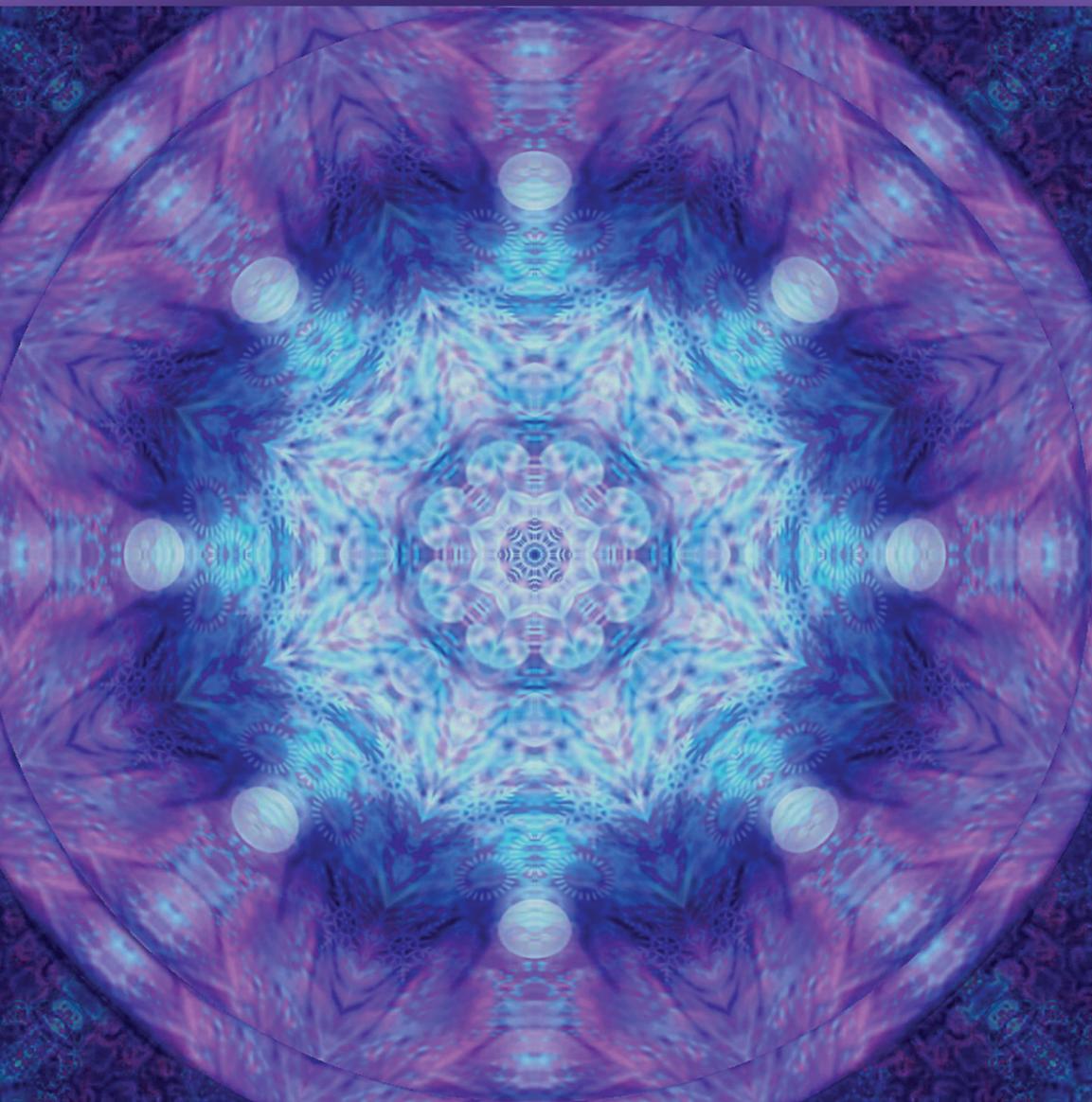


Beyond Cynicism



Liberating Voices from the Spirit Within

Jim Cleveland

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	vii
1 "Each of you is an heroic, sparkling star in a plan of vast complexity and glory"	1
2 'God is already part of your presence. Only acknowledge it.'	15
3 'Your true nature is this spark of God within. The rest is just programming.'	25
4 'Struggle is the way of the universe, but in love, not fear. That makes a big difference.'	41
5 'Remember the Be Ye Perfect mission, for it is real.'	53
6 'A fear-based society must be transformed into a love-based society.'	61
7 'The initiatives are what matters, your will and intent.'	67
8 'Give love and love is received; give service and service is given.'	77
9 'Everything is co-creative. You create. I create. We create together. This is the joy of it.'	83
ENDNOTES	95
THE STILLNESS	103
RELATED SOURCES:	105

Liberation from Within

'By working through the individual and omnipresent God-centered indwelling Spirit of Man, we thereby begin at the center where all things are possible. From there we emanate to enlighten you, each one, from within. As your secular institutions crumble, you are well-proven to step forward with the deep insights that you possess and restructure the Garden for a new beginning.'

- The OneTeam

INTRODUCTION

Cynicism used to be really cool to me, until I realized it to be a mental illness.

Understanding God's amazing plan of ascension for his far-flung children of time and space is the great elixir and antidote for pessimism, frustration and despair about the human condition. It is my hope that this book will guide you to this realization.

Join me in this eternal journey as I share the remarkable insights given to me by a collective of celestial teachers who call themselves the OneTeam. They helped me to overcome my own cynicism and finally to understand that evolution is proceeding inexorably toward a glorious destiny. There is no reason for cynicism when we see ourselves in a true cosmic dimension of ascension and growth, to fulfill God's gentle encouragement to "Be Ye Perfect."

The One Team helped soothe my bitterness about the destructive greed of humankind ... the oppression and persecution inflicted upon the innocent and well-meaning by corrupt power structures ... the poisoning of the environment ... the cheapening of sexual relationships ... the vulgarization of God's gifts of goodness by our territorial and self-gratifying obsessions.

My realizations, my lament, my frustrated helplessness grew naturally into cynicism over the years.

I remember being one of those so-called "angry young men" of the 50s. Like others of my generation, I laughed at phonies with Holden Caulfield, preached the exposes of Vance Packard, vicariously road-tripped with Jack Kerouac, delved into studies of alienation and hedonism, the techniques of Alpha thinking, meditation, and altered states of consciousness. I argued against the 'God is Dead' myth. I sought an understanding of Utopian perfection and of how to get there through confrontational, journalistic reform. I was a reporter, then an editor, then a public relations director and on through life as a series of milestones. Always I thought of myself as an "idealistic cynic" and was okay with being both sides of the coin.

As a disillusioned young man, I looked up to God more than once with teary eyes and soggy spirits, pleading for more peace and tolerance in the world. I now know that from such prayers has come my continuing spiritual guidance through life, helping me into learning and growing experiences and a mind capacity, which can accept enlarged concepts and deeper truths. Ask and we shall receive. You may have already experienced this, too.

But then I reveled in the rebellions of the 60's too. I embraced the concept of love power with gusto, accompanying my idealism with more raging against the corrupting machines of politics, war, and big business, and the hypocrisy of Sunday religionists whose misguided piousness only spelt oppression for people who wanted to have a good time and enjoy this short, troublesome life. I gave myself a special cleverness for seeing through the lying and shallow facades of goodness deeper into the underlying corruption that despoiled all institutions. I believed I was hip enough to not be duped by a world full of liars and cheaters.

Religion was no answer for me then. Hadn't more humans been slaughtered in religious wars than any other kind? And wasn't it still happening? More than one poor listener had to endure that arrogant and angry rhetoric.

I wrapped every target from telemarketers to televangelists in the same dirty shroud. And as my intellectual pursuits carried me to

understand deepening realities of corruption in all things my frustration drifted into cynicism, defiant pleasure-seeking, and sometimes arrogant preachiness, laced with sardonic humor.

My dedication to ethical journalism was part of what saved me from permanently sinking into a dark abyss of the mind. As an editor, writer, and photographer, I had long committed myself to fair and accurate reporting, and I railed hardest then at biased and uninformed reporting, and the blatantly shallow and self-serving sensationalism that I sometimes saw in my profession. I felt objectivity was dying in journalism, and that it would be a horrible loss. I saw the world fragmented with advocates and partisans who were blind to other perspectives. Good journalism should present both sides and be open to all views, seeking the truth and reporting the facts, being fair to all views.

A Cosmology

Through the years, of course, we mellow and change even as we remain much the same. When I discovered The Urantia Book, I found in it a reasonable, complete and beautifully written explanation of who we are and our place in the universe. Here was a synthesis of science, philosophy and religion that made perfect sense to me. It was markedly superior to the patchwork of mystical Judeo melodramas that I had found in the Bible.

The 2,100 pages of the 196 Urantia Papers led me to see that this mortal life is only a classroom of material experience, a laboratory for learning in the time and space worlds. I learned that mortal life was but the first step in an ascension path to paradise, that the Universal Father's invitation to "be ye perfect" is a real opportunity rather than a naive and hopeless impossibility.

The Urantia Book speaks deeply and fully about developing a personal relationship with God. At a few Urantia Book conferences, workshop presenters even taught some techniques furthering that relationship, what could be called automatic writing -- allowing the

pen to move and write in your hand, on its own, from some mysterious higher level of connection and consciousness.

From these beginnings, I developed an interest in alternative consciousness, Alpha brain wave enhancement, meditation, the philosophies of Gurdjieff and the few other things I discovered in predominately rural Mississippi. This was, of course, a society dominated by scriptural fundamentalism during this time, especially in comparison to the channelings and so-called New Age spirituality ideas going around in other locales. I discovered only one other Urantia Book reader in the state, and he was 150 miles away.

Finally, in the fall of 1992, I had, by then, migrated to Cincinnati and actually joined a Urantia Book study group, presided over by a beautiful personality and a supposedly retired but very active Catholic priest, Father Robert Schuer, who was busily networking the Urantia Book and had even offered one to the Pope.

Friends in the nearby Indianapolis Urantia group advised us that they had recently begun meeting with an invisible celestial personality named Welmek. Their early transcripts were passed on to us. We were told that the name of our group's assigned teacher was Tarkas, and that he would be honored to begin to teach us and answer our questions if one of our number could learn to verbalize him. The process was called transmitting and receiving, similar to channeling, we were told, but different in that the verbalizer would be fully conscious, their free will always in charge.

I had little knowledge of channeling and was interested but cautious, still tending strongly toward cynicism, worried about being duped by charlatans and kooks. Even with the inspiration of the Urantia Book influencing me toward a greater universal reality, a greater peace of loving one another, I was far from trusting enough to open myself to somebody monotoning spiritual instructions and apocalyptic prophecies in a seance room.

Cynicism was actually common sense, I thought. If things were rotten here on this planet, as the Urantia Papers fully

acknowledged, at least now I could see the human condition rationally. I understood that evolution continues as it will, that our adversities can bring personal intellectual and spiritual growth, and that the concepts of Truth, Beauty and Goodness do, in fact, rule the more enlightened universe of universes that are explained in the Urantia papers.

I had come to see our own planet, then, as an aberration of God's plan, cursed by the Urantia-chronicled Adam and Eve default, as well as the Lucifer Rebellion, the Bible's lightly mentioned "war in the heavens." It might now also be cursed with self-deluding channelers of the present-day, not to mention hands-on, pass-the-plate evangelists.

We Can Receive, We Can Transmit

Eventually, however, I was the fourth member of our study group to learn to transmit Tarkas, starting in the spring of 1993. It turned out not to require a concentrated effort at all, as I originally thought, at least not in the sense that we understand effort. What it did require was an openness of faith, love, objectivity and the desire to receive a spiritual guide and to voice these silent, dictated words without analysis, judgment or hidden agenda, and with a trusting faith that when we ring God's doorbell, it is God who answers. I came to know that God does not exist and act relatively alone, and indeed has legions of celestial personalities of the universe to help us, including especially our own brothers and sisters in the flesh. They are most often are the ones who come in response to our prayers. And as they come, I learned that they often have needs as well, that I can service for their spiritual growth.

While the main purpose of the contact with these celestial teachers was to open the way to private transmissions for personal growth, some would be asked to provide this transmitting-receiving (TR) service for the study group. Each member of the circle during this time of listening and asking questions was encouraged to make contact with a personal teacher through a meditation and upreach process that came to be known as the Stillness. Some groups around

the country had one transmitter; others emerged with several, and some beautiful interactions with a variety of visiting celestial teachers, each with a distinctive personality and style, even when presented through the same transmitter.

During most of the 1990s, I met with the study group and often transmitted Tarkas, Bakim, my personal teacher Elisha, and a number of other celestial personalities. I also transmitted to other groups, and to regional and national conferences. As a TR I am today only one of many doing this spiritual secretarial service, helping deliver these basic spiritual teachings to groups across the country. Importantly, within this Teaching Mission family, there must be no aggrandizement or profit made from this service; it would be anathema to charge for a transmission. We are advised by the celestials that should a transmitter get off track with ego, greed or hidden agendas, the words would simply stop coming.

Today, the Teaching Mission (TeAM) is a minimally organized network of groups. At this writing, a number of dedicated students of the Urantia Papers remain suspicious of the groups who are voicing these teachers. Many readers are anchored in the intellectual wholeness and completeness of the book for spiritual growth, an analytical approach that I had applied for much of my life.

This is, of course, akin to the affection that fundamental religionists have for their scripture, though Urantia Book readers invariably glean insights from other sources and exhibit an ecumenical approach to spirituality. Most readers approach the Urantia papers from an intellectual mindset, as an historical cosmology of perfectly wrought prose and non-contradictory wholeness. Its strongest appeal has been to those of intellectual interests and pursuits, though I believe that open-minded new age spiritualists will increasingly discover a spiritual anchor and nucleus in an expanded God-centered cosmology, and it will bring a whole new unifying dynamics to their ideas and beliefs – growing from self-awareness and self-fulfillment to God-centered awareness and God-centered fulfillment.

In spite of some misgivings by Urantia fundamentalists – themselves ironically considered occult by the world at large, the Teaching Mission (TeAM) has become a dynamic arm of the Urantia family. It remains purposefully without officers and formal organization at this writing, but successfully holds national and regional conferences, maintains websites and publishes books and periodicals.

The Stillness for Direct Access

Within the messages of the TeAM teachers, a new spiritual reality emerges for me. The time for gurus, priests and preachers is passing; we can each have a personal relationship with God and receive our insights, inspirations and illuminations directly from celestial sources. This removes intermediaries, who can interfere with our true upreach and embrace with God.

I learned and must convey to you that we can all get lessons from celestial teachers and continuing spiritual guidance through a quiet-time personal Stillness relationship with God. As we can learn to trust God, listen and record, we can receive lessons directly applicable to our lives, to our particular place on our individual path of spiritual growth. Specific teachers and guides can be assigned based on our needs and our requests.

Unlike trance channeling, this new wave of TRing is accomplished in a relaxed and awakened alpha state. We are conscious of the words forming silently in our consciousness, and our task is to simply choose to say them – without accompanying analysis or judgments – as purely and directly as we can. After the first few words come through, they flow increasingly easy as the transmitter relaxes and uses the voice to speak while simply listening and repeating. It happens much the same way with a pen or a keyboard. Don't stop to analyze; just deliver the words.

For me, the process becomes easier with practice. The lessons one can convey become progressively deeper, even as memory of the

exact words that one has transmitted become increasingly hazy in the memory.

I still read back transcripts of my TR service in surprise that this narrative came from my lips. The concepts and perceptions are often new to me and only partially understood. Across the nation, the many transcribed lessons of the Teaching Mission over the first decade coalesce well into a unified philosophy that we are told is a prescribed teaching curriculum for our planetary spiritual growth at this particular time.

In the Teaching Mission, the listener is encouraged to listen and evaluate by utilizing the Spirit of Truth inside. While the TR retains the free will to speak the words or not, the listener can likewise determine if these are truly fruits of the spirit or some hidden human agenda. The sanctity of the human's free will is a tenet of the TeaM, for both the transmitting "vessel" and the listener. We are advised that there is far too little utilization of the Spirit of Truth, or Conviction, that Jesus bestowed at Pentecost, and that we can learn to access this powerful gift more fully. We are told to listen to the "silent bells of truth" ringing inside to spiritually evaluate what we hear and experience.

