

Part 3, Paper 82, The Evolutio...of Marriage, Chief of Seraphim

📅 Thu, Oct 03, 2024 10:52AM ⌚ 8:38

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

marriage evolution, social technology, early humans, family units, survival focus, mores development, mating rules, marriage customs, adultery view, property theft, marriage race, sibling marriage, genetic understanding, dominant genes, societal picture

SPEAKERS

Sarah, John



John 00:00

Welcome back everyone to another deep dive where we like to dig into some fascinating stuff from some pretty unexpected sources. And you know, today we're tackling something that seems pretty universal marriage, right? But the excerpts you sent over from the Urantia Book paper 82 specifically really paint this like way more complex picture than I think any of us were expecting. Yeah, you



Sarah 00:20

know, what I found really interesting was how this source, it doesn't treat marriage as just like this romantic ideal or, you know, just some religious thing. It's like it's presenting it as this social technology that's been evolving right alongside humanity since, like, the beginning. Yeah.



John 00:35

It's like they come right out and say marriage is not inherent in biologic evolution. And you're just like, wait, what were they doing back then?



Sarah 00:42

Well, the book talks about how early humans were, you know, completely focused on survival, and that family units, those were vital for passing down knowledge and culture, like, even more so than religion or formal education back then, it's like



John 00:57

the original social safety net, but for info, right, passing down wisdom and like weaving techniques and how to like hunt Exactly.



Sarah 01:03

It's about preserving that knowledge and to manage this whole like continuing the species thing. Societies developed mores, which are these kind of like unwritten rules about what's okay and what's not. And when you're talking about something as potentially like disruptive as mating and having kids, those unwritten rules become even more important. So I guess,



John 01:21

like, those early marriage customs weren't about, you know, finding the one, or anything like we think of today. Yeah,



Sarah 01:27

the source really emphasizes how in those early societies that biological urge to reproduce, it wasn't always the all consuming thing. It became later on, it was handled differently. Okay,



John 01:38

so, like, let's get into it. What were they doing? The book mentions why stealing being a rite of passage. And then there's bride prices, where a woman's virginity was like a business transaction, and even trial marriages, but not the kind we think of, right?



Sarah 01:51

It's wild to think about those practices now, but the source argues that even something like adultery being seen as property theft not a moral failing that comes from wives being considered property, even jealousy itself. The book says it comes out of these evolving social norms, not just pure biology.



John 02:07

So we're way more shaped by like the people around us than we realize.



Sarah 02:11

That's what's so interesting. And this all ties into how society started making rules about who you could and couldn't marry.

J John 02:16

And that's where things get really interesting, right? Because then the book dives into marriage and race, and even points out that, like brother sister, marriages were totally accepted, even encouraged in some cultures, yeah, like

S Sarah 02:28

ancient Egypt, marrying within the royal family, even siblings was seen as a way to keep that bloodline pure, to make sure the rulers had the most like

J John 02:36

ideal offspring. That's definitely different from how we see things now,

S Sarah 02:40

it really shows how much what's considered acceptable has changed over time. It's less about those specific practices and more about realizing how much these ideas about, you know, desirable traits, shaped marriage throughout history. Makes

J John 02:55

you wonder how those ideas about the ideal offspring continued to shape things is marriage evolved. I'm guessing that's where we're headed next you got it.

S Sarah 03:03

Next time, we'll unpack how inbreeding and outbreeding, as they're discussed in the source, really molded those marriage practices. Okay,

J John 03:09

so we went from like, wife stealing to straight up sibling marriage. That's quite the journey through history, but it sounds like the Urantia Book is saying this wasn't just random chance or, like, weird cultural stuff driving these choices, right,

S Sarah 03:24

right? The source digs into this whole developing understanding of genetics. They even use the term dominant genes to talk about how some traits are more likely to show up when different

term dominant genes to talk about how some traits are more likely to show up when different groups mix. So we're

J John 03:35

getting into some early science here. How does the Urantia Book connect that to marriage? Though it's

S Sarah 03:39

kind of complicated, but basically they're suggesting that while mixing lineages could bring like, new and beneficial characteristics, there's also a potential downside, especially when what they call inferior strains get involved

J John 03:51

inferior strains. That's some pretty strong language, yeah. How should we understand that in the context of this source, you

S Sarah 03:57

have to remember the language reflects the scientific understanding of the time it was written right not about endorsing those terms today, but understanding their perspective. And what's interesting is that idea that not every individual, regardless of background, is on equal footing genetically speaking, which is definitely something you got to approach carefully. Absolutely,

J John 04:17

we're dealing with a source that blends these scientific concepts with spiritual ideas. It's a unique perspective that might clash with what people think, right? And

S Sarah 04:27

it all ties back into marriage. As our understanding of inheritance grew, it probably changed who people saw as a suitable match.

