

For Anyone Exploring the Purpose of Living

The Seven Psychic Circles

Your Eternal Journey from Animal Nature to Morontia Soul

A Presentation from the Urantia Book · Papers 110 & 112

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Think of your life not just as a series of random events, but as a purposeful journey — an invisible framework of milestones for your intellectual, moral, and spiritual development during the early stages of your eternal career.



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The sum total of personality realization on a material world is contained within the successive conquest of the seven psychic circles of mortal potentiality. Entrance upon the seventh circle marks the beginning of true human personality function. Completion of the first circle denotes the relative maturity of the mortal being. Though the traversal of the seven circles of cosmic growth does not equal fusion with the Adjuster, the mastery of these circles marks the attainment of those steps which are preliminary to Adjuster fusion.

WHAT THE CIRCLES ACTUALLY ARE

Not merely intellectual — whole-personality growth in four dimensions

P

Personality Status

Where you stand as a unified, coherent person. Not what you know, but who you are becoming through the integration of all your powers — material, intellectual, and spiritual.

M

Mind Attainment

The quality of your thinking — not IQ, but cosmic insight. The capacity to perceive meaning, recognize truth, and understand your place in the living universe.

S

Soul Growth

The evolution of your immortal morontia soul — the joint child of your mortal mind and the indwelling Thought Adjuster, growing through every sincere moral decision.

A

Adjuster Attunement

How clearly you can hear and co-operate with the divine presence within you. As the circles advance, the signal strengthens, the voice grows clearer, the partnership deepens.

*"The successful traversal of these levels demands the harmonious functioning of the entire personality, not merely of some one phase thereof."
[110:6.3]*

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The psychic circles are not exclusively intellectual, neither are they wholly morontial; they have to do with personality status, mind attainment, soul growth, and Adjuster attunement. The successful traversal of these levels demands the harmonious functioning of the entire personality, not merely of some one phase thereof. The growth of the parts does not equal the true maturation of the whole; the parts really grow in proportion to the expansion of the entire self—the whole self—material, intellectual, and spiritual.

[110:6.3]

THE BALANCE THAT MAKES GROWTH POSSIBLE

Why your body, your mind, and your spirit must grow in triune harmony

Too Intellectual

When intellectual growth outpaces spiritual maturity, communication with the Thought Adjuster becomes 'both difficult and dangerous.' A sharp mind without spiritual grounding can rationalize anything.
[110:6.4]

Too Spiritual

Overspiritual development 'tends to produce a fanatical and perverted interpretation of the spirit leadings of the divine indweller.' Enthusiasm without intellectual grounding misleads.
[110:6.4]

Triune Harmony

The mind of perfect poise, housed in a body of clean habits, stabilized neural energies — 'a maximum of light and truth can be imparted with a minimum of temporal danger.'
[110:6.4]

The Triune Harmony of Development:

Physical

Body of clean habits
Stabilized neural energies
Balanced chemical function

Mental

Mind of perfect poise
Intellectual honesty
Emotional balance

Spiritual

Adjuster attunement
Moral decisiveness
Genuine worship

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When the development of the intellectual nature proceeds faster than that of the spiritual, such a situation renders communication with the Thought Adjuster both difficult and dangerous. Likewise, overspiritual development tends to produce a fanatical and perverted interpretation of the spirit leadings of the divine indweller. Lack of spiritual capacity makes it very difficult to transmit to such a material intellect the spiritual truths resident in the higher superconsciousness. It is to the mind of perfect poise, housed in a body of clean habits, stabilized neural energies, and balanced chemical function—when the physical, mental, and spiritual powers are in triune harmony of development—that a maximum of light and truth can be imparted with a minimum of temporal danger or risk to the real welfare of such a being. By such a balanced growth does man ascend the circles of planetary progression one by one, from the seventh to the first.

YOUR DECISIONS ARE THE KEYS

The Supreme Decision

Crisis moments — pivotal choices that define character and reshape the trajectory of a life. These have disproportionate circle-making power.

Every choice either advances or impedes your progress through the circles

Frequent Repetition

'Numbers of decisions, frequent repetitions, persistent repetitions, are also essential to the habit-forming certainty of such reactions.' [110:6.6]

Small daily choices build the grooves of character.

Becoming More Real

'Persons become more real as they ascend from the seventh to the first level of mortal existence.' [110:6.10]

Each decision adds to the reality of who you are becoming.

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Every decision you make either impedes or facilitates the function of the Adjuster; likewise do these very decisions determine your advancement in the circles of human achievement. It is true that the supremacy of a decision, its crisis relationship, has a great deal to do with its circle-making influence; nevertheless, numbers of decisions, frequent repetitions, persistent repetitions, are also essential to the habit-forming certainty of such reactions.

[110:6.6]

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Personality reality. The degree of selfhood reality is directly determined by circle conquest. Persons become more real as they ascend from the seventh to the first level of mortal existence.