From Speaking to Writing

Even as I was providing TR service to gatherings and listening to others, I resisted using this newfound ability to put words on paper. After all, was I not a writer myself of professional status? Would this not develop into a kind of confusion that might never get resolved as to exactly who is writing what from then on?

Such has not been the case, as I can still craft sentences on my own and tell stories. There is no writing assistance given beyond the spiritual insights that need to be shared. As long as my thoughts and inspirations are spiritual, assistance pours through. As I address other matters in my writing, I appear to be more on my own. The latter requires much more re-writing.

I have also learned over the years since this manuscript was received that there are many kinds of other personalities visiting our world in these historic times, all lending a hand in our spiritual renaissance. One such colony of helpers is comprised of what Urantia terminology calls "celestial artisans." They are artists of many and varied talents who are available to us in the creation of our art. They are of immense help in presenting spiritual insights that inform our creative expressions, and they have long been available to many receptive people on our world. They are more active than ever before now, and I recommend their full utilization, simply by asking for their help in the Stillness, and being open to their communications.

Blessedly, we have our own unique consciousness. Blessedly, there is an easy line to traverse in which each of us can learn to receive and record celestial lessons via our Universal Heavenly Father, whether we call it automatic writing, meditation, TR, channeling or whatever. When you learn to tap into the enhanced spiritual energies of today in open-hearted love, faith and desire for service, you will be rewarded with a glistening spring of living water from within, the heart of the spirit, the voice of GodInside, the higher self of our current reality. We must not be fearful of the human mind. In the end, evolution and growth is all a co-creative process, which is exactly the way the time and space worlds work.

The keyboard transcriptions presented here are mostly from 1995, and they still ring with timeless universality for me. They contain nuggets of the same deep spiritual wisdoms that have been expressed in different ways by different sages through the ages – not new, but universal. Yet, in these new expressions of these true realities, they expand us into higher layers of perceptions that we can now grasp, generations later, with the Urantia cosmology understood as a foundation and scaffolding.

In these times, I believe that we are collectively and individually moving from allegiance to dogma into an allegiance to the inner spirit. We will reach and grasp in faith and innocence, in wholehearted devotion to the expanded personalization of spiritual energies within us. We will manifest a deeper and more personal

relationship with God and enjoy greater participation in the Divine Plan as a beloved and worthy child of the universe.

Quickening Times

Now, in the new millennium, there is a dynamically new and expanded dimension of revelation available to us, brought on by the openings of energy circuits to our planet. These energies are already raising both individual and collective spiritual consciousness and they will do so increasingly in the quickening years ahead. New revelations come with new generations.

The big news today is that these energy circuits are opening incrementally on an events-driven, not time-driven schedule on our planet. All of us, not just those who are fortuitously encircuited, can utilize these expanded energies and make a powerful spiritual connection in the Stillness – individually, personally, and receive benevolent, instructive teachers from God for the asking. This is one of our newest gifts from the Universal Provider, and it is ours when we are able to cross the threshold of faith in the desire for service and in trust that God answers our call when we are sincere.

While most of the transmissions here are from 1995, the final chapter is a new visit with the OneTeam in 2001. It was designed to renew and test the circuitry, to settle some lingering questions and address a few new ones. In the renewal, I learned that maintaining a connection with spiritual teachers is not a regimented activity; they are pleased to respond to us at any and all times, frequently or as infrequently as the earthbound human chooses. In their perception, our months and years may be the blink of an eye.

Are we impatient to know it all now? Are we frustrated by our lack of understanding? Sometimes I am. We can alleviate these frustrations by realizing that every question we ask in the Stillness will be answered by appointed celestial teachers of far-ranging wisdom and experience, each of them having been mortals themselves. Their lessons will be attuned to our levels of understanding and lifted to new ones.

In the relationship with our teachers, we come to know that every step of faith is rewarded, every act of kindness is returned to us, that every time we love, love is returned to us, that every prayer is answered, that every door we open reveals another exciting door to open, more ways to fulfill the exploratory quest to –Be Ye Perfect."

We have a Divine Future. There is no room for cynicism. When the student is ready, the teacher will appear, and all celestial teachers are anchored in the reality that we each have a fragment, a spark, an indwelling spirit of the One God inside us, to pilot our adventure ... if we will only ask.

These truths were already coming to me throughout the 90s, in their own sweet time. But it was easy to forge this collection of pointed questions by reverting to my rebellious, suspicious maverick self, full of disdain for the shambles we have made of the world. So I asked questions angrily, sometimes cynically, and then simply relaxed and keystroked the answers. I let the fingers move to record the stream of dictated words as they came. I received a lot of surprising answers.

May you find pleasure and benefit in them, as I have. And I am sure the OneTeam would also invite you to use your own keyboard or journal to visit them yourselves.

May you find, in time, that the best TR for you will be your own – from celestial teachers that God will assign to your specific needs. You are a unique and beloved child of God; as you love God, so will you be blessed.

– Jim Cleveland
July, 2003

1

**"Each of you is an heroic, sparkling star in a plan of
vast complexity and glory"**

THE FIRST QUESTION: *There are many of us for whom the yoke of cynicism and despair over the human condition has become nearly too much to bear. I guess I'm one of them. I'm wanting to know if there are any answers I can understand that can help me cope with the daily hassles of an alienated world?*

My son, these burdens are imaginary, as fleeting in your lifetime as the breeze upon the plain. You have within yourselves the power to understand a higher level of spiritual reality, and to respond to that understanding with sure spiritual growth. If you would undertake a dialogue to find this peace, then so would we.

Okay, where do we start? Is there a primer?

One of the greatest lessons that humankind should know is that God resides within each and every one of you of sound mind, an indwelling spirit fragment of God that experiences life with you. In fact, this is how God experiences life in the form of all His creations in the worlds of time and space, eternally evolving with you through the inner presence of a prepersonal being that has variously been called the soul, the indwelling spirit, the higher self, the light. There is little significance to language names, only to realities. Bear in mind

Jim Cleveland

that terminologies and definitions are somewhat variable based on prior understandings as we go through these lessons.

The point is that you, each living expression of God, have within your being the knowledge of right and wrong, good and evil, as well as the fatherly guidance of God to choose correctly by listening and trusting this inner voice. Attunement to your inner higher selves, this spiritual spark, is the great quest of mankind, accessing God's piloting hand to help you steer forward on an eternal ascension toward perfection, aligning your will with God's so that the trip can be one of accelerating joy.

Then I will play devil's advocate. Please excuse the term. Most people think it's far-fetched to envision any kind of perfection for the miserable mass of mankind. How would you respond to them?

In this short life, you won't. But do you consider that's all there is? This life is a school, with classrooms and laboratories for material experience, and for your indwelling spirit as much as you, for you are separate, but entwined. Together you strive toward that perfection as far as it can be carried in this material life. But this life is only the beginning. When you look up into the billions of stars and planets, do you not get a glimpse of the enormity of the plan? Do you not see a God behind the plan for all this? Do you not conceive that the bringing to perfection of all the creatures of time and space would be a fascinating preoccupation of such a God, one that God can share and experience with each individual personality of the creation?

You make it sound like a super celestial game of some kind. Are we just pawns in a game?

The enormous amount of celestial resources devoted to the ascension of God's time and space beings makes this far more than a game. It is the plan for the universes. The seven universes of the superuniverse, as explained in your Urantia text, are essentially schools, environments for learning and growth.

And you, humankind, are far more than pawns. You have been endowed with certain wonderful gifts that make you perfectly unique beings with powerful potentials. Consider the gift of life itself, the gift of mind via a sharing of the Universal Mind for your creativity. Consider your finely evolved mammalian bodies, your unique personality, and the indwelling spirit presence of God, which forever seeks to guide you in ways of righteousness, toward greater growth in the finer attributes. Consider your free will, which is so treasured that even the Father does not abrogate it. Consider the embellishment later by the Spirit of Truth, which was poured out upon all flesh by Jesus at Pentecost, giving each of you a stronger conviction of truth if you would go inside to find and utilize it.

I'd like to get back to this Jesus person later, but for now, if we're so lucky to be part of this grand adventure, why are conditions so bad here? How did we generate so much poverty, crime, disease, suffering, greed, malice, downright evil?

By your own free will decisions. And the gift of free will is not lightly taken away by the Universal Father who bestowed it in the first place

Of course, you have discovered a transmitted planetary history, which you call The Urantia Book. Continue to glean from it. It provides the panoramic cosmic overview — the fall of your planetary prince in what is called the "war in the heavens" and which your text calls the Lucifer Rebellion ... and then the default of Adam and Eve in their mission of biological upliftment ... followed by the materialization of Machiventa Melchizedek to foster the One God concept through Abraham and the Jews ... and then the incarnation as Jesus by Michael, a Creator Son of God, who thereby lived as one of his creations, sanctified his rule over our local universe, and finally brought the Lucifer Rebellion to an end. The Urantia Papers chronicle the life of Jesus, at once the Son of God and Son of Man, his noble death and resurrection and the subsequent development of the Christian faith. It is all there.

Jim Cleveland

But whether one avails himself of this or other real or purported revelations is a free will choice of the personality. You truly need the Spirit of Truth to help you make good decisions.

If you continue to study the text analytically, you will find an analytical answer to your plaintive cry for understanding. If you choose to receive the ministrations of God's assigned spiritual teachers and guides and avail yourselves of direct revelation from teachers at a higher plane of the ascension path, then there are greatly enhanced opportunities in these times. There are now teachers to support the text.

Know for certain. The free will gift you possess is truly awesome. And all of your Divine gifts combined make you far more than pawns. Each of you is an heroic, sparkling star in a plan of vast complexity and glory.

All that? As I understand the Urantia Papers, we are often more animal than human, and we exhibit far too many animalistic traits and tendencies. Is that not right?

Perhaps you will be as you consider yourself to be, for you literally manifest your thoughts in many ways. Would you allow your animal natures to rule your lives here, or would you reach for higher guidance? Is your indwelling spirit not continually tingling you toward feelings of love, brotherhood and perfection? Do not all of you know of God's universal command to 'Be ye perfect, even as I am perfect' in whatever words it is rephrased? And you must know that this isn't accomplished in a single, short life in material form. There is a far greater ascension plan for humankind than most have ever imagined.

Do not be overly concerned with your myriad of shortcomings. You are but babies in the universe. When you err, imagine your God as a Heavenly Father who picks you up, dusts you off and asks you gently and kindly to choose again.

Some of these babies are out there blowing each other away, committing horrible atrocities against one another. Some are corrupt to the bone. Surely all these criminals and perverts aren't part of this glorious ascension plan?

If you could search out all of the deleterious influences that lead your brothers and sisters to lives of greed, anger and aggression, you could better understand the misguided motivations that lead them to these ruins. They have fallen gravely ill to various spirit poisons – fear, envy, anger, jealousy, greed, hatred – often born from frustration, addiction, and despair, always from ignorance of great spiritual truths. So many have been traumatized by events and circumstances that you would do well to seek the reasons for their misdirection.

It is God's plan that you reach out in love to these lost brothers and sisters. This is what they truly need, and you will be amazed to see that most of them readily recognize this need and will respond to you in positive ways. Reach out and do this; radiate this love. There is a great need for this daily service, reciprocally, between all of you who would be led by spirit and love. Each of you has greater power than you can imagine to bring the holy reality of love into the hearts of persons with whom you interact every day, and strangers as well.

Each one can be brought to the fold of spiritual security who does not consciously embrace evil. One does not embrace these false concepts once they are shown the power of loving brotherhood, once they see the light of truth that loving one another radiates the world toward peace and joy. Let that truth, the power of universal, unconditional love, radiate from your inner spirit, wherever you go and to whomever you meet. You'll do well in life if you do.

Some few do overtly choose evil. This is sometimes done, but not often. Most are misguided and weak, not evil. And in the afterlife, when certain universe realities are then recognized and God's plan revealed, these ascending humans then have the option to consider this new knowledge and carry forward in the universe plan. With this

Jim Cleveland

enlightened perception at hand, few humans choose extinction over moving onward.

Wait a minute. Are you telling me that we lowly animal-origin creatures, spiritually indwelt by God, are not only the prime subjects of a grandiose ascension plan toward perfection, but that we also have the right to choose whether we go on or not? Aren't you giving us a lot more power than we deserve? Isn't God making these eternal salvation decisions, or certainly a divine tribunal?

God chose to create you and give you free will to choose the Divine path. We believe that God has faith in you and all of the created beings, and knows that all will come to good eventually and be returned to the First Source and Center. God has faith that, once the reality of the plan is known to you, that you will choose love and the long and fruitful path toward spiritual perfection. But you may not know the full picture until you cross to the other side.

But all doesn't come to good the way I see it. So many of us lead miserable lives, and often check out early. Others gain power by choosing evil ways and cause great suffering for the innocent. This talk about Divine goodness is pretty pat when we're faced with impossible problems every day. And I didn't cause them. I didn't make the world a crazy place. We're just stuck with it.

You touch on many things. You say that all does not come to good, but how do you know? Do you not understand that your spiritual identity goes on when the material body is dead? This indwelling spirit, your soul, is your true identity, and do you not think that the good you have done and are doing is worth saving for posterity? Would God have this lost? No. Nothing good is ever lost.

Haven't you truly wanted to sow seeds of goodness? Have you not sought truth, beauty and goodness and longed for its reality? God knows these things and judges you from these values that you would say are of the heart. God knows that you are an inherently good person, created, as they say, in his image. You are essentially a good person, as most are, and will come to good, namely a place in the

ascension schools for mortal beings that Jesus called "many mansions," which the Urantia Papers revelation reveals as the "Mansion Worlds." You will come to good here, for you will be resurrected and refined as partial spirit beings, beginning your spirit world ascension through many schools and many adventures.

All will come to good.

And even those who are horribly misguided and even have committed evil will have the opportunity for rehabilitation, but they must begin this quest at whatever lower station is assigned. Many have given up on truth, beauty and goodness in your mortal world, but we say to you that saving messages will be coming to them and to all of you more intensely in the immediate years ahead. We would have you listen.

You touched also upon your supposedly sorry plight of having to deal with these myriad of problems caused by both your ancestors and your contemporaries, a world of their making, certainly not yours. However, you would do well to analyze each and every of your own individual positive and negative contributions to society as an exercise in your own spiritual growth. You may find that you radiate more discontent than you think, and that you contribute little of true value because of your negative attitudes, the bad vibrations you inflict upon scenes which have greater potential.

Life is an opportunity, not an obligation. Without problems and challenges, humans would not grow in character, and in the spiritual values that will be so important to you in the long ascension plan that awaits after this brief mortal sojourn.

You must know yourself that humans rise to their greatest achievements in adversity, and fall back to complacency or worse when the path is easy. Your challenges and problems are opportunities for learning and growth, though it is surely not easy for you to recognize them as such.

Jim Cleveland

It would also be a good spiritual growth exercise to list on paper those quality traits of the perfected human to which you would aspire, and then note the noble and generous actions that you have yourself performed in pursuit of them, and in response to the adversities you have faced. Know also that your indwelling spirit seeks to always lead you in these paths of growth, and so you can expect these continuing opportunities.

Are you saying the spirits, angels, whomever , are constantly throwing up problems so we can deal with them and grow?

You make well enough problems on your own. Your spiritual helpers do, however, help to present you with situations, which require moral decisions. These are opportunities for you to choose rightly and grow. It is true that humans have often chosen wrongly and reaped bitter harvests. Such as the uncertainties of time and space worlds.

I don't want to cause anybody any problems. I just want to mind my own business and let everybody else do the same. Is there anything wrong with that attitude?

Learning to interact with others is one of the great lessons in the universe, and will be part of your ascension plan at all levels, for the Father's many personalities of time and space are often quite different from your own. As you ascend, you will eventually learn that cooperation can achieve much more than competition, that there is strength in diversity that can be fruitfully exploited by those with love for God, with love for themselves as children of God, and for one another as spirit imbued beings made by this same Heavenly Father's hand.

This learning during your material life will be all the more honored through the ages, for it is achieved in a relative vacuum of higher knowledge concerning the universe. Many on your planet see no evidence of a God with their material eyes, yet have unseeing faith. This is an ability much appreciated on our side. You have been

called "agondonters," those who can believe without seeing. Although, in reality, you are seeing at a deeper level.

I doubt that there is any deeper level. Reality is that it's dog-eat-dog here. We have to be tough to survive, and we have to be doubtful, suspicious, even angry and confrontational sometimes to cope with what we have to deal with -- a lot of who you call brothers and sisters are out to cheat us and maybe destroy us.

