier. That detail about a younger Jesus having a profound experience kind of related to the Lucifer rebellion. Can you tell us more about that?

S Sarah 01:55

Absolutely. The Urantia Book describes how, as a boy, Jesus would have these vivid dreams about historical battles, particularly on a hill near his home. And these weren't just, you know, random dreams. These were glimpses into the history of conflict and the struggle for power that has plagued our world. Now on Mount Hermon, he's revisiting those themes, but on a cosmic scale, preparing for a different kind of battle, one fought with, you know, love and truth. So

J John 02:21

we have this incredible build up. You know, the significance about Herman, the carefully chosen disciples, and Jesus revisiting these themes from his youth. It's like all roads are leading to this moment, right? And then we get to the transfiguration itself. Yeah, the Urantia Book doesn't shy away from the kind of more mystical elements of this story,

S Sarah 02:43

does it? No, it really doesn't. It acknowledges the experience recorded in the Bible, you know, the radiant light, the appearance of Moses and Elijah, but it offers a well, a fascinating interpretation what the disciples witness is really their human understanding of a spiritual event that's well far beyond their comprehension. You're

J John 03:01

saying they're trying to fit this like immense cosmic event into their existing framework of reality.

S

Sarah 03:06

Precisely, they see figures they interpret as Moses and Elijah, but the Urantia Book clarifies that these are actually celestial beings of even higher orders. Gabriel rymberg, messenger, okay, and Father Melchizedek,

J

John 03:19

okay. Now to fully grasp this. Can you tell us more about father Melchizedek? His presence here seems especially significant.

S

Sarah 03:27

Father Melchizedek is a well. He's a fascinating figure. He's introduced earlier in the uranti book as the one who established a monotheistic order of worship long before the time of Abraham. He represents the Universal Father, the source of all creation. Wow. So his presence at the Transfiguration is this powerful symbol of, you know, the divine acknowledging and supporting Jesus's mission. So

J

John 03:49

it's not just a like personal spiritual experience for Jesus. It's a cosmic validation of his purpose on earth,

S

Sarah 03:56

exactly. And this validation takes an even more well, intriguing turn when a voice speaks from the cloud. Right now, you know, we know things are getting serious when a voice blinks from the heavens, of course, yeah. But here's the fascinating part. It doesn't declare Job well done, Jesus or anything like that, yeah. Instead, the voice says, This is My beloved Son. Give heed to him. And this message is directed at both Jesus and the disciples.

J

John 04:20

Why do you think the Urantia Book emphasizes that the message is for everyone present, not just Jesus.

S

Sarah 04:27

It highlights that this event isn't just about, you know, affirming Jesus's path. It's a message for

anyone seeking to align themselves with, you know, with Divine Will, the disciples and by extension, all of us, are being told to listen to this message of love, to choose a path of spiritual growth and service. It's

J John 04:46

like this, like incredible cosmic event, is also a very personal invitation to each of us precisely. It makes you wonder, how would our lives be different if we truly internalize that message? Right? This is my beloved son. Give. Heed to him. What would it mean for us to give heed in our own lives, you know, in our own unique circumstances? Yeah, it's a powerful question. But as we know, the disciples journey like ours is rarely a straight line to enlightenment. Yeah, that's for sure. Coming down from this mountaintop experience, literally and figuratively, is, well, it's a shock to the system, wouldn't you say it really is coming down from a mountaintop, literally and figuratively. Is, you know, rarely easy. The Urantia Book paints a kind of vivid picture of the disciples struggle to like, reconcile this profound spiritual experience with, well, with the realities waiting for them back in the Valley.

S Sarah 05:39

It's like stepping out of a movie theater, you know, back into the blinding sunlight. Oh yeah. One minute, they're enveloped in celestial Light and Divine pronouncements, and the next, bam, they're faced with, you know, human suffering and their own limitations. And

J John 05:53

let's not forget, Jesus drops some, well, some pretty heavy hints about his you know, impending suffering and death, right? Not exactly the triumphant return they were expecting.

S Sarah 06:04

No, not at all. It's a stark reminder that following a spiritual path isn't you know about seeking comfort or worldly glory, Jesus is preparing them, however subtly, for a different kind of kingship, one rooted in service and sacrifice, which makes

J John 06:21

what happens next even more poignant. While Jesus, Peter, James and John are on Mount Hermon, the other disciples encounter a situation that truly tests their faith. Yeah,

S Sarah 06:29

imagine this. A desperate father pleads with them to heal his son, who's, you know, possessed by a spirit that causes him to have seizures, and the disciples, perhaps emboldened by their recent experiences, attempt an exorcism, they fail. Oh, wow, miserably. The Urantia Book

doesn't sugarcoat this. It really emphasizes their lack of, you know, genuine faith, their focus on outward displays of power rather than true spiritual connection.

J John 06:56

It's almost like heartbreaking. They've witnessed miracles. They felt the presence of the Divine, yet they fall short when faced with real world suffering. It's

S Sarah 07:05

a lesson. I think. You know, we can all relate to Can't We? How often do we proclaim our faith, our spiritual aspirations, only to falter when challenged to like? You know, put them into practice all the

J John 07:14

time. It feels like Yeah. So Jesus returns, finds his disciples defeated, humiliated. How does he respond? He

S Sarah 07:21

heals the boy, of course, but it's not like simply a display of power. He uses this moment to teach a profound lesson about the, you know, nature of true faith. He scolds them, not for their lack of obesity, but for their lack of, well, genuine belief. He

J John 07:34

even goes as far as to say, let him disregard himself. It's a like, powerful, even unsettling statement. What does that mean for us? You know, in a world obsessed with like self promotion and personal gain and all

S Sarah 07:45

that, it challenges us to, you know, to examine our motivations. Are we seeking spiritual growth, to feed our egos, to gain, you know, recognition or power, or are we willing to surrender our self importance, to embrace humility and service as the true path to spiritual enlightenment? It's

J John 08:01

a question that lingers long after the story ends. For sure, this deep dive into the transfiguration through the lens of the Urantia Book has been, well, enlightening. It's challenged us to look beyond familiar interpretations, to explore the deeper meaning

embedded in this pivotal event. I think that's what's so fascinating about the Urantia book's perspective on all of this,

S

Sarah 08:21

it definitely, you know, invites us to consider how we might give heed to the message of love and service embodied by Jesus in our own lives, you know, in our own unique journeys, to remember that true spiritual growth often requires us to let go of our Well, our self importance, to embrace a Faith that is rooted in humility and compassion, beautifully

J

John 08:42

said a powerful reminder for us all as we navigate our own paths until next time. Keep seeking, keep questioning, keep diving deeper. You.