[110:6.10]

THE SEVEN CIRCLES: FROM OUTER TO INNER

From first moral choice to the threshold of the morontia life

7

ENTRY

First Moral Choice

True human personality function begins. Entry into the life of the spirit. One guardian angel shared among many.

6

GROWING

Spiritual Awakening

Spiritual perception deepening. Co-operation with the Thought Adjuster increasing. Identity as a universe citizen emerging.

5

DEVELOPING

Moral Stabilization

Character cohering. Moral responses becoming habitual and reliable. Spiritual perception steadily gaining over animal impulse.

4

MATURING

Cosmic Citizenship Grows

Growing awareness of universe relationships. Supreme Being increasingly real. Morontia values beginning to shape daily decisions.

3

MILESTONE

Personal Seraphic Guardian

"The Adjuster's work is much more effective after the human ascender attains the third circle and receives a personal seraphic guardian of destiny."
[110:6.14]

2

ADVANCED

Morontia Mind Opens

The Adjuster endeavors to morontiaize the mind. Deep Adjuster communication becomes increasingly possible. Intelligence increasingly like the morontia stage.

1

MATURITY

Nearest Approach to God

"The nearest possible approach of material mind and spirit Adjuster in human experience." [110:6.15] Premorontia mortal maturity attained.

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The first circle. The Adjuster cannot, ordinarily, speak directly and immediately with you until you attain the first and final circle of progressive mortal achievement. This level represents the highest possible realization of mind-Adjuster relationship in the human experience prior to the liberation of the evolving morontia soul from the habiliments of the material body. Concerning mind, emotions, and cosmic insight, this achievement of the first psychic circle is the nearest possible approach of material mind and spirit Adjuster in human experience.

[110:6.15]

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The seven circles embrace mortal experience extending from the highest purely animal level to the lowest actual contactual morontia level of self-consciousness as a personality experience. The mastery of the first cosmic circle signalizes the attainment of premorontia mortal maturity and marks the termination of the conjoint ministry of the adjutant mind-spirits as an exclusive influence of mind action in the human personality.

[110:6.21]

COSMIC LEVELS — NOT JUST PERSONAL MILESTONES

Your circle progress connects you to the emerging Supreme Being itself

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Perhaps these psychic circles of mortal progression would be better denominated cosmic levels — actual meaning grasps and value realizations of progressive approach to the morontia consciousness of initial relationship of the evolutionary soul with the emerging Supreme Being.

[110:6.16]

What the Circles Really Are

'Actual meaning grasps and value realizations.'
Each circle is a qualitative shift in what reality means to you. The universe looks different from the third circle than it did from the seventh. More alive. More personal. More purposeful.

Connection to the Supreme Being

Your circle progress is not just personal — it is cosmically significant. You are growing toward the emerging Supreme Being, who grows as his creatures grow. Your development contributes to the growth of God himself.

God-knowing at Every Circle

'A seventh or sixth circler can be almost as truly God-knowing — sonship conscious — as a second or first circler.' [110:6.16]
The circles measure experience, not divine approval.

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Perhaps these psychic circles of mortal progression would be better denominated cosmic levels—actual meaning grasps and value realizations of progressive approach to the morontia consciousness of initial relationship of the evolutionary soul with the emerging Supreme Being. And it is this very relationship that makes it forever impossible fully to explain the significance of the cosmic circles to the material mind. These circle attainments are only relatively related to God-consciousness. A seventh or sixth circler can be almost as truly God-knowing—sonship conscious—as a second or first circler, but such lower circle beings are far less conscious of experiential relation to the Supreme Being, universe citizenship. The attainment of these cosmic circles will become a part of the ascenders' experience on the mansion worlds if they fail of such achievement before natural death.

THE GREAT TRANSFER: FROM MATERIAL TO MORONTIA

Your personality has the power to move its very seat of identity

Material Identity System

- Material brain & neural circuits
- Passing thoughts and feelings
- Physical body — temporary vehicle
- Mortal intellect — 'transient parasitic stage'
- Subject to death and dissolution

TEMPORARY



CHOOSE

Morontia Soul System

- Evolving immortal soul — morontia substance
- Identity preserved by the Thought Adjuster
- Personality continues — changeless and real
- Values and meanings carried forward
- New vehicle for personality manifestation

ENDURING

"Mortal personality, through its own choosing, possesses the power of transferring its seat of identity from the passing material-intellect system to the higher morontia-soul system." [112:5-4]

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Human beings possess identity only in the material sense. Such qualities of the self are expressed by the material mind as it functions in the energy system of the intellect. When it is said that man has identity, it is recognized that he is in possession of a mind circuit which has been placed in subordination to the acts and choosing of the will of the human personality. But this is a material and purely temporary manifestation, just as the human embryo is a transient parasitic stage of human life. Human beings, from a cosmic perspective, are born, live, and die in a relative instant of time; they are not enduring. But mortal personality, through its own choosing, possesses the power of transferring its seat of identity from the passing material-intellect system to the higher morontia-soul system which, in association with the Thought Adjuster, is created as a new vehicle for personality manifestation.