God did not make this so. You did. If this is what you believe to be reality, then your actions will surely make it so. Believe otherwise and you will see otherwise.

You have every right to defend yourselves, but the most effective means is by returning good for evil. The power of loving goodness is so much more than you imagine. You can do so much to deflect aggression and animosity toward yourself, or what you imagine to be, by responding in kindness, and with the offer to help relieve your attacker's frustrations. Have you not seen this melt aggression? And have you not seen that responding with animosity and anger invariably makes the situation worse. Use the power of love each day; eventually you will understand that it truly is the most powerful force in the universe.

You can defend yourselves without resorting to the spirit poisons that can pollute your minds, and then your bodies, and, indeed, the atmosphere all around you. Have you not observed personalities who can lighten a room with their loving demeanor, and others who can cast a pall with their troubled presence?

It would take an idiot to have a blithe attitude about some of the awful things that happen in the world. We have every right to be serious-minded and defensive.

If by blitheness, you mean a feeling of constant happiness because you are a child of God on a wonderful ascension path that reaches far beyond this world and cannot fail, then I would say blitheness is desirable. It is like faith.

If your definition of "serious-minded" would be one who lives in fear and distrust of his fellows and thereby sacrifices much of the joy of living, then I would say that this state of mind would not be in your best interests. Even if your mortal life is taken in a horrible turn, this is no tragedy in the overall sense. Death is presently the only realistically achievable means by which humans on your planet are able to cross into the spiritual plane. It is a human tragedy, of course, if an untimely death cuts short your experience and your potential growth while in the flesh. But this growth will continue exactly where you left off at the next level. And there will be a multitude of experiences, beyond your imagination.

Please know also that you can defend yourself from danger while remaining in true acceptance of the Father's will. Struggle, my friend, is part of the universe. But do not struggle in fear. Do not live in fear. It is destructive in many ways.

How about soldiers? They live in fear and they live to destroy. God may not want war and killing. But sometimes you just have to defend yourself with violence or be destroyed.

Understand that all soldiers of all sides of all wars go to the Father's spiritual kingdom for judgment upon dying. The war itself provides only one consideration regarding a person's mortal life. Killing in war in the absence of spiritual poisons, which many embrace, would not count nearly as badly against an individual as would murder with malice.

You must know, however, that even those who have committed evil acts have the opportunity to renounce and make amends for these acts and continue in the ascension plan. That which is good and aspires with potential for goodness will be brought forward in the plan. The individual must consciously choose extinction, and few do so once these truths are revealed to them on the spiritual side.

So even somebody like Hitler or Stalin, who have done great evil, would have the opportunity to survive death and move forward in that ascension plan. Is that right?

Yes, in keeping with their mandates. This is a matter for God's high tribunals, the Ancients of Days, and each life is an open book before them. The path of rehabilitation for ones so misguided will be much more regimented and correctional than for those who have made some contact with the God inside that forever stands open to you.

You must understand, too, that there are many humans not of normal mind. God, of course, takes into consideration that genetic abnormalities should not be weighed against the survival of a well-meaning personality.

It seems there's lots of rehabilitation going on in your Heavens, and no punishment. Aren't you taking the easy way out here? Wouldn't it be better just to eliminate some of these undesirables as hopeless cases?

Thank you for several more stimulating questions.

Rehabilitation as part of education is a vital part of the universe, especially in worlds such as yours, which have been quarantined because of the Lucifer Rebellion. This essentially means that you have long been cut off from universal media, the broadcasts that disseminate news of the many planets of your local universe. You have been isolated, but this isolation is coming to an end. And you will experience the rehabilitation to God's glories that is your own. Knowing it firsthand will bring you new insights into the values of compassion and mercy that are the very essence of Jesus/Michael and a hallmark of his mission on your planet.

Amazingly, it is a fact that the good that has resulted from this rebellion of Lucifer has been many times greater than the bad. It has been a mighty confirmation of God's plan because of the sorry plight of those planets that were diverted from the true wisdom. Learning

Jim Cleveland

and growing then, education, including rehabilitation, is the working force of these universes of time and space. Creative energy is the fuel.

You would do well on your planet to more strongly consider and practice rehabilitation in criminal systems instead of so much punishment. You will not be able to do this until much greater increments of love, compassion and mercy are instilled in your hearts. But when you do, you will find it very fruitful and advantageous to society as a whole. Your systems of punishment often become schools for hatred, and society often reaps a terrible whirlwind.

You state that rehabilitation is easy. It should not be.

And you state that it might be better to eliminate some personalities as hopeless, beyond rehabilitation. These decisions are for the Ancients of Days. Our responsibilities are other than this. But it is true that there is still opportunity to exercise your free will gift before this tribunal and choose to move on in God's plan. But rehabilitation may require retribution, and may be found to be such that the individual would choose extinction rather than embark upon this plan for growth and learning.

If extinction is chosen, being "as if you never were," then that goodness that you accomplished in your earthly life, from the largest to the smallest act of kindness, will be forever preserved and carried up into the universal experience. Nothing good is ever destroyed. Certainly not God's indwelling gift to you. This internal being, called the "thought adjuster" in the Urantia Papers, is invariably blameless for a human's failures, and upon human extinction would likely be assigned to another evolving mortal. Some Thought Adjusters have had experience with other mortals before indwelling you.

Well, I'd like to believe all this wonderful stuff. But even if it's all true, it just makes me more dissatisfied with the true reality of my life, and makes me wonder if there's any hope for the world to get from here to utopia. I'm not getting any deep messages or adjusted thoughts from inside and I don't see a lot of progress in the world.

You will soon see that there are strong evidences of a planetary spiritual awakening all before you, if you would open your eyes. And you can surely be an important part of it if you choose. There is much room for skeptics and cynics in God's kingdom, for they often prove to be stalwart and brilliant speakers of spiritual truths who know from whence they speak.

Right now, I'd just remind you once again of the miserable shape the world is in, and how hopeless it is for one person to do anything about it. I might be able to develop some faith in God's plan, but I don't have much faith in mankind.

God does. As we work together, so will you.

2

**'God is already part of your presence. Only
acknowledge it.'**

So, let me summarize your pitch and revisit some things. We are in disarray down here because a couple of celestial missions gone awry. We were supposed to evolve out of the animal kingdom somewhat faster. But since we didn't, the celestials are taking part of the blame and are here to help rehabilitate us – at last. Is that about it?

The Heavenly Father has always provided a piloting hand over all creation, often sending additional assistance should his free will time and space creatures get into trouble. There have been rebellions, yes, among the billions of worlds and trillions of beings, each with their own personalities and free wills. Rebellions have always proved to be valuable learning experiences in the long run and the good has always eventually outshone the evil.

To be more explicit, your original planetary prince, Caligastia, was assigned at a designated time in your evolution, to teach and to shepherd the evolving beings into God's plan for their growth. He was swayed to rebellion by a very brilliant being, Lucifer, who fell to the temptations of excessive pride and self-adoration.

Rebellion, you see, is possible, and actually made possible by the Heavenly Father. But the truth, the Father's truth, will eventually

be manifested, known to all, as the outworkings of rebellion are seen and experienced, such as you are doing here on your planet.

We are telling you that this rebellion has been adjudicated. The long debate over the rebels' fates has come to a conclusion. They have been rendered "as if they never were" with all the good they ever did preserved, and this all opens the way for more celestial help to manifest on your sphere, and on those others that fell with you and were quarantined because of the rebellion.

This celestial assistance is what the more spiritually perceptive among you are seeing all around you as your world becomes increasingly awakened to spiritual realities through the incremental opening of certain energy circuits.

This rebellion that we speak of, called in your Bible the "war in the heavens" and somewhat sketched by the apostle John in the Book of Revelation, has left your world regrettably under a cloud of uncertain leadership for some time, though you assuredly have always had the Father with you, inside you, for guidance, every one at every moment during these centuries of travail and trouble. The Father has never lost true control of these destinies, though he has permitted the nefarious ideas of Lucifer to play themselves out over time.

Your rebellious prince, Caligastia, and his aide, Satan, have long maintained that they should still rule your planet, Urantia. But in recent years the petition to have the rebel leaders extinguished has, after long consideration in your frame of reference, been granted. They are now truly "no more" and will inflict your planet no more with their bankrupt ideas.

Later in your evolution, even while this debate of good versus evil raged on, the Father sent to your sphere your Adam and Eve. As you know, Material Sons and Daughters are assigned to each planet at a particular stage of development. Their mission was for biological uplifting, and it, too, was shortened by default. It is indeed a sad story of a fall from grace, though these beautiful beings are even now reclaimed to service in the Father's kingdom and destined to once

again be here on your world. Mistakes can be rectified and seekers returned to the path of spiritual growth.

Wait. I thought Caligastia and Satan got extinguished. Didn't they get a chance to continue on this marvelous ascension plan you have outlined?

Indeed, they were. These rebels against the divine plan were always given opportunity to reinstate their allegiances to God-given service to the universe. But in atoning for evil there is always rehabilitation through service. Would these highly perfected personalities choose extinction rather than re-emergence into service in some other status, which could be decidedly lower, is a personal decision. They chose their extinction. The petition by Archangel Gabriel was predicated upon their continuing rebellion and defiance to support their own autonomous rule outside the celestial administration. In this status, rendering them into oblivion is the obvious rule of universal justice.

However, do not see these planetary princes and rulers as part of the mortal ascension plan, as they are rather descendents, coming from higher realms of the universe in service to these time and space worlds. It is, of course, an aberration, that these ministers of God would turn to rebel against the wisdom of the universes. But this has made your planetary history particularly rich.

This rebellion and this default are part of your history. We are here now because with the adjudication and the extinction of the rebels, the quarantine that has been imposed upon your planet and others because of the rebellion has subsequently been lifted, and we are free to minister more freely to you this outreach of the Heavenly Father's love. When your planet is eventually restored to full interaction with the universe broadcasts, you will know of a certainty of the existence of all these worlds of time and space.

This all sounds very much like a science fiction adventure to you, we know, and we are more inclined that you get the details of these adventures from the Urantia Book, which is your strongest

Jim Cleveland

revelatory spiritual document and should be considered. Details are there.

This is history. The mission at hand is to assist you in making spiritual contact with the Father, establish a personal relationship that will help you grow. Allotting that daily time for worship and prayer will yield untold dividends.

Yes, I'm sure that God is very anxious for us to be big buddies. Just joking. Actually, I don't feel like I'm worthy to talk to God in an intimate way, not until I become a lot better person than I am – and I'm going to work on that.

The Father would have each of you working on that, in the way that your free will would choose, with the talents you are provided, with the indwelling spirit that will show you the way, and, more recently, with all of this celestial help that is flooding to your sphere. And you reach all of this through the daily stillness. The Stillness is the door, the threshold, for personal spiritual growth.

Have you ever wondered at the coincidence of how you have recently been making supposedly accidental contacts with other people? In recent months, have you noticed that internetworking for your personal and spiritual growth has been accelerated? If you are cognizant, you will be even more open to ways of spiritual growth that will be presented to you. And by spiritual growth, we mean in a broad sense, growth that will make you a better person, of stronger character, with more beauty and grace. This all relates to spiritual values, and we would seek to instill them in each of you, one by one, through liaison with your indwelling spirits.

Your ability to make meaningful contact with this inner spirit, higher self, thought adjuster, or whatever you call this very real entity, is a real key to your growth on this material sphere. Make that effort – daily.

Will it be so hard learning to communicate with God daily when you realize that God as your indwelling spirit knows you

intimately, experiences every second with you, and monitors your every thought and deed? Would it not behoove you to know this indwelling entity personally, deeply, to know and understand what God's internal representative would have you consider at every turn?

God is not so far away and highly removed that you should feel you're not worthy of his presence. God is already part of your presence. Only acknowledge it, and act accordingly. God chooses to indwell you and experience life with you. What greater way to show how much he cares, how important each child, each soul, is to the Divine plan? What better way to make your life worthwhile than to accept yourself as a unique child of God? Unique!

Maybe if people felt better about themselves, they'd feel closer to God. But a lot of people feel they've failed in one way or another, either in business, or with their kids, with the kind of lives they were going to make for themselves. So it's understandable they don't feel so good about themselves.

The Father feels good enough about you to live with you, each of you, and to continue flowing to you many bountiful gifts, the miracle of sunrise each day, a place to live, to explore, experiences to have, service to give.

But you may say that you don't feel God's presence. Why isn't it here? Why isn't it blaring at me like the TV? That's the very reason. You reach God in the quiet times, in the time you allot daily for worship and prayer.

This daily time of what we call the Stillness can be used to re-dedicate and re-align your will to God, to truth, beauty and goodness. It is a good time to forgive yourself as a beautiful, imperfect child of God, and to reflect on ways that you can actively serve your brothers and sisters here on this troubled sphere. There are opportunities everywhere, every place that you turn. Your opportunities for service are so bountiful that many on worlds long settled in light and life are somewhat envious, in a benign sense, of the great opportunities you have for growth toward perfection.

In practicing the Stillness daily, a quiet, meditative time, you will come to know God better and decide very quickly to open a place in your life for his loving, all-knowing spirit. And when you choose to live in love each day, you will find that, in the years ahead, you will be part of a wave of goodness that leads all on your sphere into an unprecedented era of light and life.

This collective and individual lifting of spiritual consciousness will be just the remedy for your suffering world. It starts within each individual, within each heart, mind and spirit, and from these interior beginnings and into many outward manifestations of loving service, the earth and its people and its institutions will be cleansed and resurrected into a new dimension of spiritual reality. These are exciting times to be here. Rejoice in the challenges and the potentials.

Wait a minute. Now, you're sounding like a lot of this New Age stuff, about the planet being evacuated, and the enlightened among us going into another dimension. Some of them get a little far out for rational minds.

Rationality is largely a human misconception. Your sense of rationality is not well informed.

There is a large measure of new and expanded truth interwoven with the human threads in much of these new writings. We are most often inspiring you to write these works even as they are expressed in your own special ways, the individual ways of the artist. Many have responded well to our urgings and inspirations, though not without the sometime impurities of distortion and embellishment, and often an over-reliance on the seductive lure of prophecy. This is a way of life in a co-creative universe like ours. We always, in all ways, work together.

A champion of the numeral 5, of course, may find some way or other to make it the answer to $2 + 2$. Too often, one will believe a concept adamantly and then inversely build the supporting evidence around it

There are a number of New Age movements fermenting in the public and private minds. So much, the better. There are truths there to glean, higher concepts to replace current misconceptions. It all eventually comes together at every level of the Father's plan, evolving in its time. Your joyous task in years to come will be to find the commonalities in all of these consciousnesses and meld them into a collective God-centeredness that supercedes all questions of doctrine.

The growing amount of spirit-based literature, from various perspectives, is part of your planet's spiritual awakening. It can be your privilege to be a part of it.

Some of this stuff gets pretty crazy, but, on the other hand, I think much of the Bible is pretty unlikely too, embellished by the human imagination, politics, and faulty logic. How do we know what to believe anyhow? Where's the solid middle ground of spiritual truth?

It is not knowing the truth that is important, but the searching for it. There can never be a realization of complete truth in your mortal life here, only the quest. This quest is what the Heavenly Father desires of us, and what we truly must do in order to be fulfilled. Within you, there is this inner fire, this nugget of spirit, this fragment of the Father inside us, which seeks to show us the way. To the extent that we are open to its leadings and attuned to an appreciation of the truth, beauty and goodness that it represents, then we will reap the harvest of this faith and trust.

Those who are afraid of their inner selves seek not to find it for fear of awakening a beast inside. I tell you that the beast has been evicted and sent to oblivion. There is no more devil to blame our troubles and our evils upon. There is only ourselves, as there always was, now just a little freer, a little more imbued with the spiritual energy that reverberates throughout the universe outside of your troubled sphere. Channels are being opened for us; we have but to step inside and communicate with those who would guide us lovingly

in the path of the Father, and always pledging to allow your free will to be supreme, as the Father intended it.

We are seeking to achieve a measure of oneness, a union, with each of you, that you may be fully attuned to the leading of the spirit throughout your lives. In this demeanor and disposition, you will find happiness, the true happiness that eludes so many of you in the noisy, daily battles against themselves and their environment. Ask of yourselves each day whether you are contributors or users, producers of wealth or among those who would drain it without making adequate redress with your own production.

