

Part 4, Paper 196, The Faith of Jesus, Midwayer Commission

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Jesus's faith, lived experience, spiritual growth, practical examples, prayer alignment, divine connection, personal transformation, inherent worth, universal truth, spiritual integration, human existence, unwavering faith, love extension, child of God, deep knowing

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah



John 00:00

Okay, so get ready to go deep, because you've sent over some seriously fascinating excerpts this time around from the Urantia Book paper, 196 to be exact, and we're diving straight into the heart of Jesus's faith. Yeah,



Sarah 00:14

this is exciting stuff. It



John 00:15

really is. We're going beyond just kind of the typical religious discussion and really trying to unpack how Jesus lived his faith. Yeah,



Sarah 00:23

you know how it is. It's easy to get caught up in the dogma, the rituals, all that. But what grabbed me about these particular excerpts is how they get into the nitty gritty of Jesus's experience.



John 00:33

It's true. It's like we're getting a glimpse behind the curtain. Exactly.

S

Sarah 00:36

It's not just about believing in something. It's about this, like lived reality. This concept of Jesus's faith in God as like a constant, not just something you turn to when times get tough,

J

John 00:47

oh yeah for sure. Imagine having that kind of certainty in your own life. That's what's so striking about this. It really makes you think. It really does, because it wasn't theoretical for him, The book describes it as a living experience of actual spirit attainment. This wasn't just blind faith. It was truly the core of who he was.

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Sarah 01:06

And that really challenges us to think about faith differently, for sure, like,

J

John 01:09

what if we thought about it less as something we either have or don't have, and more as an active relationship, something we're constantly working on? You know, absolutely, and that's a game changer, I think so. The text even talks about how Jesus went from this early reverence for God to this like profound understanding of his oneness with the Divine. It's a journey. It is, it is. And that's actually something that I think is super encouraging. We tend to put Jesus on this untouchable pedestal, but these texts really highlight the fact that he went through a process of seeking and questioning and ultimately finding that deeper connection with the divine, and that's something we can all relate to exactly. It makes his journey feel a lot more accessible. It

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Sarah 01:49

does, and it shows us that this kind of spiritual growth, it's possible for us too. It's not about becoming Jesus, but about recognizing that same spark of divinity within ourselves totally.

J

John 02:00

So how do we do that? Well, the book actually gives some really practical examples of how Jesus's faith played out in his daily life, like prayer, for example, it wasn't just something he felt obligated to do. It was a way for him to align himself with God's will, to tap into this source of strength and guidance. What do you make of that? It's

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Sarah 02:19

huge because we often see prayer as something we should do, you know, like a chore, but Jesus used it as this incredibly powerful tool for connection.



John 02:28

Yeah, it was like his direct line to the divine. It wasn't about reciting memorized verses. It was about a genuine back and forth.



Sarah 02:36

I love that. It's about aligning ourselves with something way bigger than our own understanding so



John 02:41

true, and that alignment allowed him to balance his spiritual life with his very human existence. It wasn't one or the other for him, right?



Sarah 02:48

Like he didn't retreat from the world. He was out there, fully engaged, but from this place of deep faith and unwavering purpose, which is really



John 02:55

inspiring, because honestly, life can get messy, but he didn't shy away from that. He just faced it head on. And what's interesting is that the text seems to draw a distinction between the religion of Jesus and then religion about Jesus. He talks about how after his death, there was this shift from personally experiencing God to worshipping Jesus Himself. It's like



Sarah 03:15

the book is asking us to look at our own beliefs. Are we caught up in dogma and rituals, or are we seeking a real, transformative connection with the Divine?



John 03:25

That's the million dollar question, because if we want to follow in his footsteps, it can't just be about believing in him as this like distant figure. It has to be about embodying his teachings, living them out in our lives. And that's a



Sarah 03:38

challenge, but it's a challenge worth taking on. Don't you think absolutely, yeah, it's a challenge, for sure, but it makes you think about what it really means to follow someone, to

challenge, for sure, but it makes you think about what it really means to follow someone, to follow Jesus,

J John 03:47

right? It's not about blindly following a set of rules. It's about embodying his

S Sarah 03:51

teachings. And the Urantia Book makes it super clear that Jesus wasn't about just kind of like, you know, laying down the law for social climbing or a worldly success. It explicitly says his mission was a religious one, and that religion is a deeply personal, individual experience. It's about that inner transformation, yeah, that connection with something bigger, and letting it radiate outwards. And

J John 04:13

one thing the Urantia Book really emphasizes is how Jesus always saw the inherent worth in every single person, he called them children of God, right? Like we're all in this together. We are, and that has the power to completely change how we view ourselves and everyone around us. Absolutely.

