

Part 3, Paper 67, The Planetary Rebellion, Melchizedek

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SPEAKERS

Sarah, John

S Sarah 00:00

Okay, so get ready, because today we're diving into a story from the Urantia Book. And let me tell you, it reads like a cosmic thriller. I mean, we're talking planetary rebellion, fallen angels, the whole shebang.

J John 00:14

Yeah, it's really a fascinating narrative, you know, one that gets at some much deeper truths about human nature, cosmic order, you know, and just what it means to make a choice, and what the consequences of those choices are right. And

S Sarah 00:27

for anyone who isn't familiar with the Urantia Book, it's this really expansive text. It lays out this whole cosmology and gives this incredibly detailed history of Earth, of Urantia, as they call it. And some of the events it describes are pretty mind blowing, to say the least. Yeah, for sure, like today, we're gonna be focusing on one of the most dramatic episodes in the whole book, the fall of caligastia. Okay, so for our listeners who are maybe just dipping their toes into Urantia for the first time, can you give us a little bit of background on this caligastia character? Who was he in this cosmic drama? So

J John 00:59

caligastia was the planetary Prince of Urantia. Now that's Earth for all of us. So basically, imagine a being with incredible knowledge, immense power, okay? And they're entrusted with this super important task of guiding humanity's evolution. So a pretty sweet gig, right? Yeah,

you could say that. What went wrong? Well, that's where things get really, really interesting. So you see, Caligastia wasn't just going about this cosmic endeavor all by himself, yeah, he had a whole staff advisors, and even this, like, direct connection to higher spiritual authorities. Okay, here's the thing, he also had free will.

S

Sarah 01:32

Ah, free will always the wild card in these cosmic stories, exactly,

J

John 01:36

right? And the Unity book really digs into that. It's like, within that free will, that's where the seeds of rebellion, that's where they started to grow.

S

Sarah 01:44

Okay, so we've got this planetary Prince tasked with guiding humanity, and he decides to go rogue. Is that what we're saying here?

J

John 01:52

Yeah, basically the Urantia Book describes how he ends up falling under the influence of Lucifer. Lucifer, of course, right? This being of great brilliance, as the book puts it, but he'd started this whole rebellion against the established order of the universe. Okay, so

S

Sarah 02:06

this isn't just like a minor disagreement, this is a full blown cosmic insurrection. We're talking about. Oh yeah, it's a big deal, and Earth's planetary Prince is siding with the rebels. What was he thinking?

J

John 02:18

I know, right. Yeah, that's the million dollar question, isn't it? I think it's something that's really intrigued people who've read the Urantia Book for decades. I mean, what would possess him to do something like this? The text itself does give us some clues like it suggests that he was really drawn in by the promises that Lucifer was making, promises of freedom and self determination. Ah,

S

Sarah 02:39

there it is, that word liberty. It always seems to be at the heart of these cosmic power struggles. Yeah,

J John 02:46

it's a loaded word, for sure, and in this story, it becomes super pivotal. But as we get further into it, we'll see how the kind of liberty that Lucifer is offering, it's not really about liberation at all. It's more about him wanting to take over, to replace the existing order with his own thing where he's calling the shots.

S Sarah 03:02

It's like that saying, right, one person's freedom fighter is another person's tyrant. So how does all of this actually play out on Earth? Does caligastia just like call a press conference and announce, Hey everybody, I'm in charge? Now,

J John 03:15

it wasn't quite like that, but he does make this really dramatic grab for power. The Urantia Book describes how he calls this big meeting. It's like all of Urantia is highest councils, you know, like the big decision makers are there, okay? And he just comes right out and says, I'm gonna rule everything now as absolute, sovereign and get this independent of the universe government.

S Sarah 03:38

Oh, wow. Talk about a hostile takeover. I

J John 03:42

know, right? It's intense. So

S Sarah 03:43

how did everyone react? I mean, what happens in this meeting? It's

J John 03:46

described as this moan of complete shock. I mean, imagine you're in that room, you're with this being that you revere, that you've trusted to guide your planet, and suddenly they're like, I'm a dictator. Now it's wild. Yeah,

S Sarah 03:59

I can only imagine the chaos that must have ensued after that kind of announcement. So did

anyone stand up to him? Did anyone challenge him?

J John 04:06

Yeah, there was this one really important figure who dared to confront him head on. His name was van, and he was the chairman of this Supreme Council that caligastia had basically just tried to

S Sarah 04:19

overthrow. Okay, so van is like the voice of reason in all of this. Exactly.