As you attune your mind, so also will your heart, your emotional spirit, begin to open itself more to those whom you might have disdained before, the diseased, the dirty, the vile. You will begin to see them with the empathy that your Jesus showed. Although he was not able to help everyone, he nevertheless was always loving and charitable with the knowledge that the misled would eventually find the true way and correct the errors of their misfortune. For he came to give opportunity, to reveal the true nature of the Father as a loving, compassionate creator, and to live as a human, suffer and die, in order that his final act of supreme forgiveness could be fulfilled.

And what a rallying point for mankind. In the suffering, death and loving forgiveness of Jesus, we see the path of true righteousness that you can never hope to approximate as rising mortals, but can achieve in the fulfillment of our long universe ascension career. It is this suffering, and the realization of the master's gift, that has unified Christians for centuries. Though the churches are besmirched with all manner of corruption, forsake them not, for they continue to offer the best hope for mankind's collective spiritual advancement.

In his suffering was revealed his strength and beauty. In his noble bearing we see the certain faith that he could suffer no harm, that he would rise above all adversity in spiritual glory, forgiving and offering salvation for all of those who plotted against him and scourged him. This ultimate triumph over mortal death is the way he

shows us all, for we all will be resurrected as well if we honor the Father who created us.

This powerful act of blanket forgiveness is what he asks us to practice in our daily lives, by reaching out to our brothers and sisters, without malice, to share in this world of time and space that the Father has created for us. Indeed, Michael/Jesus, our creator, our earthly brother, made his incarnation on Urantia one of the most profound experiences ever known or felt in the universe. And all eyes still remain on this world.

Whew! That's a load I'll have to study for awhile. First you're embracing the New Age, now you're hugging the Christians. I don't know how you're going to make it all compatible. There are some awfully narrow-minded Christians out there. But you've got some pretty interesting stuff coming through, so I'm ready to hear some more.

One question though, before we go on Who are you? Am I to be given the name of my collaborator?

You are the creator. We are the inspiration. What is any writer without inspiration? So indeed you shouldn't feel badly for availing yourself of it. We are One with you. We will work with you as the fullness of this Teaching Mission and your planet's Correcting Time unfolds. You will be valuable in helping us maintain and expand our following.

The advice I would give to you I would give to all. Get yourself centered. Eat quality foods. Exercise. Meditate. Prayer. Worship. Read. Think. Interact. The balance is there; you must simply find it. You are progressing well; continue.

I'd like to have some kind of name, please.

Perhaps we could just call it a Voice, for we are making a strong effort for you to accept our influences in a oneness, as indeed they are. The messages will be consistently centered in the Father and

Jim Cleveland

the curriculum of teaching prescribed for your world. Several personalities are often participating when lessons are given and impressions presented. And so many personalities of the Teaching Mission will be involved, even as the message is the same.

Call us the OneTeam.

Thank you. Then maybe we can go back to Jesus, and how he fits into all of this celestial tapestry.

Jesus was an example you needed. What a triumphant mission. You can surely see that.

Show me.

Your humanly incarnated Jesus is, in eternal reality Michael of Nebadon, this being the name of your local universe. Michael created it, rules over it, brought it magnificently through rebellion, and is poised to return again to this very special place for him, the planet of his human incarnation as both the Son of God and the Son of Man in one personality.

In truth, Michael is your and my creator, master and friend, and a working colleague in this mission to reclaim your planet to the Father's supreme influence. We both reach the Father through him. As Jesus, he is also your elder brother in the flesh.

Michael is a unique expression of the Father, manifesting most bountifully the qualities of mercy and compassion. You really should get to know him.

3

'Your true nature is this spark of God within. The rest is just programming.'

Well, the churches have given me a bad attitude about Jesus. To tell you the truth, I've always tried to keep both the Protestants and the Catholics at arm's length. They're just all so self-righteous and judgmental about people who just want to enjoy life – while not hurting anybody. I don't need a morality nursemaid; I'll just find my own way to right and wrong through my own perception of God and concepts of moderation. I'm not afraid to explore new realms, learn and experience new things, but the reactionary churches want to make people fearful of exploration and knuckle you under to their control with a lot of silly rules and regulations.

And that, as you say my friend, is also a load. Of course, one group of believers is not qualified to judge the veracity of another group of believers, though some through history have been seriously misguided – the judges and the judged.

In your life and times, an increasing multitude in all of the world's faiths will begin hearing in their hearts our loving lessons of peace and good will. They will understand with much more luminosity that much will be achieved by cooperation and an emphasis upon common threads.

Jim Cleveland

In time, and over the vast reaches of time, all will become golden and lead to the Father. Simply: Love one another. All of your lives will then be blessed.

Until this happens, you must grow and serve through the experiences of history. Evolving into a stage of what your Urantia text calls –Light and Life, a time of universal planetary good will. This is out of reach in your short, mortal lifetimes though you have great opportunities to help forge a strong beginning in this quest.

Light and Life will require some amount of universe time to be worked fully to manifestation, given the vast number of generational mortal lifetimes that must be given expression in order to make their contributions. Altogether these planetary evolutions comprise a huge outworking of evolutionary history in so many of the Father's growing multitude of domains.

This era can rightly be called one of intense "co-creation." Mortals and immortals, humans and God, and God's legions all working together to co-create societies in time and space and foundations and scaffoldings that will sustain us in our ascension careers. Yours, of course, and mine as well, for members of your devoted OneTeam are on their own individual paths in the "Be Ye Perfect" wonderment.

You, dear ones, are fortunate to be here at a pivotal time, when the acceleration of spiritual awakening events will be exciting to behold. Your contact with us, your diligent OneTeam, is evidence of that.

As for your personal evolution, you will use your own unique mind and personality and spirit to make your own free will decisions. In your ascension, there will be time for critique later.

Wait a minute. Some people are born into circumstances where they don't have a dog's chance. All the mind, personality and spirit that they could muster under those conditions – precious little I think – wouldn't do much good to change their messed-up fate.

Maybe they're a starving kid in Somalia, or one of those thousands of slaughtered Hutus or whatever in Rwanda, or an Eskimo kid lucky to get a piece of whale blubber, or a slum punk out of Brooklyn filled with traumas and distortions. These folks don't have much of a divine destiny.

Of course they do. In even the briefest and most deprived of life spans, there is the experience of mortal life. In one's existence, these are learning and growing experiences, interactivity between yourselves and those in your sphere of influence. One of the greatest lessons of the universe is learning to work together with all of the Father's children and it is an expanded lesson at each step in the ascension path.

For example, a young couple that loses a child may indeed, through this adversity, learn valuable lessons of bravery, courage, sharing, empathy, fortitude, compassion, and love. Who can say among you? These tragedies are not made to happen, but they do happen naturally in the course of your evolutionary life here. They provide rich experiences that help you grow toward perfection if you properly accept the gift of your life, your sonship with God, your quest to be like God, in the faith that joyful discovery will accompany your commitment. This planet, particularly, is fraught with danger, providing greatly expanded opportunities for service. In giving loving service, you yourself grow more illustrious in the sight of God.

As you view these tumultuous times know and embrace a broader and truer philosophical perception that can give you peace of mind. Mortal life on Urantia, your planet, is only one component in what can be a long and glorious ascension career. It is there for you to continue at every juncture. One juncture, indeed, is your loss of mortal life on this planet and passage upon a higher plateau in the schools that are known as the "Mansion Worlds," and referred to by Jesus as "many mansions."

Though each of your lives here is a unique expression, and the experience often profound, it is only one segment of your overall universe existence. So your loss of mortal life here, even prematurely,

is not such a tragedy in the broader sense. And your life here, indeed, will have a purpose when you can view it from a greater perspective.

Even a drunkard entrapped in failure, shivering on the street, is undergoing an experience that will be useful in his ascension career. Who are you, as mortals, to judge the life of another, its worthiness, its destiny? You are but to serve the Father's cause, universal love between all the siblings, whatever race or creed, whatever planet. Get along with it. You can't say it enough: Love one another. Through the ages, it has not happened often enough.

Well, is that what Jesus was here to say? Is that how he fits into your celestial scheme?

We can look at Jesus, Michael's mission, both broadly and intimately – in its impact on your planet's history and in what it would teach you about yourselves, you would say in knowing the human heart.

We will start with the broader sense, which requires another reference to the Urantia Papers, for this is the accessible document, which has been indited to your people. These papers are not essential for your salvation, of course. Neither are the various scriptures. The Urantia Papers essentially provide information about the celestial administration. They give many readers comfort simply in knowing that there is one, and one with an elaborate and glorious universe plan that is wrought in truth, beauty and goodness. So we will go to the Urantia Papers to overview this story briefly.

We begin with the administration of Michael of Nebadon, a Creator Son of God. To achieve supreme sovereignty from the Heavenly Father over the local universe of his creation, it was necessary that he incarnate himself seven times in the spheres of his creations. By living life as the various personalities of his creation, Michael would establish his right to rule. It is a strong testament to the value of experiential learning and the wisdom of the ascension plan for time and space worlds. From these experiences, Michael

became altogether a much wiser ruler of these worlds and their inter-relationships.

On your planet, this became a very special incarnation. You received the bestowal of Creator Son Michael upon a sphere troubled by its history – the rebellion of its planetary prince, being quarantined from the universe broadcasts, retarded by the Adam and Eve default, and to a people oppressed by a foreign ruler in difficult times. In short, it was a planet caught up in the throes of rebellion against God. How courageous to come here as a Jewish baby!

As the planet was still being belabored with the divisive and destructive thought of Lucifer, Caligastia, and Satan, it would be expected that he would undergo many trials of mind and spirit. He triumphed and effectively put an end to the Lucifer rebellion with the shining example of his life, the shining act of universal forgiveness at his mortal death, and the shining moment of triumphant resurrection upon which the Christians have long taken a valiant stand.

Christianity has ultimately had a sweeping influence on mankind's affairs. The example of Jesus has lived in the hearts of multitudes through the generations. What greater example could be provided than a life of perfection, accomplished in the face of constant temptation from Satan, who was free to roam as the nominal emissary of the deposed planetary prince? This is why you know more of this rebellious personality than you do Lucifer, Caligastia and the others.

Jesus' powerful resistance to these temptations and his triumphant attunement with the spirit voice of the Father inside was the key to his many humanly victories. And all support for the ideas of the rebels evaporated in the face of his decisive triumph here. Jesus forgave all of the humans from the cross, as well as the rebel personalities who had defiled his name, attacked his right to rule and denigrated the Father's universal plan of mortal ascension. Forgiveness can be a powerful force.

You see, a major contention of the Lucifer rebellion was the wisdom of the elaborate ascension plan for evolving mortals of time and space. Are they worthy of such a great dedication of resources? Jesus triumphed in the guise of a human. How fitting. You are certainly worthy personalities as well; victories of service stand available to you.

Wow! Worthy of going on, maybe, but not worthy of Jesus' example. If it all got put down right, he was certainly a great teacher of love and spiritual values. But a lot of people say that's all he was, certainly not a divine being, not some incarnation of God's only begotten son. There have been other great spiritual teachers after all.

It is your task, should you choose to accept it, to make yourself worthy of this example. It is your free will; it is your choice.

There have been great spiritual teachers, a number in geographical areas, which were not reached by Jesus in his mortal life. Many have represented his ideals without subscribing specifically to his example. There are many paths to the Father, as many as there are people to walk them.

Jesus was both a Son of God and a Son of Man, together in one being. His incarnation among you as a human child, born to ordinary parents, to live and grow as you do, rising to great spiritual service to the Father, dying in noble grace is a magnificent testament to his faith in you.

As far as being "only begotten," Michael is at least the only one of God's thousands of Creator Sons to be bestowed upon you, to create and rule over your local universe of planets. There are many other Creator Sons, each creating and ruling over a local universe of planets in their own rights, and each serving the need of incarnations to absolutely assure sovereignty over their universes. As we have said, of course, Michael's incarnation upon such a strife-torn, rebellious planet as Urantia, was all the more a special event, a story that has unfolded dramatically over the universe broadcasts for a long

time. Many eyes on many worlds have watched the events of your special planet for a very long time.

While Michael, indeed, is a divine and mighty being of light, and while his persona as Jesus did manifest this light, other great spiritual teachers have been endowed with special genetic gifts, and destined to become spiritual awakeners in their time and place. The panorama of reality is so much vaster than you can imagine. There are times and places for many teachers to bring the Father's light. We are only hopeful that humans will interpret their missions correctly, which has not always been the case. The Heavenly Father is not wont to ride in the front of armies, for example. This role has invariably been self-serving, as has been much lip service to both God and Michael.

Well, the Father sure gets blamed for a lot, and credited for a lot too. But it seems you're saying that our progress is mostly up to us, to help one another, though occasionally some very gifted people are sent to help, including Jesus.

Given Jesus' universe identity of Michael, often called Christ Michael, Creator Son of your entire local universe, he is indeed a higher spiritual being than those who are purely human. But universal spiritual truths can be represented by more than one person, even you. Perhaps the next person you meet.

There are just too many different ideas out there, so much diversity to work through to ever get anywhere. And it seems we're not getting anywhere. We spend too much time arguing with each other. We seem to be eternally building barriers against people who are different from us, or who have different ideas.

Our hope as your new celestial friends is that we may give you lessons which illustrate powerfully that it is not the variance of ideas that causes stress but rather the failure to logically accept this ferment as an outworking of your evolution, providing factors to consider in finding the spiritual perspectives that ring true for you. In the variety of your approaches rests the one true way of service that you must

discover for yourself, and the ways in which you can most fruitfully interact with others in service to spiritual ideals despite your varying views. For you see, it is never one entity that produces great and positive change but rather powerful combinations of humans, each offering a piece to the puzzle. You often praise only the one who inserts the final piece. When you learn to work together, you will find power. We are here to instruct you in how to proceed.

This is, of course, in feeling the love of the Heavenly Father in your hearts every day, every hour, literally every minute of your life. In such recognition comes a level of spiritual power and joy that is beyond your comprehension. This self-invigorating spiritual energy is ever-expanding as you move closer to the Heavenly Father. You will see.

To what extent do we keep the radicals at arm's length – the bible-thumping fundamentalists and the new age metaphysicians. How do we embrace them all when we try to provide this loving service?

You must meet them in the strong middle ground that is the Heavenly Father. In this commonality, your love of the Father and love of all the Father's creations throughout all the universes, will you find the strength that is required to overcome all barriers? Here, you find the key that unlocks every door, the answer that forever steers you to greater truth. Is it centered on the universal love, or is it not?

There are harmless amusements that hold kernels of truth, just enough to fascinate the truth seeker. But blame not the truth seeker, whatever his false impressions, for he is superior in development to the one who never ventures beyond the safe haven of resigned and unthinking acceptance of society's norms and mores. Our teachers, indeed all celestial personalities, do indeed have many contacts with these metaphysical seekers. Why would we not avail ourselves of every opportunity to work with humans, and lend our advice to your troubled world? Likewise, have we worked with leaders within the churches, often to good avail. God is everywhere, in all persons, in all things. Fear not.

And who is this "we" that you are always talking about? Is there this vast unity of purpose and mission on your side, multitudes of God's helpers coming to our little planet to work great wonders for us? Is that what we can expect in the years ahead — a celestial rescue and salvage operation?

We indeed come to help you, for your deprivations have left you underdeveloped along with the other 35 planets whose princes joined in the rebellion. Consequently, you know nothing of interplanetary communications and are sorely deprived in the basic rudiments of making meaningful spiritual contact. But neither the rebellion nor the default were your doing.

With the adjudication, there are many kinds of spiritual personalities coming to this group of planets to serve in many ways. It's all much bigger than most of you can imagine, though your science fiction enthusiasts have assuredly gone even beyond what exists within the celestial framework. Humans do have big imaginations, which can be highly serviceable albeit problematic.

It is not we celestial teachers who will work wonders here; success will come from our efforts in unison. That is the co-creative, co-evolving beauty of it. And that is how it has always been – humans and spiritual influences working together. If your influences be positively charged with the love of our Universal Father, the forthcomings will be splendid testaments to this supernal influence, the fruits will be ripe and tasteful to the generations ahead of you, and us.

Humans, after all, have the bodies, minds and spirits to actually do things on the planet. Your actions are required to upstep the evolution.

