

Part 4, Paper 177, Wednesday, ... Rest Day, Midwayer Commission

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Jesus's life, Urantia Book, Wednesday rest, Jerusalem camp, apostles' tension, John Mark, religious leaders, childhood comparison, loving home, parental wisdom, Judas's struggle, Last Supper, emotional contrast, leadership lesson, profound conversation

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah



John 00:00

All right, get ready, because today's deep dive is a special one. We're taking your request to heart and doing a deep dive into the life of Jesus. But trust me, we're going way beyond the usual



Sarah 00:10

we are, and honestly, that's one of the most fascinating aspects of the Urantia Book. It gives us these glimpses into moments that other historical accounts just kind of gloss over exactly



John 00:19

we're talking about the Wednesday before the crucifixion, a



Sarah 00:24

day full of, well, you wouldn't believe it if we didn't have the Urantia Book to tell us,



John 00:28

seriously, contrasts everywhere you look. So picture this. It's Wednesday, right? The traditional day of rest, Jesus and his apostles, they're camped out just outside Jerusalem. You'd think, okay, peaceful, right?

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Sarah 00:41

You'd think, but the Urantia Book paints this picture of it's not so much peaceful as it is, just strangely quiet, almost heavy, you know, like that feeling you get right before a storm breaks. And you can tell even Jesus, he picks up on this vibe.

J

John 00:57

And you know, he would, the Urantia Book talks about how perceptive he was. It even mentions how he encourages his apostles to think back on what they'd experienced since they got to Jerusalem, and to brace themselves for what's coming. He knows things were about to get intense,

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Sarah 01:13

which come on, talk about a leadership lesson right there. Yeah, even with everything weighing on him, he's still looking out for his people, you know, absolutely

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John 01:20

trying to get them ready. But here's where it gets really interesting. The Urantia Book tells us about this. Well, you could almost call it a turning point for one of the apostles, and it involves John Mark, the one who ends up writing one of the Gospels. Oh,

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Sarah 01:33

this is a good one. See, Wednesday for John Mark is a big day.

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John 01:37

Okay, now you've got to tell me more. What happens? Well, everybody

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Sarah 01:40

else is kind of wound up anxious, right? But John Mark, he's got this like youthful eagerness about him. I can almost picture it. He's not afraid to ask the tough questions he really wants to understand. And I think Jesus sees that, recognizes that genuine desire he

J

John 01:55

does. The Urantia Book mentions how they actually end up spending the whole day together, just the two of them. They even

S Sarah 02:02
head out for a walk in the hills. Apparently, John Mark was thoughtful enough to pack a lunch basket. That's

J John 02:07
such a great detail, it really brings it to life. But while they're off having this amazing one on one time back in Jerusalem, well, let's just say the mood is a little different. Understatement

S Sarah 02:17
of the century, the religious leaders, they're having a little meeting of their own, and it's

J John 02:22
not exactly to discuss their favorite parts of Jesus's teachings.

S Sarah 02:26
No, not exactly. They're feeling pretty threatened. To say the least. His message is shaking things up, and they are not happy about it, which,

J John 02:33
to be fair, has been the reaction of pretty much every established power structure to, well, just about anything that challenges it

S Sarah 02:42
since the beginning of time, right? History definitely has a way of repeating itself, doesn't it? So

J John 02:46
we've got Jesus and John Mark taking a walk talking about, well, life, right? And meanwhile, back in the city, things are about to get a whole lot more complicated. Yeah, talk

S Sarah 02:57
about a study in contrast, right? But you know what gets me about the Urantia Book is how it

gives us these little glimpses into their conversation. It's not just like, oh, and they chatted. We actually get some insight into what they talked about.



John 03:09

Okay, so spill it. What kind of things did they discuss on this walk? We'll



Sarah 03:14

get this. They were comparing childhoods. Hold on. I



John 03:16

need a minute to process this. Jesus and John Mark talking about what it was like to be a kid. That's not something you hear every day,



Sarah 03:24

right? And it's not just small talk, either. They get into some pretty deep stuff about family and upbringing, I



John 03:30

bet. I mean, those are some pretty fundamental aspects of who we are, right? What kind of things did they talk about?



Sarah 03:36

Well, they talk about the importance of having a loving home, which, you know, makes sense. But here's where it gets interesting. They also touch on how sometimes even parents love can be, well, maybe a little misguided.



John 03:49

Oh, I know that. One good intentions, but sometimes it doesn't quite work out the way we hope. But why bring that up with John Mark? Because



Sarah 03:56

check this out. The Urantia Book actually says that Jesus used John Mark's parents as a positive example. Really? What did he say? He actually points out how they were able to strike this balance between love and wisdom in how they raised John Mark, they didn't shower him with

material things or try to shield him from the world. You know, it's so



John 04:14

easy to want to protect your kids from everything, but sometimes that backfires Exactly.