J John 04:22

He sees right through all the things caligastia is promising, and recognizes how dangerous it all is, that it'll just lead to tyranny. So he steps up, confronts him, and he appeals to caligastia's better nature reminds him about this really sacred duty he was given. Wow. And he even goes so far as to call upon higher authorities in the universe to intervene. Okay,

S Sarah 04:43

so there's a chance of outside help here, right?

J John 04:45

You would think so, but this is where things take a really, really wild turn, because remember, Urantia is in the middle of this whole rebellion thing, yeah. So because of that, they immediately put the planet under quarantine. Oh, wow. It's totally. Cut off from any communication with the rest of the universe. Imagine that feeling right, like the isolation, the crushing weight of knowing that nobody's coming to help.

S Sarah 05:07

Oh, man, that's intense. So they're completely on their own facing down this cosmic dictator, and there's no backup coming. What happens next? Well,

J John 05:15

with Urantia on lockdown and the battle lines draw, the planet plunges head first into this huge conflict. I mean, it's not just a battle over land or resources or anything like that. This is about the very soul of humanity, and everybody's forced to choose a side. Okay,

S

Sarah 05:29

so this is where things start to get really interesting. We're gonna take a quick break, but when we come back, we'll unpack everything that happens during this cosmic rebellion, and we'll hear the stories of those who resisted and fought back against the darkness don't go anywhere.

J

John 05:44

All right, so we're back, and things on Urantia are about to get really, really real. Like last we left off Earth was totally quarantined. Calligastia had made his move, declared himself the big guy, and Van was left there standing up to him. It's

S

Sarah 06:00

such a powerful moment in the story, you know, because it really gets at this whole idea that plays out throughout the Urantia Book about free will, like this interplay between free will and then, like, this divine order. It's almost like, yeah, there's this big cosmic plan, but beings still have the power to just, I don't know, go a different way, even if that way means going directly against the plan. Yeah, it's that double edged sword of free will, right? Incredible growth and progress are possible, but it also paves the way for some pretty epic disasters, totally.

J

John 06:30

And in Caligastia's case, that disaster, yeah, it unfolds across an entire planet, right? We're talking about an all out cosmic Civil War, totally, right? And it's not just humans caught in the crossfire. It's also all these celestial beings that are hanging out on earth at the time, Urantia is totally isolated and boom. It's this planet wide conflict that forces everyone to pick a side. Okay,

S

Sarah 06:49

so who are the major players on each side of this cosmic showdown?

J

John 06:54

Well, on one side, you've got Caligastia and his crew, all the ones who got swept up in his whole liberty and self determination campaign promises. Although it's interesting because the Urantia Book, it doesn't paint all of Caligastia's followers as straight up evil, you know, like some of them were genuinely buying what he was selling, thinking he actually had a better plan, a way to break free from all these rules they saw as holding them back.

S

Sarah 07:17

So it's not as black and white as we might think. not just good versus evil. not

J John 07:22

even close. It's way more complex than that. There are definitely shades of gray on both sides, and then on the other side, you've got van and the loyalists. So these are the beings who are staying true to that original plan for Urantia evolution. They get that real freedom, true liberty. It's not about just ditching all authority. It's about aligning with something bigger, a higher order, right, something that goes beyond just like personal ambition and ego.

S Sarah 07:47

Okay, so these loyalists, they weren't just sitting back hoping for a miracle, right? What were they doing to resist?

J John 07:53

Oh, no, they were definitely taking action. They were putting up a fight. The Urantia Book describes how van and his people set up the stronghold. They were guarding something called the tree of life. And get this, this wasn't just some metaphor or symbol. It was a real, tangible tree with some crazy life giving power. Wait,

S Sarah 08:11

hold on, a literal tree of life. What did it do?

J John 08:13

Well, the book suggests that this tree gave off this special kind of energy, almost like a life force that sustained van and the loyalist, not just physically, but spiritually too. During this whole chaotic time, it was almost as if it offered this like spiritual Sanctuary, a lifeline to something divine while everything else was falling apart.

S Sarah 08:31

Man, that's a powerful image, holding onto hope in the shadow of this cosmic tree while a full blown rebellion is raging around you. So where does humanity fit into all of this? I mean, we're talking about these incredibly powerful beings going head to head. What was it like for everyday humans on the ground?