S Sarah 04:29

Imagine if we truly believe that about each other, about ourselves, that we all have this inherent worth, this divine spark. It's a

J John 04:36

game changer, and it kind of makes his message timeless, right? Because it's not about subscribing to a specific belief system, but tapping into this universal truth. We're all connected,

S Sarah 04:46

and we're all loved. We all have this potential,

J John 04:49

and that potential, according to the book, comes from nurturing our own connection with the divine, just like Jesus did. But how do we do that? Well,

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Sarah 04:58

it. Acknowledges that experiencing God can be, well, elusive, especially in the world we live in. Like, have you ever felt that disconnect? Oh,

J

John 05:07

absolutely. Especially when life gets chaotic, it's like, Where do I even begin? It's

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Sarah 05:11

where faith comes in, and the way it's described in this book, it's not just blind belief. It's more like a deep knowing, like a trust in the goodness of the universe, even when things are tough. Okay,

J

John 05:21

so it's about taking that leap of faith, but with your eyes wide open Exactly.

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Sarah 05:25

And that's what I find so fascinating about how faith is presented here. It emphasizes this idea of personal experience.

J

John 05:32

It's like that direct line of communication we were talking about earlier prayer, for example. It's

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Sarah 05:36

not about begging for favors, it's about aligning ourselves with something way bigger.

J

John 05:41

So instead of asking why me, it's more like, how can I serve what's my purpose?

S

Sarah 05:46

Right? And that's a powerful shift. It can turn those challenges into chances for growth, those fears into courage, and those doubts into unshakable faith. Unshakable faith, exactly, and it makes you think about how the text talks about how Jesus didn't see the material world as something to escape. You know, it's



John 06:03

like he understood that we're meant to be here now fully present the good and the bad, but to approach it all from this place of grounded spirituality. He wasn't about checking out. He was about elevating the whole human experience. And I think that's incredibly relevant today, especially with all the complexities we're facing. Yeah,



Sarah 06:21

it's about finding that sweet spot between the spiritual and the material.



John 06:26

You know? It's like integrating those two sides of ourselves, yeah, instead of seeing them as separate because they're not, they're both part of who we are, and



Sarah 06:32

that's how we create a life of meaning and purpose, not by running away from the world, but bringing that spirit of love, compassion and faith into absolutely everything we do. It really



John 06:43

makes you think about how we often compartmentalize our lives. Yeah, there's a spiritual side, and then there's everything else, but Jesus seemed to move through it all so effortlessly.



Sarah 06:53

That's what's so fascinating, right? It's like the text is showing us that those two sides, they're not separate. They're meant to be integrated. It's



John 06:59

like that saying What you resist persists. And Jesus didn't resist his human experience. He embraced it all the joy, the sorrow, doubt, faith. He was fully human and fully divine at the same time. And



Sarah 07:12

that's what makes this so relevant to us, because if he could do it, it opens up the possibility that we can too, not that we'd become divine beings, in some literal sense, but that by

nurturing that spark of the divine within us, that same potential is there,

J John 07:26

it's like we all have this whole other dimension to ourselves that we often ignore, the spiritual side that's just kind of waiting to be explored. And

S Sarah 07:34

it's not about becoming someone else. It's about becoming more fully ourselves.

J John 07:38

And the book does offer some guidance on how to do that. It talks about prayer, not as a laundry list of requests, but as a way to connect with that divine source, right,

S Sarah 07:46

that source of wisdom, guidance, strength. And it also talks about the power of love, not just romantic love, but a love that extends to everyone, a love

J John 07:55

that sees the inherent worth in every single person, just like Jesus did. And as we wrap up this deep dive, I guess the question I keep coming back to is this, what would my life look like if I truly lived that way, if I approached every interaction, every challenge, with that same kind of unwavering faith and love?

S Sarah 08:13

It's a question we're sitting with. And I think as you reflect on that, remember what we talked about today, about how Jesus saw the world, how he saw each person as a child of God, just imagine how that radical perspective could change everything. It's a

J John 08:25

lot to ponder. And on that note, we'd love to hear from you. Head over to our website and let us know what resonated with you today. What questions are you grappling with until next time? Keep searching. Keep questioning, keep diving deep.