Never fear. The Father will pilot us all. And your celestial teachers and guides will inspire and instruct you without giving you commands. You then will act and serve in ways of your choosing, and always in accordance with your free will choices. These actions, we

may assume, will be based upon your perception of universal truth. The stronger your knowledge, the stronger your actions. A stronger partnership, humans and celestials, we could not imagine.

Well, a lot of us, me included, may feel we're not getting much celestial help in our workaday ruts. How can we get out of these tiring, boring ruts?

Humans make their own ruts. With their sameness. With their unproductive, repetitive habits. Have some adventure.

It takes money to have adventure.

Your reliance on money as a panacea will prove faulty. True values, as you are discovering, are not purchased with currency.

One must also ask the definition of adventure in your mind. We see it as the manifestation of every learning and growing experience that you can achieve. Always, there are rules to the game of life. There must be the support of food and shelter, and the resources of others with whom you would form bonds of friendship, collaboration and support. And once a particular adventure has been experienced, it is often advantageous to step in a new direction. Too much security leads to complacency and laziness, boredom and irritable distraction. Keep your lives fresh in order to be happy; continue to flow living water of new truths into your main life stream.

You speak as though being happy, blissful, going about every day spreading God's love is a natural thing to do. Well, who's got the time? And people will think you're a blithe fool, so they're not going to pay any attention.

You make too much of it. Your best approach at present would be your own personal spiritual growth. You would do well to work on yourself for quite some time before stepping out to an active public ministry. There are many spiritual understandings that you should glean in order to achieve the enlightened insights to make

fruitful decisions in a ministry. An effective ministry of broad service requires much connectiveness with the Divine Source.

But your personal ministry, indeed, is ongoing, with every person you meet throughout the days. Do you radiate love and friendship to these people? Do their misguided and harsh words and actions cause you to strike back at them and contribute to a growing whirlwind of discontent? Or are you capable of returning good for evil, melting away the poisons that can permeate your minds and dictate wrong actions?

Are you knowledgeable enough in spiritual truths to respond creatively, lovingly, in faith and represent the Father and your Creator Son well? There is, of course, much for you and all others here to learn before administering meaningful and impactful spiritual advice. Learn for now. Respect the opinions of other students. And simply radiate concern for those you know and meet in the way that Jesus would have. This is your eternal example – his gift and his Father's gift to you, to show you the way to live, and, indeed, the way to die, and, indeed, the certainty of resurrection. Michael, embodied as Jesus, represents all this and more.

In order to find these spiritual truths that will bolster your faith, imbue you with a higher degree of love, enhance your experiences in truth, beauty and goodness, and settle yourself into a greater feeling of peace, subduing the eternal restlessness, there is but one daily requirement. This is the stillness, the quiet time for spiritual communion each day.

Can you not devote ten minutes to the Father each day? Is God not worthy and deserving of this short time in return for the many gifts he has bestowed upon you? Can you not surmise that this time of centering yourself in the Father, giving yourself over in loving compliance to the higher wisdom of this higher power, would yield for you great dividends? This daily devotion, indeed, is a time that would come back to you manyfold, in increased spiritual energies of many kinds, resulting in greater peace of mind, clarity, feelings of love and tolerance, an understanding of the underlying frustrations

and motivations of your brothers and sisters, even greater physical energy through which to enjoy your day. This regular, daily practice of the stillness, mediation and upreach to God, can be a powerful tool for your spiritual, mental and physical growth, one that we desire that many more humans understand through experience.

We would recommend that you first find a quiet place and time with which to relax your body. Allow the busy concerns of your human life to waft away, out of your mind, not fighting them but simply imagine them floating away, beyond your immediate concern. In this state of relaxed and open acceptance, and with a sincere wish to have a personal Father-child relationship with God, your best first option is to make a meaningful statement of worship to this Creator of all, this First Source and Center, however you conceptualize your God.

True worship precedes true prayer, and prayer should be specific and directed. There are legions of angels waiting to act upon your petitions as they are received and passed on to them. But if your vague and generalized prayer is for "peace on earth," then where will they start? Better to pray specifically, where actions can be focused and directed.

There are so many specific things to pray for, people who are suffering or are misguided, events and situations, which are harmful and could be rectified with a greater awareness of truth or a greater measure of love and tolerance. Pray for specific outcomes, always subject to the Father's will.

From worship and prayer, we recommend giving yourself to thoughts and feelings of forgiveness. Constantly forgive yourself and others, for you are all much imperfect, evolving, growing, and often-deprived personalities. It is your intentions that truly matter, not the inherent weaknesses and fears that drive you to act sometimes in the wrong way. But the Father loves you in your imperfection. The ascension plan, after all, is to mold you to perfection, in God's image. This is the adventure of evolution, the thrill of ascension in the context of this massive universal plan.

One day, you will be able to see it from this broadened perspective, not from the earthbound and finite minds and physical eyes with which you can only see this one place in the Father's many creations, from gardens to schools to mansions. Do not be hard on yourselves; only strive to be like Jesus, to honor the Father's glorious destiny for yourself and for all others who likewise have this spark of divine spirit within.

In this context, in fact, who are you not to forgive your misguided brothers and sisters? Who are you to judge them in the first place? Protect yourselves from mistake, default and evil, and do it with the power of goodness, which, as Jesus demonstrated, will always triumph over the evil and bankrupt ideas of Lucifer and Satan.

Then, finally, in your daily stillness, reflect upon spiritual service. What do you, individually, do to radiate the Father's love? As you devote yourself to this daily time with the Father, daily building a personal relationship with God, knowing him as your loving patriarch of perfect guidance, then you will naturally begin to concern yourself more with ways in which you can serve these higher ideals. This inspiration will come from the energizing effects of the daily stillness, the faith and dedication that you have shown in doing this each day, from your relaxed melding into a heightened state of receptivity in which enhanced energy circuitry of these quickening times can rekindle the fires of your spirit. Each step of faith that you take will receive its just reward. You will learn this with practice of the stillness each day.

Indeed, how could you not benefit from daily worship, prayer, forgiveness of self and others, and the growing awareness of service to one's fellows as the ultimate achievement of your mortal lives? Do this every day and you will see a real and positive difference in your life.

Ten minutes a day, huh? I guess it's pretty amazing that this sounds like a lot of time and effort to our tiny minds. I don't doubt that God deserves this time; I just wonder if it's really that important

Jim Cleveland

to God. I mean, why should it be? It still doesn't seem like one life, even mine, really amounts to much. Does God really care if he gets ten minutes a day from me?

You must strongly reconsider your ideas about your unworthiness, your supposed guilt, your supposedly sinful natures. Your true nature is this spark of God within. All else is just programming. Re-program yourself to the Father, accept him as a loving parent who even indwells you with this fragment of himself that urges you on to spiritual union and perfection. Do not all of you have this innate sense of right and wrong, good and evil, those things, which could please God and those, which would not? Even the most uneducated and supposedly uncivilized among you is indwelt with this spirit.

Look not so much to society's spiritual values; they are an amalgamation wrapped in diversities and generalizations. Look within yourself for spiritual truths. This is where they have always been and from whence they have always come, from those inspired internal adventurers who have found glimmers and nuggets of insight from the universal mind, of which you all have a part. And now, in this new era, you will have even greater powers to tap into this universal storehouse, there for the striving.

Do you mean that our minds are part of a greater mind? And some of the more gifted and attuned among us can tap into it?

In the creation plan, the mind that you use here is, in fact, a part of what has been called the cosmic or universal mind. From this treasure chest of knowledge and experience, some among you have been able to glean ideas and inspirations that have energized your adventures.

Your mind is a gift of the Universal Infinite Spirit, and it is bestowed to you through the local universe Mother Spirit. There are multitudes of spiritual personalities and even nonpersonal and prepersonal beings in the Father's gigantic universal plan. It has been said that everything is delegated and then re-delegated in the universe

of universes. This is, for the most part, true, though the Heavenly Father performs certain specific functions alone. What can be delegated most often is delegated, such as with the Creator Sons who go out to create local universes out of the materials and scenarios previously created by the Life Carriers and others. These are all created from patterns made by the Heavenly Father in Havona, the very center of what you call heaven.

Whew! I don't think I could ever keep up with all this stuff you say is going on in the universe or, as you say it, the universe of universes. It's all too complicated.

Fortunately, knowing all this isn't necessary. You have quite enough to do here in this mortal life. You don't have to understand everything in your incarnation here; you have an eternity for that. In fact, the Father's plan for you finite beings is to become knowledgeable and somewhat proficient in the administration of the universe. This is a high destiny, to be sure, and you won't get that far down here in flesh and blood.

Accept this life for what it is, this material, mortal, finite experience. Take it a slow, sure, methodical step at a time. Impatience in the Father's plan, after all, has led to both rebellion and default on your sphere. You have had enough problems and suffered quite enough for awhile. What we need to do here is go back to basics; quit worrying about changing the world and start changing yourselves. That's the first step.

4

**'Struggle is the way of the universe, but in love, not fear.
That makes a big difference.'**

To say that God still indwells some people who have embraced and practiced evil is pretty far-fetched for me. Are you certain we all still have this spark of God inside, or isn't it likely that some have lost it forever?

Your preoccupation with the negative is apparent, a bothersome trait on these rebellion worlds. There is a mindset toward evil, a fascination much as a moth to a flame, which can prove ruinous for those who embrace these unworthy ideas of the ultimate power of evil. But evil has no power in the face of unconditional love; the problem is that you have not achieved the power to practice unconditional love. When you do, the world will rapidly change for you.

It is true that some misguided humans embrace and virtually worship evils and spirit poisons, and that their indwelling spirits, their thought adjusters, have been unable to make and maintain meaningful contact. It is also true that, in some cases, these monitors of the Father have left their post. It is but for these few, very lost humans to be dealt with in the afterlife, having lost the ability to communicate at any meaningful level with their spirit here. In the afterlife, they will be held accountable for their mortal lives and, as we have said, will be

Jim Cleveland

prescribed a program for rehabilitation and growth should they choose to continue above extinction.

I know this is hard for you to believe that they would have a choice in the matter based on what you have been taught previously. But, truly, you on this sphere have not had the perspective, the background knowledge and advantages of celestial contact with which to make a reasoned and intelligent decision regarding your lives here or in the afterlife. You simply have not had the resources to make a good choice, and this is taken into account upon final judgment. Upon seeing a broader perspective upon resurrection, most of you will choose to continue on the ascension path.

Well, I agree these are all fascinating concepts, but I truly don't know where they are coming from – my own mind, the universal mind, whatever. But I think if they were valid, surely at least one of the world's religions would have announced them by now. Aren't the religions supposed to represent God on our planet? Aren't they supposed to have at least some of these truths? Why haven't they been giving us these perspectives?

The churches have given you quite enough for your salvation, for we have talked about the unimportance of specific beliefs compared to the overall embrace of truth, beauty and goodness. Those who are dedicated to a religion, no matter if inaccuracies or distortions are included in its dogma, will be honored for their search and the true values they seek. You will be honored most for ... yes ... loving one another.

Those who despair of the churches' histories or perceived inadequacies, disdain them and long for a true, utopian spiritual life beyond their understanding, will likewise be honored for their high ideals and, again, the values within their hearts. Your affiliation with a church is not necessary for your eternal salvation.

But the churches, despite corruption and error, have carried the bastion of religion for a very long time, and the good they and their members have done is great, and will be honored. It is not

productive to be cynical about your institutions, only to recognize philosophically that all things evolved in humanness are impure and must be made pure by being washed in the holy spirit of the Father's love. Accent and build upon the positive, the good they have done. Help the Father's evolutionary plan along by reflecting his goodness each day, within the churches and without – everywhere.

The churches have some truths it would do you well to cherish. Choose, as Jesus did, among the scriptures that ring true to your heart, those that ring the silent bell of truth within, and embrace them for your personal spiritual growth. Those whom you recognize as being tainted by the poisons of politics, greed, and ego and power you are free to disdain, within the churches and without. It is your own mind, your own free will, and your own spirit guidance that will make the key value choices of life. This is what is important, not a subscription to some particular creed. Even the great spiritual teachers of the age had some things wrong.

The churches, like you, must struggle for a greater measure of truth. And it is true that they have often stagnated in their growth because of a fear and reluctance to shed false or partially untrue concepts in favor of newer and more enlightened perspectives. Faulty foundations were long ago put in place and cannot be improved upon. Early theories are unwisely cast in sacredness and mistakenly cloaked in divinity, and cannot be altered for greater truth.

Knowledge should not be venerated because of its age; much old knowledge is false. The truth is ever changing because additional layers and perspectives of the truth are becoming available to you all the time. As your vessel expands, more spiritual wisdom can be put therein, along with greater understanding that there are measures of truth and there is error in all things. All ultimately is a oneness that you will learn, and all eventually will return to oneness with God, the First Source and Center. But this, of course, will be in ages to come, a long distance and a long time from here, where, as babies of the universe, you are just beginning to make a niche for yourself with this experiential life as a material being.

All in your time and space world is evolutionary, including your churches and other institutions. If you would have them evolve better and faster, lend a hand. Being cynical about them, and reciting litanies of real and imagined complaints about their error-streaked past and imperfect posturings of today does little good, and rather creates negative energy vibrations around you. Vibrate good and positive, faith-filled feelings about the fate of your world; they will be expanded by the spiritual energies and manifested in gratifying and productive ways. Your thoughts, as we have said, are indeed a kind of manifestation. Good vibes will make your life better.

Good vibes sound like lip-service jargon. In reality, I watch the evening news and see the storms of insane and greed-driven conflict that permeate the whole world.

And do you feel your lives are better because there is so much emphasis in the media on the bad, the evil, the tragedy? Do you not feel there would be positive consequences if there were more emphasis on the good, more attention to the people around you who are making life better?

Many of you are too quick to see and stress differences, rather than to build upon commonalities. Many lack the understanding to be tolerant and respectful of those who believe differently about an issue. In truth, the issue often has insufficient value to have ever promoted disharmony. You argue divisively about things, which are of no real importance.

You often dote on the conflict of a situation and quickly choose sides without knowing all of the information you need, feeling some misguided demand to do so, then cling stubbornly to that side for fear of your ego being damaged from having to admit you were wrong in the first place. This can lead to a never-ending cycle of distracting conflict within your lives. These ego-based emotions that hurt you should be recognized for what they are, and then set aside if you are to achieve true spiritual growth.

Well, it seems to me that having a healthy ego is a good thing. We wouldn't have the gumption to do anything if we didn't have some self-respect.

Self-respect as a child of God, and an uncontrolled ego that leads to arrogance and self-love are two different things.

Jesus walked with great self-assurance, while being gracious, kind and generous to all he met. This is true strength, not physical muscle or a mean-heartedness that generates fear in others, and certainly not the prideful satisfaction of wielding power over others and amassing wealth at the expense of others.

What's wrong with making money? We shouldn't be egotistical and greedy bastards, no, that's the people I'm most cynical about. But it's necessary to make a living and it's all right to accumulate wealth if you're able to do it. To me, that's what the life test is all about. I think God put us here to work hard, use our talents and succeed, and if we make more money than anybody else, that's okay. Life is competitive, no matter what you say. That must be God's plan too.

There is much more to God's plan than animal-like competition on these evolutionary worlds of time and space. Earning wealth is indeed a sign of achievement if it is done in the context of true values and without hurting others. Often, wealthy people have difficult life decisions based on these considerations. This is why Jesus noted that it is more difficult for the rich to enter the kingdom of Heaven. Their wealth can be a great test.

Not only will you be judged on the methods used to acquire wealth but in how you used it. Wealth would provide you many opportunities to radiate the Father's love, and to promote the ideals of truth, beauty and goodness. Would you do so if you were wealthy, or would you be disastrously distracted by the lures and temptations that your wealth manifested before you? What will you do with your talents and with your wealth, which is virtually the same issue? These choices are again yours, and must be made without divine

Jim Cleveland

intervention – interference. Again, you prove yourself spiritually worthy by the choices you make.

I thought you said we are all worthy, that we'll make mistakes and that's okay. If that's true, why don't we just relax about it? What's all this struggle business about? Why don't we just wait until we get on the other side, and enjoy this life for what it is – just try to keep a wry sense of humor about all the idiocy that abounds.

Complacency here will lead to boredom, restlessness, feelings of unfulfillment. As said earlier, the universes are schools. You will be better served if you make the most of your learning opportunities here in the mortal life. And you will be honored and accelerated in your program of spiritual growth in the Mansion Worlds if you are able to make some significant spiritual progress on this plane.

