

THE GRAND ADVENTURE

What Happens When We Close Our Eyes for the Last Time?

A Journey Through the Afterlife as Revealed in The Urantia Book

*Have you ever watched a magnificent cathedral being built
and noticed the ugly, wooden scaffolding surrounding it?
From the street, the scaffolding looks like the main structure
-- but the architect knows it is merely a temporary tool.*

Death is the moment the Architect removes the scaffolding.



The eternal purpose of the eternal God is a high spiritual ideal. The events of time and the struggles of material existence are but the transient scaffolding which bridges over to the other side, to the promised land of spiritual reality and supernal existence. Of course, you mortals find it difficult to grasp the idea of an eternal purpose; you are virtually unable to comprehend the thought of eternity, something never beginning and never ending. Everything familiar to you has an end.



THE BIRTH OF YOUR SOUL

You are creating something eternal -- right now, today

*Right now, as you live and make choices,
something remarkable is happening within you.*

1

Your Material Mind

The mother of the soul -- the stage where your daily choices are made. The soil of all experience.

2

The Thought Adjuster

A fragment of God Himself dwelling within you -- the divine father of the emerging soul.

3

Your Immortal Soul

The child of both -- morontial substance, neither material nor spiritual. Destined to survive mortal death.

The Soul is Being Built Now

The Urantia Book calls this substance 'morontial' -- a word for a reality that human language has no exact equivalent for.

It is the bridge between the material and the spiritual -- and it is being assembled right now, through every sincere choice you make.

This soul is what survives death. This is the real you.

See next slide for the exact words of The Urantia Book on the soul.

Referenced: 0:5.10, 5:0.1



Soul. The soul of man is an experiential acquirement. As a mortal creature chooses to “do the will of the Father in heaven,” so the indwelling spirit becomes the father of a new reality in human experience. The mortal and material mind is the mother of this same emerging reality. The substance of this new reality is neither material nor spiritual—it is morontial. This is the emerging and immortal soul which is destined to survive mortal death and begin the Paradise ascension.



THE MOMENT OF DEATH

Not an ending -- a metamorphosis

Physical Death

The body returns to dust. The scaffolding comes down.



Sacred Sleep

Personality enters merciful, unconscious rest -- no terror, no void.



Spirit Transcript

The Adjuster preserves your identity; the seraphim guard your soul.

What happens to each part of you:



Your Personality

Held in the Father's personality circuit -- never lost, never diminished



Your Soul

Held in trust by the guardian seraphim -- the identity formulas preserved



Your Memories

The Adjuster preserves all that is essential to your universe career



Your Relationships

On the mansion worlds you will know and be known by your onetime associates

THE URANTIA BOOK SPEAKS

112:3.7 & 47:3.7 | *The Sleep of Death & The Resumption of Life*



Upon death the Thought Adjuster temporarily loses personality, but not identity; the human subject temporarily loses identity, but not personality; on the mansion worlds both reunite in eternal manifestation. Never does a departed Thought Adjuster return to earth as the being of former indwelling; never is personality manifested without the human will; and never does a dis-Adjusted human being after death manifest active identity or in any manner establish communication with the living beings of earth.

[112:3.7]



On mansion world number one (or another in case of advanced status) you will resume your intellectual training and spiritual development at the exact level whereon they were interrupted by death. Between the time of planetary death or translation and resurrection on the mansion world, mortal man gains absolutely nothing aside from experiencing the fact of survival. You begin over there right where you leave off down here.

[47:3.7]

THE MANSION WORLDS

Seven spheres of progressive training and cultural education



"Mortal death is a technique of escape from the material life in the flesh; and the mansonia experience of progressive life through seven worlds of corrective training and cultural education represents the introduction of mortal survivors to the morontia career, the transition life which intervenes between the evolutionary material existence and the higher spirit attainment of the ascenders of time who are destined to achieve the portals of eternity."

THE URANTIA BOOK SPEAKS

47:3.2 & 47:9.4-5 | The Resurrection Hall & The Glorious Departure



The very center of all activities on the first mansion world is the resurrection hall, the enormous temple of personality assembly. This gigantic structure consists of the central rendezvous of the seraphic destiny guardians, the Thought Adjusters, and the archangels of the resurrection. The Life Carriers also function with these celestial beings in the resurrection of the dead.

[47:3.2]



The personnel of the seventh mansionia assemble on the sea of glass to witness your departure for Jerusem with residential status. Hundreds or thousands of times you may have visited Jerusem, but always as a guest; never before have you proceeded toward the system capital in the company of a group of your fellows who were bidding an eternal farewell to the whole mansionia career as ascending mortals.

[47:9.4]

YOU REMAIN YOURSELF

Memory, recognition, and the reunion of loved ones

Many fear that death means losing themselves -- becoming some vague, formless spiritual energy. The Urantia Book says the opposite is true.

M

Your Memory is Preserved

The Adjuster recalls all experiences essential to your universe career. On the mansion worlds you will know and be known by your onetime associates.