YOUR IMMORTAL SOUL: BORN FROM WITHIN YOU

The soul as the joint offspring of human will and divine presence

The Soul Is Being Born Right Now — Gradually, Silently, Really.

The Mother

Mortal Mind

'The material mind of mortal man is the cosmic loom that carries the morontia fabrics on which the indwelling Thought Adjuster threads the spirit patterns of a universe character.' [111:2.2]

Your thinking, choosing, feeling mind — the womb in which the soul takes shape.

The Father

Thought Adjuster

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'An actual fragment of the very God of all creation — the Mystery Monitor.' [111:2.10]

The divine weaver who threads the spirit patterns of eternal life into the fabric of your human mind, with infinite patience and love.

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The Child

The Immortal Soul

'The joint offspring of an adjutant mind dominated by a human will that craves to know God, working in liaison with the spiritual forces of the universe.' [111:2.10]

Neither purely material nor purely spiritual — morontial.

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It is difficult precisely to define the seven levels of human progression, for the reason that these levels are personal; they are variable for each individual and are apparently determined by the growth capacity of each human being. The conquest of these levels of cosmic evolution is reflected in three ways:

[110:6.7]

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These circle attainments are only relatively related to God-consciousness. A seventh or sixth circler can be almost as truly God-knowing—sonship conscious—as a second or first circler, but such lower circle beings are far less conscious of experiential relation to the Supreme Being, universe citizenship. The attainment of these cosmic circles will become a part of the ascenders' experience on the mansion worlds if they fail of such achievement before natural death.

[110:6.16]

THE MOST DEVOTED LOVE IN ALL CREATION

Your Thought Adjuster — the divine partner within you

"As far as I am conversant with the affairs of a universe, I regard the love and devotion of a Thought Adjuster as the most truly divine affection in all creation."

Present in All Difficulty

The Adjuster remains with you in all disaster and through every sickness which does not wholly destroy the mentality. It is patient through long years of silent sojourn, unable to speak but always present, always devoted.

Subservient to Your Will

The Adjusters 'are always subservient to your will.' No human being will ever be spiritualized against their will. Survival is a gift that must be desired. Co-operation must be freely given.

Playing the Supreme Game

'Adjusters are playing the sacred and superb game of the ages; they are engaged in one of the supreme adventures of time in space. And how happy they are when your co-operation permits them to lend assistance.'
[110:3.1]

The divine partner within you is not passive. It is playing the most important game in the cosmos — your eternal life — with supreme devotion and inexhaustible patience.

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Adjusters are playing the sacred and superb game of the ages; they are engaged in one of the supreme adventures of time in space. And how happy they are when your co-operation permits them to lend assistance in your short struggles of time as they continue to prosecute their larger tasks of eternity. But usually, when your Adjuster attempts to communicate with you, the message is lost in the material currents of the energy streams of human mind; only occasionally do you catch an echo, a faint and distant echo, of the divine voice.

[110:3.1]

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The success of your Adjuster in the enterprise of piloting you through the mortal life and bringing about your survival depends not so much on the theories of your beliefs as upon your decisions, determinations, and steadfast faith. All these movements of personality growth become powerful influences aiding in your advancement....

[110:3.2]

IF YOU DON'T FINISH — THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

The mercy of the mansion worlds and the eternity that stretches before you

'The attainment of these cosmic circles will become a part of the ascenders' experience on the mansion worlds if they fail of such achievement before natural death.' [110:6.16]

[110:6.16]

1

Your Starting Point on the Mansion Worlds

You resume exactly where you left off. The circles unfinished in this life are the curriculum of the first mansion world. No progress is lost. No sincere effort is ever wasted. The journey is unbroken.

2

What Matters Is Preserved

The Thought Adjuster will recall and rehearse with you only those memories and experiences that are essential to your universe career. What had meaning — survives. What didn't — gracefully dissolves.

3

This Life Is the Vestibule

'Then will begin your real life, the ascending life, to which your present mortal state is but the vestibule.'
[112:0.1] This life is not the journey. It is the preparation for the journey — the beginning of a career that fills eternity.

You cannot fail if you sincerely try. The qualitative status of your immortal soul is 'wholly dependent on the grasp of living faith upon the Paradise-potential fact-value that mortal man is a son of the eternal God.' [110:6.18] The Father loves you at every circle. The journey is eternal. And it has already begun.

What you are becoming — day by day, and in eternity

“The evolutionary planets are the spheres of human origin, the initial worlds of the ascending mortal career. Urantia is your starting point; here you and your divine Thought Adjuster are joined in temporary union. You have been endowed with a perfect guide; therefore, if you will sincerely run the race of time and gain the final goal of faith, the reward of the ages shall be yours; you will be eternally united with your indwelling Adjuster. Then will begin your real life, the ascending life, to which your present mortal state is but the vestibule.”

[112:0.1]

Your Life Is a Purposeful Journey Toward God.

*From the seventh circle to the first. From animal nature to morontia soul.
From a relative instant of time — into the eternity that stretches out before you.*

The journey has already begun. What circle will you move toward today?