J John 08:47

You know, for most people, it was a time of intense confusion and fear. Imagine seeing the beings you've always looked up to. the ones you believed in. suddenly turning against each

other. Your whole world is shaken to its core, but in the middle of all this craziness and uncertainty, there's this truly remarkable human being who emerges. His name was Amidon. Amidon,

S

Sarah 09:08

right, right. This name comes up a lot in the Urantia Book. Tell us about him. Who was he? Okay,

J

John 09:13

so, Amidon was a descendant of the andonite race, one of the first human lineages, and he wasn't a prophet or a king or some great warrior, just a regular person who found himself in this completely insane situation. But here's the thing about Amidon, he had this unshakable loyalty to van and to what was right.

S

Sarah 09:33

Okay, so what did this unwavering loyalty look like in the middle of a cosmic rebellion? What made him so special? See,

J

John 09:39

that's a thing unlike caligastia, with all of his cosmic knowledge and experience, Amidon was a pretty simple dude. He didn't have these big visions of the universe or this deep understanding of like celestial mechanics, but what he did have was something arguably way more powerful. He had this rock solid moral compass so everyone

S

Sarah 09:57

else is losing their minds in this cosmic power. Struggle, and Amidon is just like, Nope, I'm sticking with what I know is Right exactly.

J

John 10:03

He just cuts through all the noise and sees the truth of the situation. He recognizes how messed up caligastias promises are, and chooses to stick with Van even when it seemed like the whole universe was going to hell in a handbasket. Wow.

S

Sarah 10:15

And this choice, his choice to stay true, that becomes a big deal, doesn't it? Oh

J John 10:21

yeah. The Urantia Book describes how amidon's refusal to back down, his unwavering loyalty becomes this beacon of hope. And not just on Urantia, but throughout the universe. Here you have this ordinary human no special powers, no cosmic clout, just standing firm in his convictions even as everything is falling apart around him. It's a powerful testament to how much one being's choice can matter, how choosing to do what's right can have a ripple effect far beyond what we can even imagine.

S Sarah 10:47

That's an incredible story, and I can see why it's resonated with so many people, but we're only halfway through. What happened to Amidon? Did he and Van manage to turn the tide? What about caligastia and the rebellion? We'll have to take a quick break, but we'll be right back to dive into the thrilling conclusion of the Urantia rebellion. Stay with us, all right, so here we are, back on Urantia, and things are still very much up in the air. It's a full blown cosmic rebellion, right, orchestrated by a planetary Prince who's gone rogue. But in the midst of all this, you've got these beacons of hope, van and Amidon, showing us that even when things are out there darkest, you know, there's always that glimmer of light, and it can come from some pretty unexpected places, and that's

J John 11:27

such a crucial thing to remember as we get into this last part of the story, the uranti book, it doesn't sugarcoat things. It shows the really serious consequences of what caligastia did, but also never lets us forget about the strength of the human spirit, that power of choice that we all have, and that unwavering presence of something bigger than us, that cosmic order, right,

S Sarah 11:47

right? So how does this whole thing actually wrap up? Do van and Amidon find a way to, I don't know, overthrow caligastia, like is order restored to Urantia? Well,

J John 11:59

what the Urantia Book seems to say is that, when it comes to cosmic rebellion, like there's a point of no return, you know, once those decisions are made, once individuals have really thrown their lot in with either the rebellion or the divine plan, that's when the universe steps in.

S Sarah 12:12

So it's almost like the universe was waiting for the right moment, like that last domino to fall before making its move. That's an interesting



John 12:19

way to look at it, and it really shows how complex it all is. You know, this dance between free will and divine intervention. And for Urantia, that moment comes and the universe takes action like pretty swiftly. The Urantia Book describes how this high ranking being shows up for medentia. That's kind of like the galactic HQ for this area of space. And their whole purpose is to deal with this situation. It's like



Sarah 12:42

the cosmic cavalry finally arrives, right? I bet caligastia wasn't too thrilled to see



John 12:46

them, not even a little bit. And it's not just this one being either. The Urantia Book describes how they bring this group, these celestial beings called melchizedeks. Melchizedeks,



Sarah 12:56

right, right? They ring a bell. Can you give us a little refresher on who they are? So in



John 13:00

the Urantia Book, the melchizedeks, they're like this super evolved group of beings known for their wisdom, fairness, their authority. Basically, they often act as judges and mediators in these big cosmic disputes.