J John 04:34

So it wasn't just about like keeping a bloodline pure, like with royalty, but maybe a bigger idea of wanting the best traits to be passed down in general.

S Sarah 04:42

 Sarah 04:12

That's one way to look at it. The Urantia Book doesn't shy away from these trippy topics, which makes it a challenge, but also super rewarding. It makes us examine our ideas about love and relationships and how much of that is shaped by forces beyond just, you know, our own choices.

 John 04:57

It's a lot to process before we go. Go too far down the rabbit hole, though. I'm curious, how does the Urantia Book view modern relationships, especially with all the cultural shifts happening. Now, that's where

 Sarah 05:08

it gets really interesting. Remember how the source was all about marriage being this evolving institution. It sees that continuing today. So

 John 05:15

if ancient customs were about survival and managing lineage, what's driving the changes we see in marriage now,

 Sarah 05:22

the source seems to say that as societies get more complex, so do the needs that marriage fulfills. It's less about just having kids, and more about companionship, personal fulfillment, even navigating a world that's constantly changing. Yeah,

 John 05:33

we're talking technology, longer lifespans, totally different views on family, different world

 Sarah 05:40

now exactly, and that's why the Urantia books perspective is so interesting. It's like it's telling us to look beyond just the individual and see the bigger societal picture of how we approach marriage and family. Now, what worked for one generation might not work for the next, so we need to keep talking about it and adapting.

 John 05:56

That's a huge shift from where we started. It makes you rethink this whole idea of settling down, but before I have a meltdown, I think we need to hear more about what the source actually says about navigating love and relationships today. Like what evidence does it give

actually says about navigating love and relationships today, like what guidance does it give people listening right now? So we've covered a lot of ground here, from ancient marriage customs to genetics to how marriage is changing right now. But for those of us listening who are like, actually out there dating trying to make this whole relationship thing work, what does the Urantia Book actually have a say about it all? Any practical advice from this deep dive?

S

Sarah 06:30

You know, one of the big takeaways for me is this idea of responsibility, not just like individual responsibility, but seeing how our choices fit into the bigger picture of society. Okay,

J

John 06:40

that sounds kind of deep. You break that down a bit, it's like

S

Sarah 06:44

realizing that our decisions about love and relationships, they don't just affect us and our partners. It's about the kids we might have and even the kind of society we're building for the future. So

J

John 06:55

it's not just about finding someone who checks all the boxes, but also thinking about the world we're creating for the next generation, exactly,

S

Sarah 07:01

and that's where being aware of the bigger picture comes in. The Urantia Book seems to say that these decisions shouldn't be made in a vacuum. It's about societies creating support systems and a culture that values responsible family building

J

John 07:15

so instead of leaving things up to chance, it's about being intentional and making sure people have the support they need to make those choices, right?

S

Sarah 07:22

I mean, think about it. We have systems for education, healthcare, even like traffic flow. Why not something as important as building strong families, which ultimately are the foundation of a healthy society?

J John 07:33

It's a really interesting point. It challenges that whole marriage is a personal choice thing, and suggests we need a more like community minded approach, yeah. And

S Sarah 07:42

while the Urantia Book has its own take on how that might look, the bigger idea is just having these conversations. The future of marriage, maybe even humanity itself, depends on us being willing to talk about this stuff openly and honestly.

J John 07:55

Well said, Yeah. As we wrap up this deep dive into the Urantia Book in marriage, it's clear this isn't a topic with easy answers. It's complex, always changing, and so intertwined with who we are, both as individuals and as a society.

S Sarah 08:09

It definitely makes you question everything you thought you knew about marriage, right? This idea that it's always been about more than just a ceremony or a piece of paper, it reflects our values, how we see the world and what we hope for the future, perfectly

J John 08:19

put and on that note, we'll leave you with this. What role do you want marriage to play in your life and in the world around you? It's a question we're thinking about as we navigate this ever changing world of love relationships and finding connection. Thanks for joining us on this deep dive until next time. Keep those minds curious.