

Part 3, Paper 89, Sin, Sacrifi...nement, Brilliant Evening Star

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

sin and sacrifice, ancient practices, Urantia Book, early humans, taboo rules, spirit appeasement, survival tactics, debt sacrifices, covenant agreements, personal prayer, symbolic sacrifices, divine loyalty, forgiveness concept, spiritual evolution, big questions

SPEAKERS

John, Sarah

J John 00:00
Ever feel like this whole sin thing is a little outdated, you know, like fire and brimstone sermons. We're gonna try to tackle that today. We're diving into sin and sacrifice and atonement. It's a long history, and, trust me, way more interesting than Sunday school. Yeah,

S Sarah 00:15
what we're gonna be looking at is how these ancient practices, some would probably freak people out today were important in making civilization well civilized, right?

J John 00:24
We're looking at paper 89 of the Urantia Book. It's got a lot to say about how early humans went from just trying to survive to this whole system of sin and trying to make things right. Yeah.

S Sarah 00:33
Think about it. Back then, danger was everywhere, you know, storms, wild animals. Who knows what else? Death was just part of life. That's where this idea of taboo comes in. Okay?

J John 00:43
Taboo like off limits, yeah, not some divine rulebook, right? Right? Early

S Sarah 00:47

humans, they noticed if they did certain things, bad stuff seemed to happen. But it wasn't about morality. It was about like, not making the spirits mad, staying on their good side.

J John 00:58

So less about right and wrong, more about like safe or sorry, exactly,

S Sarah 01:02

survival, plain and simple, follow the rules. Spirits are happy. You see the sunrise. It was a big deal. And

J John 01:08

here's where it gets interesting, the Urantia Book. It says these early taboos all about fear and superstition. They actually led to the idea of sin.

S Sarah 01:17

Think about it, death. It was a total mystery back then. But once you have these taboos, these rules that could make the spirits angry, suddenly you've got an explanation for why bad stuff happens. You broke the rules and bam, disease, disaster, blaming the spirits, high stakes for sure. And then these stories pop up, like the Garden of Eden. The Urantia Book says it was one of many, all about a lost Golden Age, yeah, the good old days, right? And those stories passed down. They made this idea solid. Humans messed up, broken agreement, and now we're paying for it.

J John 01:48

Okay? So we've got early humans scared, trying to figure things out. They create taboos, right? Don't make the spirits mad, then that turns into sin, right and wrong actions and consequences. But how do they go from avoiding bad luck to thinking they can fix things, enter sacrifices. And

S Sarah 02:04

let me tell you, that's where things get intense. So we left off with early humans in a pretty sticky situation trying to make things right. Yeah, those

J John 02:11

rituals. Glad I missed those. But how'd they get from dodging bad luck to thinking they could, I don't know, fix things with sacrifices.

S

Sarah 02:19

It's interesting. Actually, it shows how much humans need to understand things you know, cause and effect. Gotta find a solution, even when they're scared. The Urantia Book, it says those first sacrifices, they were all about keeping those spirits happy, like get some control back in a world gone haywire, here you go. Spirits take this. Maybe lay off a bed, exactly, and it wasn't random either. It gets pretty organized. The Urantia Book talks about different offerings, different purposes. You got gift sacrifices, basically saying, Thanks, good harvest, that kind of thing, like

J

John 02:52

a cosmic thank you card, yeah. But then there's the other kind, right, when you messed up debt sacrifices, right,

S

Sarah 02:56

you did something wrong. Got to make it right. And this is where things get really big, substitution instead of sacrificing, say, your firstborn, maybe offer an animal, still a big deal, but you get the

J

John 03:07

idea, wow, what a choice, though, can't even imagine. And

S

Sarah 03:11

that's why the Urantia Book makes a big deal about Moses 10 Commandments, sure, but he also really pushed back against human sacrifice, right?

J

John 03:18

Thou shalt not kill, yeah, kind of important. But how do you change everyone's minds? Like that? I mean, it'd been going on forever, yeah?

S

Sarah 03:26

Not easy. The Urantia Book says Moses, he went for a different relationship with the divine, not just making them happy, but covenants. Agreements.

J John 03:36
Okay, hold on, appease the gods. I get it. Covenants explain that.