R

You Recognize Those You Love

'Personality and the relationships between personalities are never scaffolding; mortal memory of personality relationships has cosmic value and will persist.' [112:5.22]

G

You Continue to Grow

You resume your intellectual training and spiritual development exactly where death interrupted. The journey continues -- richer, fuller, more alive than before.

S

You Remain Uniquely Yourself

Your personality -- the irreplaceable configuration that makes you you -- is eternal. The Father bestowed it and He does not revoke His gifts.



The Thought Adjuster will recall and rehearse for you only those memories and experiences which are a part of, and essential to, your universe career. If the Adjuster has been a partner in the evolution of aught in the human mind, then will these worth-while experiences survive in the eternal consciousness of the Adjuster. But much of your past life and its memories, having neither spiritual meaning nor morontia value, will perish with the material brain; much of material experience will pass away as onetime scaffolding which, having bridged you over to the morontia level, no longer serves a purpose in the universe. But personality and the relationships between personalities are never scaffolding; mortal memory of personality relationships has cosmic value and will persist. On the mansion worlds you will know and be known, and more, you will remember, and be remembered by, your onetime associates in the short but intriguing life on Urantia.



A UNIVERSAL UNIVERSITY

Endless progression -- not idle paradise, but glorious adventure

The afterlife is not a destination. It is a curriculum.

Languages of the Universe

On the fourth mansion world, you master the tongue of the local universe. On the fifth, the language of Uversa. Ascending mortals become bilingual -- then trilingual -- as they ascend.

Cultures of a Million Worlds

After graduation from world seventy, you take up residence on Edentia, attending the 'assemblies of Paradise' and hearing the story of your far-flung universe brethren for the first time.

Experiential Training

'The furtherance of the scheme of mortal progression seems to be one of the chief businesses of the present organized universe, and the majority of innumerable orders of created intelligences are engaged in advancing it.' [48:8.3]

Progressive Spirituality

Each world draws you closer to the actual nature of God -- not as doctrine, but as lived reality. You do not just learn about perfection; you progressively become it, world by world.

Referenced: 43:9.1, 48:8.3, 47:7.2, 47:7.3

THE URANTIA BOOK SPEAKS

43:9.2 & 48:8.3 | Heavenly Bliss and the Purpose of Survival



This entire sojourn on the constellation training worlds, culminating in Edentia citizenship, is a period of true and heavenly bliss for the morontia progressors.

[43:9.2]



The mortal-survival plan has a practical and serviceable objective; you are not the recipients of all this divine labor and painstaking training only that you may survive just to enjoy endless bliss and eternal ease. There is a goal of transcendent service concealed beyond the horizon of the present universe age. If the Gods designed merely to take you on one long and eternal joy excursion, they certainly would not so largely turn the whole universe into one vast and intricate practical training school, requisition a substantial part of the celestial creation as teachers and instructors, and then spend ages upon ages piloting you, one by one, through this gigantic universe school of experiential training.

[48:8.3]

THE COMMAND AND THE PROMISE

"Be you perfect, even as I am perfect" -- and the assurance that you can

"Be you perfect, even as I am perfect."

-- Universal Father [1:0.3]

This is not a demand for instant perfection.
It is an invitation to an eternal journey of becoming.

1

Divine Fragment Given

The Father places His own spirit within you -- both the guarantee and the engine of the entire journey.

2

Adjuster-Fusion Validated

Fusion with a fragment of the Father is 'equivalent to a divine validation of eventual Paradise attainment.' [40:7.5]

3

Paradise as Destiny

Every sincere mortal who desires God is destined -- in time -- to stand in the personal presence of the Father.

The Grandeur of Your Destiny

"Do you fully appreciate what has been done for you? Do you comprehend the grandeur of the heights of eternal achievement which are spread out before you?—even you who now trudge on in the lowly path of life through your so-called “vale of tears”?"

[40:7.5]

Fusion with a fragment of the Universal Father is equivalent to a divine validation of eventual Paradise attainment.

[40:7.5]

THE URANTIA BOOK SPEAKS

1:0.3 & 40:7.4-5 | *The Command and the Divine Guarantee*

The enlightened worlds all recognize and worship the Universal Father, the eternal maker and infinite upholder of all creation. The will creatures of universe upon universe have embarked upon the long, long Paradise journey, the fascinating struggle of the eternal adventure of attaining God the Father. The transcendent goal of the children of time is to find the eternal God, to comprehend the divine nature, to recognize the Universal Father. God-knowing creatures have only one supreme ambition, just one consuming desire, and that is to become, as they are in their spheres, like him as he is in his Paradise perfection of personality and in his universal sphere of righteous supremacy. From the Universal Father who inhabits eternity there has gone forth the supreme mandate, “Be you perfect, even as I am perfect.” In love and mercy the messengers of Paradise have carried this divine exhortation down through the ages and out through the universes, even to such lowly animal-origin creatures as the human races of Urantia.