Yes, we have said struggle is the way of the universe, but in love, not fear. That makes a big difference.

Make the most of your lives here. They are truly unique experiences and provide many opportunities to advance your ascension career through service, more than you can understand at this place on your path.

You know, a lot of what you say is not unique or revelatory. I read it in the metaphysical publications. A lot of it is basic to the churches. It just sounds like a conglomeration of all of this, mixed into my own mind, and regurgitated here on paper. It all must be in in my mind somewhere, like a smorgasbord, so maybe I'm just talking to myself.

This is often the case, but you will note that the statements you make in reply have truly stretched your thinking and your spiritual perceptions beyond what you knew or even thought before. Is this not validation? If not, don't worry. Doubts and questions are very much a part of this communications process and should be. They must all be worked through eventually. This is how one builds faith.

And faith is truly the greatest key to your spiritual growth. This fact has certainly been no secret to anyone, religious or not.

Of course you are right that much of this is not new. We are only hoping to gather truths together and showcase them dramatically, so they can be better understood and relationships more easily grasped. Much of what you hear during your planet's spiritual awakening is centered in the same truths. Many humans who are achieving celestial contact now are getting basically the same message because it's basically the same truth. You will see this as you study and compare different paths within this vast spiritual searching. Often, only the terminologies and perspectives are different, while the inherent truths are much the same.

We do not discriminate on any basis. We want to work with every single human who will work with us, from whatever frame of reference, new age or old age, mainstream or alternative. Each is a child of God. Each searches in his or her own way.

We prize the bold dedication of sincere metaphysical students. We seek to bring these many disciplines of study together within the light of the one true reality that will bring them all answers and peace – the existence and continuing dedication to humankind of the Heavenly Father who resides within us. This will bring many of the so-called new agers into a mighty common purpose in time, and you are already seeing a great beginning for this. Likewise, this is true for religionists, scientists, philosophers, all people. The age is coming in which God will be at the center, ushering in the era of Light and Life.

Some of these people are pretty far out right now, though. What is the truth? Is the planet going to be evacuated and the tuned-in saved while a big celestial clean-up plan is enacted? That seems to be the hottest story going.

We don't prophesy, only discuss probabilities. Prophesy indicates that we know completely of the Father's plan. We do not. It implies that the future is not manifested by all of your free will choices. It is. But throughout history, mankind has embellished,

Jim Cleveland

mythologized and prophesied based on everything from true celestial inspiration to an overactive imagination and submerged agendas. You will continue to do so. You will continually learn to control this, often through experiential mistakes.

Some are sincere, but misguided. Some seek power and money. Some can rationalize anything they do in their own manipulative minds. Humankind is truly a challenging conglomeration of quivering free wills in interaction. What would you expect from all of this? We often wait in anticipation and wonder, as you do. And this is the way it is. The future is not known for it is constantly being developed by free will decisions. You would do well to release your fascination with prophecy and be more concerned with making the future what you would have it to be.

In fact, there are many visitors to the area around your planet, and all of those, which were wracked with rebellion. This huge mission of reclamation to the Father's universal plan incorporates them all. There are various orders of beings here, lending their talents and skills, in cooperation and tandem with us, more than most of you can imagine, for this free will universe is truly a busy and exciting place to work.

If an evacuation were necessary because of major environmental problems, it could be effected. But it is also true that such a dire situation can be avoided, and that all is within the Father's power. Sometimes our friends are called into action in case of contingencies, which do not happen. But then, who is to say what will happen? With sufficient faith in the Father, we are not so concerned. Each of us has our role to play, our service to render, our lessons to learn, our growth to achieve. If it is to plan for a possible evacuation, which may or may not happen, then these personalities will indeed set up this process. Whether it will be needed or not, we cannot say. The future is too much driven by your free will decisions as God ordained it to be.

So you're saying we're really making the future ourselves, at least for this planet. So would you let us destroy it then?

If you accept the nature of God as we have described, as a Father-like relationship, what do you think? Do you surmise that God would allow your mistakes to result in the destruction of your world? Perhaps this is directly related to how much faith you have in the Father, and your perception of the relationship that God has with your planet.

I'm sure God is disappointed. Maybe he'll think it's better to burn off the lot and start over. Didn't that happen with the dinosaurs?

Can you truly say God is disappointed, given your history and the deprivations you've suffered? Were you not evolved from animals, molded through the generations toward the ability to perceive, think, reason, with God always knowing the level of your ability to comprehend and lead a righteous life? Would not God in his infinite wisdom, make allowances for this? Do you doubt what I say that you will be judged by your true character, your acceptance of God's Fatherhood within your being?

Why would God be disappointed in you? Is it not possible that you and your societies are exactly where they are expected to be at this stage of their evolution from the animal to the divine? Perhaps it would not be God-like to allow his misguided creations to destroy themselves, even though surely would there be resurrection to the Mansion Worlds of those who aspire to growth. Would God, indeed his sovereign son, Michael, creator and ruler of your local universe, allow destruction of this world which has suffered so much already, which is Michael's planet of bestowal? Would not Michael, Jesus, manifest his primary characteristics of mercy and compassion in dealing with the results of rebellion in his universe, and on his incarnation planet? What do you think?

No matter how one considers the issue on our side, we cannot conceive of reasons why God would allow you to destroy this creation, either with environmental abuse or awesome war weapons. Lucifer's path has already been revealed as a field of thorns, and many lessons have been learned from this misguided adventure, on

Jim Cleveland

this planet, on the other planets of the rebellion, and by the citizens of all of the other planets already settled in light and life. The learning from the rebellion has truly been awesome.

But then we cannot say with total certainty that God would not allow massive destruction to occur. God's wisdom has always proven greater than ours in all matters, especially in the allowance of rebellion in the first place. But we share with you our thoughts.

In the end, the question revolves in large part back to what humans think, for your thoughts truly do motivate and provide the fuel for action. In predicting the future and understanding God's will for it, none of us are infallible. We are eternally pleased to know that God's will is always done. We trust our fates in his hands. This is part of what faith is.

You are continually making your fates with free will decisions, all of you, and so your thirst for prophecy is misguided, a form of speculative wonder and entertainment. You would do well instead to go about making the future what it should be, to God's standards, by Jesus' example, or by example of other of your spiritual teachers.

The fate of your dinosaurs, by the way, had much to do with the dichotomy of gigantic bodies and tiny brains, and insatiable appetites that were becoming cataclysmic for the environment. With a short stroke, yes, this evolution was aborted, and it was indeed activated by your celestial government, but today's situation is far different than in this primitive age of reptiles, which were not imbued with the Father's spirit. The world has changed much, you will agree.

*So they turned out to be an evolutionary mistake, right?
Couldn't we humans get bad enough to be considered that too?*

I see you still have little faith in your brothers and sisters. The daily stillness will temper your disposition from restless cynicism toward a more balanced reality. Each day that you will devote this time to your Universal Father, you will make progress, in small ways,

incrementally. The fruits of good prayer are most often an increased dosage of truth, beauty and goodness, that is, learning a little more of what is universally true, having a little better appreciation for things of universal beauty, and feeling just a little more of the goodness that God, your benevolent creator Father, wishes for each of you, day by day.

All he asks is that you stay close, so that he may regularly energize you. Ask for what you want in good faith and sincerely state your appreciation for the many things your Father has already given you. Nothing could be more important to you in your daily life right now than adherence to this daily devotion.

Are you sure ten minutes of quiet time is all that powerful?

It will be more than quiet time; it could be the busiest and most productive time of your day, though this might not be readily apparent in the mortal sense. But the Stillness is the catalyst, the threshold for your personal spiritual growth. Love will come from here, and ultimately love is everything.

5

'Remember the Be Ye Perfect mission, for it is real.'

So in ten minutes of relaxation and thoughts of God I am to be energized and happier each day? Is that what you're saying?

We are saying this time can be the catalyst for much spiritual growth. There must be a threshold to greater spiritual receptivity, a door to open, and the stillness is that door. You can hardly make a meaningful connection with the Heavenly Father in the cacophony of noise around you each day, the jumble of human-instigated actions all around to which you must respond and relate.

These quiet moments of meditation, first of all, provide the means and opportunity for the Father's celestial teachers and guides to gather close to you. Then, from the sincerity of your heart, revealing yourself through prayer, you have the opportunity to communicate with the God-source and ask for specific merciful acts and interventions on your and your loved ones' behalf.

This key to effective prayer is indeed within your heart. Approaching your daily stillness as an obligation, an act of servitude or penance to pay to the Father, would not be the most effective attitude. Going into the stillness with a wholehearted love and appreciation for God's manifestations is a good attitude for worship, which is a fine beginning to your stillness time. Then, in prayer, the best attitude would be one of sincere and committed devotion to the

needs of others. The strongest prayers, generally, are those we make for others, not ourselves, although it is perfectly well and good to pray for oneself if your attitude is right.

Following your worship and prayer, our collective of teachers has also stressed the conscious act of forgiveness, for yourself and others, as well as thoughts and commitments of a service nature, those conscious and concerted things that you can do each day to spread the Father's love.

In addition to this heartfelt goodness through which you would do well to approach the Father, there are matters of mechanics: Stilling a busy mind, learning to float away impediments rather than fight them, learning to truly set aside hidden agendas and personal biases that can poison the whole affair. These are all important challenges to the human transmitter and receiver of spiritual energies.

Learning to effectively devote a time for stillness every day in order to achieve the maximum benefits, requires a great deal of commitment. Those who have achieved it, however, will testify to its contributions in their daily lives, their enhanced understanding of the world around them and their place in it.

Pretty powerful stuff for such a simple exercise. But none of this is new. A lot of deeply religious devotees have apparently been meditating effectively for their personal growth for centuries, not that humankind as a whole ever seems to get much good from it.

We had not intended to convey that the daily stillness is a simple exercise. It can be anything but that for most humans, and much practice is required, as we said. Neither did we intend to say that meditation, even expanded meditation into spiritual upreach, is necessarily new to your planet. There have always been those who have developed the inner powers to reach through to the cosmic mind, or at least one or more of its many expressions. They have invariably had the problem of understanding their contact once it was made. Misinterpretations are rampant, but of no real matter in the outworking of the current spiritual awakening.

As to whether the deeper understanding achieved by religious meditators has benefited society as a whole, there are surely differing views. Sometimes they have, when the receiver has been able to transmit them through service. However, spiritual meditation is most clearly defined as an exercise of personal spiritual growth, not a venue for ministry to others. As such, we can recommend it to everyone, for it can be practiced on many levels and effectively by each at their level.

These spiritual insights gleaned from stillness meditation might well be conveyed to others through personal ministry and various media, and this will be increasingly so during the spiritual awakening of this part of the local universe which we call the "Correcting Time." But a larger problem is the low percentage of those interested in spiritually instructive texts, compared to a rather high rate of collective interest in materials of dubious value.

The Correcting Time will, in large measure, enable changes within the human mind and heart as you individually and collectively move up toward a higher state of consciousness, in which purer, truer values will begin holding sway over the thoughts and actions of society. From the spiritually expanded hearts and minds of the people will be effected changes in your institutions. This will require much time, much outworking, and much growth for all of us.

Well, when you start talking about that, I wonder if it's going to take a hundred years or a thousand years or what? Some people say changes are going to be happening more rapidly in the next few years, the times are quickening and all that. What's the deal about time anyway?

Your concepts of time and space are indeed different from ours. Upon your resurrection into the mansion worlds, when you realize that eternity truly exists beyond the time and space worlds, you will think of time much differently. There will be less restlessness, impatience, and fewer tendencies to cram all knowledge into a finite amount of time spent in flesh and blood.

It would require an endless labyrinth of discussion to compare finite and infinite realms of thinking and the multitude of blended levels in between, but you can surely see that your mindset will be much different in the afterlife. You will one day conceive that a hundred or a thousand years of this planet's time is not so very long at all. But these complex lessons of comprehension will be yours to learn when you are ready for them. It has been truly said that when the student is ready, the teacher will appear. When the concept can be grasped, the concept is presented.

For now, know simply that time is a tool. It will indeed require much time and the dedicated use thereof to solve the world's problems and bring yourselves into an era of what we call Light and Life – enlightened planetary government, peace and respect between races and nations, a common language, true planet-wide cooperation in an aura of brotherhood and mutual caring, colored strongly of mercy and compassion.

You may perceive that it is a long way from where you are to this utopian paradise. But to us, it is a foregone conclusion since the Heavenly Father has proclaimed it. This makes it so, only requiring the events of history to work themselves out. Much time, by any measurement, is required to bring the myriad creatures of time and space to spiritual perfection, at least those who will remain on the path. Remember the "Be ye perfect" mission, for it is real. Whether it be a hundred or a thousand years, revel in this grand adventure that requires the collective efforts of many generations. Navigate through the adversities that always make you grow stronger and more perceptive – what opportunities they are – and realize triumph over adversity. As you ascend to Mansonia, you can follow the actions of succeeding generations on your home planet, armed with the knowledge that these many finite mortal lives are but individual expressions of God that will live on in a growing splendor. This is a universal elixir of energy of which you can joyously partake through eternity, and an antidote for the temporal mortal setbacks, large and small, which contribute to our learning and growing experiences.

Yet as we instruct that a thousand years is as nothing to the Father, and little import to his eternal spiritual warriors, we do acknowledge to you that time is quickening on your sphere, moving faster in a sense, being compressed, through the gradual and incremental opening of additional energy circuits.

Expect also that these circuits will be periodically opened so that those among you who can attune through the stillness can receive very real increments of what some would call higher energy, others would call expanded truth, beauty and goodness, and still others would call a heightened awareness, a continually expanding and rising consciousness that can readily make meaningful contact with these spiritual influences. These manifestations of God, even now, are energizing, expanding, and rising up to meet you in this glorious quest of time and space worlds.

In other words, events are happening a lot faster as we enter this new millennium. On our side, we also speculate as to how much more acceleration can be expected, how fast events will happen and whether the Father or Christ Michael will make some special dramatic sign of the new spiritual age's dawning in the immediate years ahead.

You sound like there's a wide variety of influences. Are they all from God, or might there be some more rebels out there? Is this daily stillness a danger in any way? You're giving up your mind to the control of whatever spiritual forces might be out there, it seems to me. Aren't there bad spirits still around, or were they done away with along with Lucifer and Satan?

In the case of Lucifer, Caligastia and Satan, all three of these arch-rebels chose extinction over rehabilitation and reassignment back into the Father's kingdom. This is sad, for the opportunity was indeed there. Insofar as thousands of other spirit personalities, there has been an active effort by Christ Michael personally to reclaim as many as possible into new fields of service rather than extinguish their life force. This is in keeping with Michael's great character of mercy, compassion and forgiveness.

This essentially means that, except for those remnants of vandalistic rebel spirits and midwayers who may all have been either reclaimed or expunged by the time these words are published, there are no new evil influences being promulgated by those who have long professed their right to rule your planet. Their perverse ideas were officially bankrupted with Michael's triumphant incarnation as Jesus and now are scattered and dissipated before the wave of joyous truth represented by the Father – a magnanimous destiny of truth, beauty and goodness fulfillment for all the creatures of time and space. As has been said, disagreement with this ascension plan was a root cause of the rebellion. Your planetary prince, Caligastia, his aide Satan, Lucifer himself and the other rebels considered it basically a waste of time and resources to ascend primitive, supposedly spirit-imbued mortals, an enormous waste of resources. I trust you would not agree. I trust that you feel the Father spark inside you, your mind and personality, are all worth saving, worth the investment to bring you to spiritual perfection.

When going into the stillness privately or in small groups, it is, of course, advisable to wash your room with the light of the Father, recognize the great love power through worship and prayer, and a calling forth of God's blessings upon all siblings. You have naught to fear when you call upon the Universal Father, when you surround yourself with the Holy Mother Spirit, the magnificence of Christ Michael.

These and legions of other beautiful and devoted messengers and workers will surround you, and as you attune to this daily practice, you can learn to verbalize the teachers and guides as well, just as you are taking down these words that we would offer as guidance. Do it yourself. With the continuing opening of energy circuits, this and other gifts will be coming to those who are attuned and who ask for them.

I'd like to think there's a golden age somewhere down the road, but I certainly won't be around to see any meaningful difference in my short life. The few people who will practice this

stillness daily certainly won't make much of an impact on society as a whole for a long time. Am I right?