Sarah 13:12

So when the melchizedeks show up, you know it's serious, 100% go



John 13:16

messing around. And when they arrive on Urantia, they've got a very clear objective and the rebellion, restore order, hold everyone accountable for what went down. Okay, so



Sarah 13:25

what about caligastia and his crew? What happens to them? So with



J John 13:29

these higher ups there, caligastia and his posse, they get stripped of everything, their power, their authority, gone just like that. Imagine how humbling that must have been, right? Yeah, to go from this position of such influence to basically nothing, cut off from the source of their power.

S Sarah 13:44

It's a long way to fall from planetary prince to well, whatever they became. So what did become of them?

J John 13:50

They're basically stranded on Earth, cut off from that universal life force they were plugged into, and forced to deal with what they'd done. It's almost

S Sarah 13:56

like a fate worse than death, right? No power, no connection to the cosmos, forced to live out their days as what just regular beings. That's

J John 14:05

the thing. The Urantia Book actually suggests that these fallen celestial beings, desperate to survive in this new reality, they end up interbreeding with humans.

S Sarah 14:16

Whoa, okay, hold on. So some of those old myths about Gods coming down to earth, and, you know, mingling with mortals, the Urantia Book is saying there might be some truth to that. It's

J John 14:24

a fascinating connection, isn't it, and it gives us a whole new way to understand those stories. But while caligastia and his followers face this dramatic downfall, the loyalists, well, their story goes in a very different direction, right? What

S Sarah 14:38

about van and Amidon? How do things end for them,

J John 14:40
so the ones who stayed true, who held on to their faith and integrity throughout all the chaos, they're given this amazing opportunity, a chance to return to their rightful place in the universe. And you know what? They were celebrated for their courage, their stories became the stuff of legend, well

S Sarah 14:58
deserved, I'd say. After everything, they went through a little cosmic victory lap. Is definitely in order

J John 15:04
totally. But here's where it gets really interesting again, while most of the loyalists, they decided to head back to their home planets. Van the one who stood up to caligasia right from the start, he made a different choice. He decided to stay on Urantia. He stayed.

S Sarah 15:17
Why would he do that? After everything that happened? That's the thing about van

J John 15:21
the Urantia Book paints him as this incredibly compassionate and responsible being. He felt this deep, deep sense of obligation to Urantia, like he had to stay and help heal the planet, guide humanity through the long recovery from everything they'd been through. Wow,

S Sarah 15:36
he's like the cosmic version of a first responder staying behind after the disaster to help everyone rebuild.

J John 15:42
I love that analogy, and he wasn't alone. Amidon that ordinary human who'd become this symbol of unwavering loyalty, he decided to stay too right by vanside, and together, they devoted themselves to helping humanity through this period that the book calls The Long Dark Ages, following the rebellion, trying to protect the truth, rekindle that spiritual spark and help humanity find its way back to his true potential.

S Sarah 16:04
It's an incredible story, this legacy of service and dedication. It really makes you think about Cal

it's an incredible story, this legacy of service and dedication, it really makes you think about Cai augustia as a rebellion, you know, like, did it fundamentally change the course of human history? And this idea that sin has these cosmic ripple effects? What does that mean for us? These

J John 16:20

are the questions, right? The ones that have stayed with people who've read the Urantia Book for generations. Because even though it gives us this incredibly detailed account of this whole rebellion, it also leaves room for us to think, for ourselves to contemplate, to come to our own conclusions about what it all means for our lives today. Yeah,

S Sarah 16:37

and maybe the biggest takeaway is that even in the middle of all this cosmic drama, we're not just along for the ride. We have the power to choose to take a stand for what we believe in and to actually make a difference in the world around us, even if we never truly grasp the full impact of our actions. Beautifully

J John 16:54

said, and that really gets to the heart of this incredible story from the Urantia Book. You know, it's this reminder that no matter how chaotic and uncertain things get, no matter how big the challenges we face, the human spirit, with that power of choice and driven by a sense of higher purpose, it has this incredible ability to be resilient, to be compassionate, to hold on to hope. And

S Sarah 17:17

on that note, we come to the end of our deep dive into one of the most fascinating and thought provoking stories from the Urantia Book. But this is really just the beginning, right? We encourage you to explore the book for yourselves, delve into this amazing cosmology and discover its profound insights into what it means to be human in this vast cosmos. It's a

J John 17:37

journey, for sure, one that challenges us to rethink what we think we know, to see things from a wider perspective and to embrace the wonder of it all.

S Sarah 17:45

Thank you for joining us on this deep dive. We'll see you next time.