[1:0.3]

Fusion with a fragment of the Universal Father is equivalent to a divine validation of eventual Paradise attainment, and such Adjuster-fused mortals are the only class of human beings who all traverse the Havona circuits and find God on Paradise. To the Adjuster-fused mortal the career of universal service is wide open. What dignity of destiny and glory of attainment await every one of you! Do you fully appreciate what has been done for you? Do you comprehend the grandeur of the heights of eternal achievement which are spread out before you?—even you who now trudge on in the lowly path of life through your so-called “vale of tears”?

[40:7.5]

VICTORY IS ASSURED

For every soul who sincerely desires God

The most important question in all of existence:

"Is there hope for me?"

The Urantia Book answers with magnificent clarity:

"All souls of every possible phase of mortal existence will survive provided they manifest willingness to co-operate with their indwelling Adjusters and exhibit a desire to find God and to attain divine perfection, even though these desires be but the first faint flickers of the primitive comprehension of that 'true light which lights every man who comes into the world.'"

[40:5.19]

Not perfection required

You need not be perfect. You need only be willing.

Not great achievements

Just a sincere desire for God -- even first faint flickers.



There is in the mind of God a plan which embraces every creature of all his vast domains, and this plan is an eternal purpose of boundless opportunity, unlimited progress, and endless life. And the infinite treasures of such a matchless career are yours for the striving!

[32:5.7]



The goal of eternity is ahead! The adventure of divinity attainment lies before you! The race for perfection is on! whosoever will may enter, and certain victory will crown the efforts of every human being who will run the race of faith and trust, depending every step of the way on the leading of the indwelling Adjuster and on the guidance of that good spirit of the Universe Son, which so freely has been poured out upon all flesh.

[32:5.8]

YOU WILL NOT WALK ALONE

The promise of Jesus and the Spirit of Truth

Jesus did not leave his followers with only a memory. He left them with a living presence.

"When I have returned to live in you and work through you, I can the better lead you on through this life and guide you through the many abodes in the future life in the heaven of heavens."

[181:1.2]

"Let not your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; continue to believe also in me. Even though I must leave you, I will not be far from you... I am going to return to these worlds of light, stations in the Father's heaven to which you shall sometime ascend."

[180:3.4]

Three Divine Companions on the Journey:

The Thought Adjuster

God within you -- guiding, preserving, validating
Paradise attainment

The Spirit of Truth

Jesus' bestowal gift -- present with every sincere
truth-seeker everywhere

The Holy Spirit

The Creative Spirit's ministry -- guiding you from
without as well as within

THE URANTIA BOOK SPEAKS

180:3.3 - 180:3.4 | The Words of Jesus on the Night Before His Death



"But I will not leave you alone in the world. Very soon, after I have gone, I will send you a spirit helper. You shall have with you one who will take my place among you, one who will continue to teach you the way of truth, who will even comfort you."

[180:3.3]



"Let not your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; continue to believe also in me. Even though I must leave you, I will not be far from you. I have already told you that in my Father's universe there are many tarrying-places. If this were not true, I would not have repeatedly told you about them. I am going to return to these worlds of light, stations in the Father's heaven to which you shall sometime ascend. From these places I came into this world, and the hour is now at hand when I must return to my Father's work in the spheres on high."

[180:3.4]

ETERNAL LIFE: AN ENDLESS QUEST

Not static reward but infinite values, service, and discovery

"Eternal life is the endless quest for infinite values."

[100:2.5]

The Corps of the Finality

Paradise graduates are invited to join the Corps of the Finality -- beings dispatched to the uncharted domains of outer space for a career of transcendent service not yet revealed.

Endless Spiritual Values

'Spirituality enhances the ability to discover beauty in things, recognize truth in meanings, and discover goodness in values.' You could spend eternity deepening and never reach the bottom. [100:2.4]

From Glory to Glory

'Each of the many, many stations in my Father's house is a stopping place, a life designed to prepare you for the next one ahead. And so will the children of light go on from glory to glory until they attain the divine estate wherein they are spiritually perfected even as the Father is perfect in all things.' [181:1.2]

Growing Toward God

'The achievement of finality of spirituality is equivalent to the attainment of the maximum of reality, the maximum of Godlikeness.' The goal is not a place -- it is a Person. [100:2.5]

"Life in the Father's eternal creation is not an endless rest of idleness and selfish ease but rather a ceaseless progression in grace, truth, and glory." [181:1.2]



IF THE finite mind of man is unable to comprehend how so great and so majestic a God as the Universal Father can descend from his eternal abode in infinite perfection to fraternize with the individual human creature, then must such a finite intellect rest assurance of divine fellowship upon the truth of the fact that an actual fragment of the living God resides within the intellect of every normal-minded and morally conscious Urantia mortal. The indwelling Thought Adjusters are a part of the eternal Deity of the Paradise Father. Man does not have to go farther than his own inner experience of the soul's contemplation of this spiritual-reality presence to find God and attempt communion with him.



[5:0.1]

THE SCAFFOLDING IS COMING DOWN

And what will be revealed beneath it is more magnificent than anything the scaffolding ever promised.

**Death is not the extinguishing of the light.
It is the opening of a door.**

And on the other side -- "the goal of eternity is ahead!" [32:5.8]