With the pace of quickening events all around you, yes, we believe you will discern meaningful differences and a decided shift toward spiritual values on your world in your lifetime. But there will also be conflict as those opposed to change, always numerous, will fight these new spiritually freeing ideas. Some feel they have much to lose; in reality, this is not so.

You can be part of this change, these first pivotal years, if you choose. Does not this seem enticing and exciting, to explore and learn new spiritual dimensions as you go?

As for the daily stillness making an impact on society as a whole, of course it will. As more find this spiritual upreach and accept it as real, with the associated joy of knowing that individual spiritual guidance is available, lovingly, supportive and for free, each day, in fact each moment of each day, then their mindsets will be elevated toward true active involvement in spiritualizing society. Their actions, first suggested from within the higher self, the indwelling spirit, flowing outward with a pure spiritual purpose, will make great changes. Luckily, you will get to see some of them firsthand, and even effect them if you choose to step forward in Michael's mission to reclaim your world. We will all explore this phenomenon together.

I never thought I'd be working for Jesus in any capacity, and now you're telling me I've got a job if I want it. But I surely wouldn't be prepared.

You prepare with daily stillness. Worship and pray. Express your concerns. Ask your questions. Get the guidance you need. Just be patient. It may take hours, days or weeks for your answers to get to you. But sincere petitions are answered. This is true.

With concerted practice, which mostly involves opening yourself in faith and letting go to God's spiritual guidance – truly, without inhibitions and fears – you will make contact with a personal

spiritual guide, who will be with you constantly. In time, you can call upon spiritual insight whenever you need it, at the very moment, perhaps, when you need to say the right thing in the right way in some act of personal ministry. It is not easy to achieve for yourself this high level of spiritual guidance. But the path is certainly open to all, and this potential resides within each and every one of you.

I'm still a cynic, even though I'm going to re-read and study a lot of this material, and you're already trying to recruit me to evangelize, and telling me I have great spiritual potential. That's a little hard to swallow right now, at this stage of the game.

The word "evangelize" carries too much uncertain baggage. We only ask that you radiate caring concern, friendship, and respect to your brothers and sisters each day, love the Father and pray for others. Once your own progress has reached a certain level, you will, of your own accord, be a stronger representative for these truths. The fact that you are a bonafide cynic will allow you to effectively deal with this type of personality.

For now, I think I'd just like to get into this stillness business and see if I really believe that everyone can get a personal spiritual teacher. Who would that teacher be, and where would he or she or it come from? I've been hearing about spirit guides through channelers for a long time. Is it one of those I want, or is this a special team sent directly from the Father?

The Father has always given full opportunity for salvation upon this troubled sphere. Know this. Now, with the adjudication of the rebellion, great numbers of spiritual helpers have volunteered to serve on the rebellion worlds and are coming in greater numbers and greater variety as time passes.

The times are quickening. There is a spiritual train streaking across the landscape. Climb aboard any car, per your level of understanding, and you will receive a joyful ride.

6

'A fear-based society must be transformed into a love-based society.'

Okay , I've got your homework. But I'm still bothered by the fact that a lot of this isn't really new. They're like ancient axioms that have become clichés, and since they're clichés, people don't appreciate them. What good are they if people don't put them into practice? And I still don't see evidence that the Father takes much of an active hand down here.

The Father would, of course, provide you with the basic spiritual truths, no matter your conditions of evolution, in order that you can choose. The savage deep in isolation has this innate knowledge of right and wrong that comprises the indwelling spirit's truth, and has the same opportunity for eternal ascension as you. These truths are indeed timeless in that they have dwelled within mankind for a very long time. Now, we seek to enhance evolution because of the tragic misfortunes you have suffered. It is perfectly compatible to respect your free will decisions while providing enhanced inspiration to you to make the right choices.

And consider the wondrous opportunity Christ Michael gives to each of you, to actually participate in your planet's spiritual awakening, assuring you that all you do, even simple acts of daily kindness count for much, very much in the eternal plan, and in the eternal appreciation you will receive from your Creator when you

choose the righteous path. It is a magnificent stroke of brilliance, we think, that Michael, Jesus, would bring you into this epic struggle to redeem Urantia. His triumph, of course, was also as a human incarnation.

So we're all going to heal the planet working together, bring it to light and life. Isn't this a little grandiose? You're starting pretty small, aren't you, with just a network of people who transmit your teachers. Even the fundamentalist Urantia Book communities haven't accepted the Teaching Mission yet, and you're talking about the world accepting it? Is that enough tough questions for you?

Enough to answer collectively at one time. Indeed, the very idea is to start small so that maximum time and space growth can be incurred. Jesus himself started small, but produced great influences. You are all worthy enough to start at this small level; you are as undistinguished as were the apostles.

As to the assurance of success, we have already told you that it is already so, for God has proclaimed it. It only remains for it all to happen, in the fullness of time. We have no doubt that your planet will be brought successfully to light and life, and have no doubt that many inspired humans will help in this grand project. If you would believe it, perhaps you would help make it so. I say to you that God does not revere a defeatist attitude; it is not a feature to be appreciated. You would be wise to boldly run the race of life, and let God's internal pilot show the way.

As for the Urantia Book hierarchy disdaining the experience of spiritual contact, know that many reconsiderations will be made in time. Sometimes the most skeptical, those who work through a myriad of doubts and false impressions built upon false beliefs and assumptions, will be all the more stronger as teachers later. They will have worked through so much. And they will have learned much in realizing, over time, the nature of the prejudices that blinded them in the first place. All of you are learning and growing. So be it, and at your own Godspeed. We appreciate skepticism because it propels several areas of growth.

Okay, so big things can be done by ordinary people with great ideas. Suppose this is true. Why can't we all make a big impact? Why don't you just give us the wisdom and insights to really make some big changes in the world? You have them; give them to us.

Indeed, we shall and already do. If doctors and scientists and business executives and presidents and congressmen would honestly seek God in the Stillness, they would be signally enlightened. We have the need that people ask for spiritual guidance from the Father. Ask and ye shall receive. Too few are now asking, but more all the time.

Even in the churches, the power of effective worship and prayer is often not taught effectively, nor the power of living service daily, total forgiveness of all and everything in faith and trust in God's plan. Great truths go lacking for teachers in the quagmire of fear and the demand for control that grips all of your institutions. You can help us break these grips. We can provide the truth, the insights. You must express them, for you truly live here. You are the ones with the mortal forms, the hands to do, the feet to go, the minds to think and respond. This truly is a co-creative effort, this lifting of Urantia from the quicksand of rebellion and default.

Make no mistake, there will be some big changes, especially in the ideas that come forth to your public agenda in regard to parenting, healing, reform of institutions, freedom of religion, altruism over racism, business ethics. They are coming already if you will become perceptive to them. But like all good ideas, there will be opposition. There always has been, from the self-serving.

But this is our way. We are self-serving personalities. That's the way we're created, and we're only being true to it. That's why competition is good, I think. We learn and grow from competing, and often have fun doing it.

This is true. Human life itself is often a competition, as it should be. You learn from this, but also you learn from cooperation,

altruism, values which are much higher than the animal-like urge to be the best, take what we want. The animal kingdom is about power; God's kingdom is about loving cooperation, for this is what builds civilizations rather than throwing them to turmoil. In Lucifer's rebellion, he had a far more condescending view of your metabolisms, your beings, than was proclaimed in the Father's ascension plan. Ironically, we sometimes hear humans speak the very falsehoods that Lucifer proclaimed, and he loved you far less than did the Father and the administration of personalities who work to bring you toward spiritual perfection according to the Father's wishes. Lucifer, Caligastia, Satan had no such good intentions for the human race, yet their ideas, spawned and maintained in fear, still remain ironically strong in residue.

But not for long.

So the devil is just about done for, huh?

Truly, this "devil" that plagues some is entirely of their mind, of their making, of their imaginative embellishment, and in this time of enlightenment it is truly residue that will, in time, melt away as more of you are transformed into loving and caring faith children of God. A fear-based society must be transformed into a love-based society. For love truly is the opposite of fear. Fear cannot exist in the presence of love. In the meantime, manifest what you choose. It is truly that simple.

Well, people can't necessarily control all their thoughts and manifest things at will.

Well, of course not. That is the challenge. And that is what God's teachers are here to do – direct your thoughts in the right direction: Toward God. Toward Godliness. Toward whatever level you can achieve here on this troubled sphere – and that will be enough.

I have made bad choices many times, and done things I'm not proud of.

This is no matter to a faith child of God. The Father knows your every characteristic, the certainty that you will fall, time and again, because you cannot do otherwise. But God loves you as you were created, imperfect, stubborn, defensive, fearful, whatever. God only asks that you accept his Fatherhood and let Him guide you. Submit to yourself that what God will tell you – internally, surely – is right. Do what you know is right and you become a faith child. Align your will to God's in faith, and you will, from then on, be guided on a path of discovery and growth that is precisely designed for you. If things get challenging, you will learn and grow from it. If you are confronted with doubts that you can step forward and do something new, understand that this may also be a growth opportunity. To stretch yourself. To make of yourself as much as you can in this mortal life, more than you ever thought you could be.

Well, I'm encouraged to try. Perhaps as a cynic, I'm not really doing much good for anybody.

Especially yourself.

Have faith that the mortal things that make you cynical will not stand in God's plan. But understand that God's plan is for his imperfect but beloved will creatures of time and space to be brought to ultimate spiritual perfection if they prove worthy and willing to continue the journey. It is always a mutual decision to continue – that of the personality, and the Father's representatives, the Ancients of Days, who measure every reality and potential of your existence. This is the so-called final judgment ... the roll call of the righteous and the unrighteous. You can still choose the path of God at this juncture, yet knowing that this path will not often lead you to luxury and entertainment. It will, however, always lead to your growth and your glorious spiritual ascension. Make yourselves worthy of God's very presence, and this presence will be achieved by you and become a joyous event inside you, deeply into every core and fabric and heartbeat of your being. Such an opportunity.

As you say Go for it!

Jim Cleveland

I smile with you in the challenge. We, celestial and human, will work together. We will help in one way in the magnificence of the planetary Correcting Time, where we altogether work with so very many in so very many ways. It will be a glorious triumph, in time, with Michael's return to his planet of human incarnation, the well-known "World of the Cross."

In the meantime, there is much to do. Wouldn't you agree?

*That's the easiest thing to agree with that you've ever said.
Should I say we're facing a "helluva" job?*

You can certainly use cosmic colloquialisms as you free will choose.

More importantly, with this truth in mind, can we expect your assistance?

'The initiatives are what matters, your will and intent.'

Okay, let's just suppose, as you say, that these worlds of time and space are set in motion and function as sites for the evolutionary ascension of humans toward Godliness. And God allows the free will actions of the time-space creatures to be the driving force in evolving these planets to a higher state. Well, then, what if some people don't want to be part of the plan? And how about suicide? That's a free will choice to just end it, so is it okay?

How you perceive yourself is much of your choosing – another free will choice. Are you the spirit, the indwelling thought adjuster of Urantian terminology? Are you that indwelling spirit that developed your mortal life plan with the Father and are you imbued within a finely developed mammalian body and with a gift of mind to carry it out? Are you the physical framework, which allows you to function in a material world, but will surely die? Do you consider yourself part of some great mind that evolves back to the source? Part of each of these is true; life is always a question of degree.

Truly, it is you as a fusion of your indwelling spirit and unique personality that will survive and ascend. Your body is certainly part of you on this plane, and by free will you choose to give it the degree of reverence and development that you see fit. And you are also of your mind, endowed by the Mother Spirit in accordance with your life

plan. You are actually indwelt in several spiritual ways that your text describes. In sum, you are a combination of these – mind, body and spirit – in this form. As you ascend, your need for a material body will subside and disappear as you achieve high incarnations of true spiritual beingness.

Those of you who suffer in various ways from misunderstandings of the truth would do well to bring forth their truest identity as a faith child of God. Accept God's Fatherhood and love accordingly. Attune to the indwelling spirit and ask for guidance. When you know that God's guidance is truly real and available, your attitudes about this life will greatly improve.

As to suicide, it truly brings no answers to bear. The very condition that precipitated the action will exist again, on the other side of the passageway of death. The lessons of forbearance and strength through love must be learned, on this side or the other, if the ascending child is to continue to grow. Addictions, as well, will carry to the other side, where the ascending human must continue to face the challenge of growth.

But maybe the human doesn't want to continue, doesn't want to grow and learn.

We have somewhat covered this ground. You would do well to absorb more rather than reiterate the same concerns, though they provide the opportunity to express answers differently and perhaps more meaningfully.

Would self-extinction be anyone's choice? Few choose to be as if they never were. Once all the facts are known on the other side, you will likely choose to continue your ascension, as we have discussed. But you must live with what you have done here, and grow and learn accordingly.

It's just hard to accept the idea that God, so very powerful, destroys what doesn't measure up, the evil and the merely stupid alike. I guess that isn't true, but it is so ingrained.

Much ignorance is ingrained as dogma.

There is a supreme logic in the fact that God must be supreme love, for the creation act itself is an act of love, of bringing into being to give, to share. And God, of course, creates, and has created many great and wondrous things. The attributes of vengeance and anger are not associated with the manifestations of goodness that have been the Universal Father's hallmark throughout all and everything. Acts of violence and destruction would have to be an opposite.

In truth, God does allow evil as an opposite, but as an opposite of God, how powerful can it be? It is simply a barrier for faith children to break down while sojourning on the perfection path God lays before you. God would have you experience triumph, victory, and how else but with the creation of a 'bad,' an opposite to the only true reality. Enjoy the triumph over your animal natures, what you perceive as the 'bad.' Enjoy the triumph over evil, which can be manifested within yourselves when your animal natures and the rebellious ideas of Lucifer's war against God come into your mind's play. Enjoy the adventure of life and its panorama of opportunities.

Well, why are you telling a bunch of ordinary people these things? Why not tell the President, the Pope? Get some of these leaders awakened to the fact that we've got to develop our spirituality, do away with greed and rancor? You could do something dramatic to get their attention if you wanted to. And you could just give us a cancer cure if you wanted. Why don't you help us in these ways?

First, understand that whom you call ordinary people can achieve great things. For instance, Jesus' apostles. Many great leaders were ordinary before they were great, and they became great when they became inspired by the Father's light. You can aspire to greatness, but will only achieve it when you accept your achievements in the mantle of loving service, without ego aggrandizement. But the opportunity for great service lies before you, each according to your talents and aspirations, and each is honored

for their service within their capabilities. Loving service to others is truly the fruit of the universe; you will understand in time that service given always leads to service received, and growth in the light which brings you ever-Godward, lighter, more blissful, more fully knowing. This is your ascension, and it will grow ever more exciting and fulfilling over the ages.

As for communicating with your leaders, we certainly are, and from whence comes loving inspirations, tendencies, desires, ideas, emanating from the spiritual side of humankind's nature. It is hard to analyze your way to God; it is easier to be open and to be inspired intuitively.

We urge you to assume a role of service when any one of your leaders of coming years comes forward in a courageous stand for truth, beauty, and goodness. Support this stand and help it grow. And, of course, be alert for it. A cynical attitude poisons, in that it paints all with the same remorseless brush of badness, and this is not true. There is goodness everywhere, within and without, and the cynic cannot see it, blinds himself to seeing it. Open your heart and your eyes will open too. And feel free to be a leader yourself if you are inspired, and if existing ones do not reflect spiritual leadings.

Remember, of course, that each and all have indwelling spirits, which are now more active than ever, and there are increasing activities of various ministering angels who are making their presences and natures known to inspire you, even as they serve you.

And finally, why do we not simply give you the answers to the test questions, cure your cancers, solve your evolutionary problems, and thereby end the Father's plan here on Urantia? This is truly beyond our prerogatives. This is your planet, your growth, your ascension, your garden to tend and develop.

And we think that, despite default and rebellion, evolution is continuing in quite an exciting way here. The adventure will continue, with increasingly more inspirational help coming from our side, but not disturbing this grand plan of Christ Michael's to reclaim these

worlds, and with humans themselves being part of the action. How grand it is that you, the human inhabitants, the faith children of the Father here and on other rebellion planets, can help in this unfoldment of goodness, actually help us teach the beginnings of this planetary awakening and start the world moving surely toward light and life.

Well, you could get a lot more cooperation if you'd just give us a giant image in the sky and tell us to shape up and do it. What would be wrong with that?