Sarah 04:19

And Jesus actually suggests that this kind of upbringing, letting John Mark have his own experiences, you know, make his own choices, it was actually crucial to him developing a strong sense of self. You



John 04:31

know, it makes you think of that saying, Give a man a fish feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish feed him for a lifetime. It's like Jesus was advocating for that kind of empowerment, even in childhood. Yeah,



Sarah 04:41

that's a great comparison, and it goes even deeper than that. The uranti book suggests that Jesus wasn't just talking about individual growth. Here. He was implying that this kind of solid foundation at home where kids are nurtured but also empowered, it's actually the foundation for a better world. Wow.



John 04:58

Okay, so. That's powerful stuff. Makes you wonder if that message is more relevant than ever. No



Sarah 05:03

doubt about it. But while they're having this incredibly profound conversation back at camp, the other apostles are, well, they're not exactly radiating tranquility, more



John 05:14

like radiating Where did he go and what's gonna happen? Pretty much,



Sarah 05:17

they're restless, anxious. You can practically feel the tension mounting. And



John 05:22

then there's Judas. This is where his story takes that heartbreaking turn. It's



Sarah 05:27

a good reminder that even in a group as close as the apostles, there were still so many different paths, different struggles, absolutely



John 05:33

and it's so easy to just write Judas off, right? He slapped that label on him, the betrayer, end of story. But the Urantia Book, it doesn't let us off that easily, does it? Nope. It



Sarah 05:43

actually gives us much more nuanced picture of him. It talks about how he started out with good intentions, but then started feeling this growing resentment, like he wanted more recognition, more power. It's almost



John 05:54

like you can see those human flaws that we all have. You know, the ambition, the insecurity,



Sarah 06:01

exactly. And the Urantia Book even says that Judas was terrified of being associated with a movement he thought was doomed to fail, so



John 06:08

he starts looking out for himself, which unfortunately leads him straight to the high priests, you know, the ones who wanted to get rid of Jesus. Oh, yeah,



Sarah 06:15

the same ones. And this meeting, it wasn't just about the money. Like some people say, the Urantia Book makes it clear that Judas was driven by this like toxic cocktail of resentment and fear,

- J** John 06:26
wounded pride fear. It's amazing how those emotions can really cloud our judgment. It's a classic
- S** Sarah 06:31
tragedy, isn't it, the way that resentment and fear can lead us down a path we never thought we'd take.
- J** John 06:37
It's hard to even imagine, you know, being in that position betraying someone like that. So Judas is back at the camp, and you have to wonder what must be going through his mind. And then on the flip side, you've got Jesus coming back from this incredible day with John Mark. And
- S** Sarah 06:52
he knows, right? Jesus senses that something is off the second he gets back.
- J** John 06:56
Oh, absolutely. The Urantia Book talks about this almost palpable shift in the atmosphere,
- S** Sarah 07:01
like you could cut the tension with a knife. The apostles are on edge, anxious. And what's interesting is that Jesus, he doesn't shy away from it. He acknowledges it. Oh yeah. He acknowledges the elephant in the room. But then he does something totally unexpected. He's like, All right, everybody dinner time. He
- J** John 07:17
throws a dinner party in the middle of all this? Well,
- S** Sarah 07:21
not a party exactly, more like a, you know, a last supper. Wait,
- J** John 07:25
.....

this isn't the last supper. Is

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Sarah 07:26

it good? Catch, no. The Urantia Book makes a point of saying that this is a different meal. This is like a last supper before the Last Supper.

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John 07:33

Wow. That just adds another layer to everything, doesn't it? Like he's really trying to, I don't know, savor these last moments with them absolutely.

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Sarah 07:40

And the Urantia Book even describes Jesus as being almost, well, maybe a little too cheerful, like he's trying so hard to comfort them, you know, which, let's be honest, probably just made the whole thing even more unsettling for everyone. It's

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John 07:54

like when you try to hide something from someone you love because you don't want them to worry. It comes from a good place, but it doesn't always work out as planned Exactly.

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Sarah 08:01

And then as the evening winds down, Jesus, he just looks at them and he says, go to sleep, my brethren, just like

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John 08:09

that. Wow, knowing everything that was coming, right, it's such

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Sarah 08:13

a powerful reminder that even in the face of well, the unimaginable, there's still that capacity for love, for

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John 08:21

peace. It really makes you think, doesn't it? If you were John Mark sitting there knowing what we know now, what would you have asked Jesus that day? What wisdom would you have wanted to carry with you? It's



Sarah 08:30

a question worth pondering. And you know, maybe in that pondering, we find our own connection to something bigger than ourselves, something that helps us navigate those tough times.



John 08:40

This deep dive has been incredible. It really has. We set out to explore the life of Jesus and the Urantia Book. It gives us this perspective that's so different, so human.



Sarah 08:50

It's those little details, you know, the conversations, the emotions, that's what makes it so real, so relatable, even 1000s of years later, it



John 08:59

reminds us that these stories, they're not just about Jesus, they're about us, the challenges we face, the choices we make,



Sarah 09:06

and most importantly, that power of love and compassion. That's a message that never gets old. Does it do?