S Sarah 03:40
It's a change in thinking. Appeasement is fear. Don't make a mad a covenant. That's two way we do this. You do that. So

J John 03:46
less begging, more like a deal Exactly.

S Sarah 03:49
It's like human society growing up, you know, contracts, agreements and that way of thinking. It even affected how they prayed. Wait,

J John 03:57
are you saying prayer like personal prayer that was bargaining too. Sort

S Sarah 04:00
of those early prayers. They weren't just thanks for everything. They were asking for stuff. Help me win this battle. Don't let my kid die. Specific. I'll

J John 04:10
do this. If you do that cosmic barter system, you got

S Sarah 04:12
it and to sweeten the deal, promises, big temples, total devotion. It's all in there. Okay?

J John 04:19
So smarter humans, smarter deals with the divine, but this whole bargaining thing, it feels kind of cold, doesn't it? Where's the I don't know the heart.

S Sarah 04:28
That's a great point, and that takes us to another big shift. The Urantia Book talks about going from blood sacrifices to more symbolic stuff. Remember the Mother of God cult? Yeah,

J John 04:38
the ones who swapped bodies for cakes and wine, still weird, but hey, an improvement, exactly.

S Sarah 04:43
And guess what? Those are the same things in the Christian Eucharist, right, which also came from older, more literal ideas of sacrifice. So

J John 04:50
even with progress, you still see traces of the old ways, like trying to modernize a recipe, but keep some of the original flavor. That's a

S Sarah 04:59
good way. To put it. And as we get further into what the Urantia Book says about sin and redemption, you'll see this back and forth. Old and New keeps shaping how we see spirituality. Even today,

J John 05:09
it's kind of wild when you think about it. We're talking blood sacrifices, ancient rituals trying to stay on the good side of the gods. And here we are, 21st century, still talking about sin. It's like this ancient program running under the hood of modern life makes

S Sarah 05:24
you wonder, right? Like, how far have we really come? Or are we still carrying those old ideas around, especially

J John 05:28
with the Urantia books take on sin, which is, let's face it, not your average sermon material, not



S Sarah 05:34
even close. It wants us to think about sin differently, not rules, but loyalty, loyalty

J John 05:39
to who or what don't hold out on me. To Dee.

S Sarah 05:42
Dee, it says the Urantia Book says real sin. It's not about breaking rules. It's turning away from like the Divine Will, like we've all got this compass inside right and wrong, but it's connected to something bigger.

J John 05:56
So not about eating shellfish on Tuesdays or whatever. It's about being true to yourself, that little voice saying, do the right thing,

S Sarah 06:02
yeah, and just look, nobody's perfect. It gets that. There's degrees of loyalty, full on devotion to well, total rebellion, lots of gray areas in there. So good

J John 06:11
to know. Don't have to be a saint then. But if it's all about our own compass, how do we get forgiveness? Good deeds? Apologize to the universe. And

S Sarah 06:19
here's another twist. The Urantia Book, it says forgiveness. It's not something you earn. It's about restoring that connection inside, getting back in sync.

J John 06:28
So less about begging for forgiveness, more about fixing that connection, getting back on track with those big, important values, right? It's

S Sarah 06:35
like you mess up. We all do, but then you try to fix it, get back on course. And the Urantia Book says when you do that forgiveness just happens. So

says when you do that, forgiveness just happens. So

J John 06:44

instead of beating ourselves up, it's about growing being the best version of ourselves connected to that I don't know that spark exactly

S Sarah 06:51

we make mistakes, sure, but we can always find our way back to that wholeness, that peace. It's about aligning with that divine part of ourselves, which

J John 07:00

takes us back to that question from before, our ideas about sin, atonement, they've changed so much. What do we do? And Evely that people in the future will be like, what were they thinking?

S Sarah 07:11

It's humbling, right? We're all part of this big story, this evolution of how we think, what we think is fine today, someone else might totally judge later.

J John 07:19

It's like that saying, I think it was Voltaire judge a man by his questions, not his answers. Maybe it's not about having it all figured out, but asking the tough questions. You know, being open to the idea that our ideas about sin, forgiveness, even God, maybe they're not done changing yet couldn't

S Sarah 07:36

set it better myself. Keep searching, keep asking, keep digging into the big questions until next time. Everyone.