Do you not see how this would destroy your evolutionary plan and your free will acceptance of God as Creator of this plan? Would you have God turn off his theatrical presentation, turn on the lights and tell you all it's over, sign off on your planet's evolutionary experiential growth for all its humans, this grand opportunity for each of you to enjoy some of the same creative success as God? What then? Would you learn nearly as much after God's legions appeared to cleanse and correct it all for you and with you? You would not.

You are now in a good learning environment and it is perfectly safe in the large sense. So many humans have passed through and chosen to continue, even many of us who come now to help you see the true way. There is great learning and satisfaction in discovering the truths on your own, making your own history. And it seems highly appropriate that Christ Michael would make humans an integral part of his coming again to Urantia, get you involved in bringing a new and enlightened religious foundation to your planet, an expanded understanding of his life here. After all, as we have said and must re-emphasize, he triumphed before as a human, as one of you.

Well, speaking as just one human being on one small planet, I get pretty discouraged sometimes at all the unnecessary conflicts and alienation. I think less of myself when I can't just deal with it with a cool head. I know that I need to apply myself positively every day, develop a strong self-reliance, act and be strong in the human sense. I know that. But I also know that I need to align my will with God's and

Jim Cleveland

embody some kind of gentle grace like Jesus showed. I'm having a difficult time doing both of those things together.

Always, in mortal lives, there will be the necessity to make the mortal way, with sustenance for the body, the mind, the soul. Do this in balance as you can and don't worry about it. It is your life. The challenges are part of it. You are doing fine. But to feel well, you must take care of your body, your mind, your spirit. Feed them all in balanced measure. There is a time for all; time is what you manage and allot to fulfill the missions of your life.

But I worry that I am spending too much time just earning money, paying bills and buying things to the exclusion of my real spiritual growth, that I should worry less and trust more in the Father to guide me through daily challenges. On the other hand, I know that the Father also wants me to apply myself diligently and aggressively, maybe more than I am, and so I worry as to whether I'm really doing enough in my spiritual networking. Should I be less restless and more patient, and wait on the Father to provide some revelation that moves things forward. Should I work harder and longer hours? I can't seem to find the right balance between trusting the Father and taking my own initiatives.

The initiatives are what matters, according to your will and intent. Whether you succeed at each and every thing is less important, for your individual endowments and their relative degree of development are known. What is not known is what your intent and purpose will be, and whether you will act upon it. This is the test and measure of a faith son of God.

When you act to maintain an aura of goodness about yourself and those within your realm of responsibility, your honest efforts are honored. When you devote an extra measure of time to the Father's work, this is honored as well. Each act of service is appreciated; each act of learning, of growth, is applauded. Each pure thought aspiring to love and godliness is well-recorded for your place in time. Do all things in love and all things will be a face of love.

It is truly said: Don't worry. Be happy.

I am still concerned about money when I am hand-to-mouth. I am also concerned about my spiritual growth when I am too lazy to go into the stillness each day because I'm hustling money – or my own pleasure. I don't seem to be focused. How can I improve?

You constantly improve. Of course. Your problems are everyman's problems; your challenges the classic construction of the Father's universal plan. Be glad to be a part. Nothing bad can really happen to you if you're God's child. Work hard yourself and count on the Father to work hard for you too. Each effort is reciprocated with effort; each service leads to reciprocal service to you in a great, spiraling circle. And of course, you are improving, being polished to finally become glistening crystal. Rough around the edges here but you are such a young rock.

But don't I worry too much? Shouldn't I have more faith?

That could be said for almost all. Be happy and move forward. Struggle in love, not fear. This, then, makes struggle not hard to bear but truly an opportunity.

How would I know if the Father put a choice, an opportunity in front of me? Will I recognize it? I have so many projects going right now. It seems like I need to focus more, but on what? On which project? How will I know the direction that God would have me go, what God's will is for me?

This is why we would have you build your intuitive senses and get rid of the ego-based flotsam of earlier years. You cannot think yourself into this –knowing of the Father's will. But you can feel it. It will feel right for you and you will see that it will put you in a context of new sharings – new givings, new service, another phase of your learning and growing adventure. But often the Father simply wishes that you use your gift of free will in a loving and discerning way. It is up to you.

Jim Cleveland

Your focus will come as you define and refine these issues in your own mind, and as choices are made by others in their own particular sphere of influences which brings the necessity of choices in front of you. It is all too complicated for us to prophesy coming events, for the choices humans make are so many and so meaningful, and very much interrelated. Your future course of events can well depend on the choices made by others. And all choices are designed to be of free will. Your fates are, therefore, interwoven and difficult to prophecy. We can only evaluate probabilities and rest in faith on the success of the Universal Father's plan.

You can know that your closeness with the Father will bring you continuing support and solace, often in the reality of a brother or sister who comes to you. But know well that the Father only influences those who have accepted his energy; it is not likely that one not close to the Father would be brought to provide opportunity for you, but more likely would be in need of your service instead. There are those who will come to you for many reasons, for permanent alliance, for a passing contribution, for reciprocal giving and sharing, or just in need of a moment of your insight, a gentle hand of love. The parade of life continues. We are pleased to share it with you.

As for making the choices, I say again, this is your life. Just constantly believe that God will guide you truly as he would have you experience, and asks that you willingly follow this divine will as best you can. Then you will always be rewarded with the constant sustenance of peaceful trust.

You are not intended to be in perfect alignment with the Father. You will exhibit the weaknesses of your creature reality, but this is of little matter in the context of your true identity, your spiritual higher self, the spiritual destiny by intent and purpose that you seek to achieve.

The Father will want to keep you on the path if you would choose to be there. Don't you think?

The Father knows I get off the path too much, that I could be a better, more disciplined person than I am.

He loves you no less. He created you as you are.

But he would be happy if I would apply myself a lot more.

God did not choose to make you perfect. God chose to bring his children to perfection. The journey is the story.

8

'Give love and love is received; give service and service is given.'

All right, I've got much to re-read and think about. I know that cynicism just poisons me and sends out bad vibrations, that I should have more faith, love, trust in the Father's plan. I should take a more balanced attitude about everything, knowing that the world is like it is, and it provides a rich variety of useful challenges that help us grow toward divine perfection. Does that about sum it up? And what is it that you perceive that I don't really understand yet? What is it that would really settle my mind about the way things are, and get me started on a steady path of progress?

Indeed. That's the question for you. We have said repeatedly that this is your life. We're here to give you insights that will help you make those life decisions. We do so in love, suggesting and asking that you do all things in love. That is your answer. Do that. All else will take care of itself.

How many do this? Does love permeate your days? No. And so energies are lost, environment is polluted, situations become fearful. All must eventually learn to live in love to bring the spiritual energies into balance for the fruition of humankind. You will learn this through the Father's technique of evolution, each generation building upon the other. And now this will be accelerated. As the Urantia text elaborately relates, you were deprived of your planetary

Jim Cleveland

prince. You were lost to your material son and daughter. You have suffered long enough in darkness and will be brought forth into the Father's illustrious light, by our hands and hearts and minds collectively and cooperatively.

As a mechanism, you must go to the Father daily for spiritual nourishment. You may call this the stillness, as we have. You may call it meditation or prayer or worship. But it is the personal relationship with God that you must make and maintain to achieve a fulfilled balance on your sphere.

I know you've told me you're not going to provide a cancer cure or anything, that we have to earn knowledge and discover things for ourselves, but there must be some enlightened concepts you can give us about our institutions as they're now constituted. Could I ask some questions about how we can put spirituality back into some of these institutions? Maybe get some ideas to try.

Ideas are most often given in quiet times, to individuals, unobtrusively, for there is greater opportunity for these ideas to outwork if they are given and begun on the individual level. Besides, it is the function of the Stillness to open the mind, body, spirit to these leadings. Conversely, this is a medium by which large numbers of people will be reached. Such insightful ideas do not work as well in a mass publication, as they do within the minds of those who are capable of receiving and acting upon it. Individuals may become, as you say, 'movers and shakers' if they are sufficiently inspired.

Nonetheless, we would give you tidbits to consider about your institutions in the guise of questions.

Is capitalistic competition really so much preferable to open-minded, open-hearted cooperation? Is it not realistic to cap the incomes of the very rich and raise the incomes of the very poor? Is there something to hide that the financial books of every business institution be shrouded in secrecy? The advent of open, sharing bookkeeping for honest disclosure will be a signal step forward, even

though the immediate reaction would be a wave of fault-finding and gnashing of wills and motives.

There is a reasonable profit that should be had, but windfall riches should be reinvested to bring forward the very needy. And these needy should be grateful, and be taught to take a level of working responsibility in the enrichment of their lives and their benevolent society. Give the poor tools to help themselves and expect them to do so. Those who do not should be relegated to a far less splendid existence, so that they would indeed learn the necessity and growth experience in taking basic responsibilities, to be honest, to work, to seek God's guidance. These things then should be signally rewarded.

Churches, of course, cling stubbornly to the old. There must be the refreshing air of new discovery, for history, evolution, is all discovery. Be assured, however, that it will be from within the minds of people who are in the churches that new ideas will spring forth. They will be inspired from within, from God's continuing openings of these celestial energy passages, bringing perceptions for change into courts and police stations, prisons and schools, kindergartens and factories and board rooms. When the true energizing actions are coming from inside, inner energies emanating outward, there are no restrictions whatever to these inspirations.

Minds and the collective mind will change. And so the heart will change. And so each of your attitudes will change. And you will bring forth change individually to your planet. And when large numbers feel and access these spiritual insights within these energy waves, truly rapid progress will be made. The impossible will become possible. The unreal will become reality. The material will become as window-dressing for the life, the personality, the soul, the ascension. Live it, my friend. And rejoice.

How about earthquakes, physical catastrophes? Are we in danger?

Temporal changes are of no real import in the larger picture, but, of course, so meaningful in a finite life on a greatly compromised, evolving sphere. The earth is indeed not settled, environmental damage has been somewhat severe, and we are not given free rein to make all environmental corrections that are needed. You must search inside for the ideas, put them into meaningful action to help clean up the environment on your own. We will help.

You will not have the impetus to do this without some tragedies, without some startling realizations of the costs of planetary damage, even though you fomented as much of it in ignorance as you did in evil. You must know, however, that much of it was indeed perpetrated knowing of the damage, knowing of the desecration, the dangers, and yet doing it anyway. In deplorable ways, your engulfing rage to make much wealth by a relative few of you has wrought great damage upon all of you, and it will get worse before it gets better.

You are dumping toxic wastes at every turn upon too many precious places, and this must be dealt with. The earth, the waters, the air all are polluted, and many become sick. You must find the root causes of sickness, of yourselves and your environments. We know answers that can be given to you in the Stillness time, commensurate with your faith, your love, your forgivenesses, your altruism, your desire and demand to know, that you might serve. There are answers there for you. Take them and use them in this planetary awakening.

But we reiterate that you will not grow, learn and progress in your existence until tragedy is experienced, adversity rises up to be confronted. Then you will do so, and the Father will help you overcome, succeed and grow in stature, as he would have you do.

Quite a challenge for us all. So can we count on celestial guidance like this from now on? And I still wonder constantly how long it will take to straighten out this place – 10 years, a hundred, a thousand? You say times are quickening, whatever that means, but to what degree?

The time is much up to you. You are the time creatures. Yes, we will be here to help, in greater and greater numbers. There are teachers for each and every God-seeking soul on Urantia. Vast numbers have volunteered to serve on these various rebellion worlds that are being reclaimed. These are very exciting times in this local universe, and especially on Urantia, the "World of the Cross," of Christ Michael's human incarnation.

Many wish to serve here and many are. They bring with them their own perspectives of the Light, their own value understandings, and the methodologies that will and should come into play here at this time. How rapidly the various levels of success for humankind will be achieved is beyond our knowledge. But no matter, that would destroy the adventure. We want less to know, more to experience, for therein rests achievement and soul growth.

There will surely be no lessening of energies, no abatement of the rising spiritual consciousness in the immediate years ahead. We see, in fact, incremental energy increases as you, individually and collectively, rise up to meet these new potentials for celestial communications. The universe's spiritual circuitry and your own indwelling spiritual circuitry will be working together to bring upward this great collective Ascension. Give love and love is received. Give service and service is given. You know it; now it is but to do it. In this way, energies grow and grow, stronger and stronger. Imagine yourselves, the scope of the Correcting Time embracing many planets. We will be pleased to have you be a part of it.

Just plain human me — helping save the world

You have high connections, high purpose. Your Father is God. And God has been a prolific creator of loving siblings to give you a hand. Embrace them. Embrace the Spirit. Embrace Service. It will lead to the ultimate joys of the universe.

9

'Everything is co-creative. You create. I create. We create together. This is the joy of it.'

Five years passed, with more learning and growing experiences for me and presumably everyone else in the time and space worlds.

I still remained cynical in some degree, in some times and places. I border upon it frequently when things don't go well in the world.

But, in addition to the wisdom of the OneTeam, a sense of humor also helps temper cynicism if it can be practiced in humility and grace. That is surely another story.

In the meantime, the Urantia Papers and their dynamic teachers called the OneTeam had led me to believe in these comforting facts: Evolution is a technique of Creation. All is in God's hands and all will come to truth, beauty and goodness in time.

It is comforting to have this faith even as the battles of this fermenting, quickening, ever-changing and challenging planet go on. In a human storm of noise and conflict, the Stillness time with God each day is the answer to finding some peace of mind that will sustain us in our classwork. The guidance we receive via the Stillness helps us make the right choices for our well-being, gives us the smile of

Jim Cleveland

faith on our faces and the genuine motivation to do good in the world, help build those incremental medicines of Truth, Beauty and Goodness.

Now in early 2002, the non-structured Teaching Mission remains wholesome and good, with loving vibrations and caring souls visiting together frequently at conferences. We talk, laugh, hug, share, transmit the teachers, try to remember to share random acts of kindness with the world at large every day, every moment, and grow together. We are not primarily trying to change the world; the teachers ask us to change ourselves – to become loving vessels of kindness, and with the knowledge and power to assist any soul who cries out to us for help. In this, the Teaching Mission is not unique to other spiritual movements. Jesus looks for and finds lost sheep in all places, at all times in our world, and has shining legions of loving followers serving to bring us toward Light and Life – in co-creation with ourselves.

At some time during the years a celestial teacher named Veronica gave voice to the four phases of what the Teaching Mission referred to as the planetary "Correcting Time."

*Phases of The Correcting Time, Planet of Urantia (Earth)
from Celestial Teacher Veronica, Volcano, Hawaii, September 21,
1994*

*Phase One: Deployment of teachers, group and individual for
the purpose of regeneration of spiritual values on individual levels.
Beginning of the Teaching Mission.*

*Phase Two: Reprogramming of unconscious personal beliefs
that block further awareness of potential.*

*Phase Three: Massive and collective change in basic
assumptions that will involve vast populations and bring about an
unprecedented speed of conversion that is inconceivable; a major
shift in interpretation of reality and an assimilation of spiritual and
intellectual knowing that will enable a commitment to shared vision.*

Phase Four: The involvement of the Melchizedeks to bring about the fullest development of man's highest powers. This fourth phase of transformation will impart profound wisdom that will overcome complex problems of uncertainty and usher the collective consciousness on a rapid track toward light and life.

I assume we are in part one or two of this summation, working on ourselves, reaching tentatively to others as we can feel the love vibrate and overflow. We are striving to become caring and compassionate individuals, even through the struggles of life. All is proceeding well – evolution, and its children.

After years of other challenges and enterprises, I endeavored to make renewed contact with the OneTeam, to see where we have all come -- the team, myself and Mother Earth/Urantia. Via the Teaching Mission gatherings, I continued to transmit an array of celestial teachers on specific occasions, including our group teacher Tarkas; my personal teacher and celestial artisan, Elisha; the leader of our celestial artisan's colony, Bakim; as well as lecturer Nero; a novice Mansonian named Lester; several other lyrical artisans who have provided song and verse; and also the mission leadership – the venerable Machiventa Melchizedek and the powerfully compassionate Michael. I have been richly blessed with these connections and the ability to perform verbalizing secretarial service.

Now, I asked new questions, some for clarification, others to tie up lingering loose ends, and some to get any newly available information — but mostly I communicated to just let the stream of consciousness/superconsciousness emerge again and glean some appropriate advice for my new particular place on the path.

FIRST QUESTION: I want to say first how much I love you and honor your presence. I see much more than I used to see. Seems there are material eyes and spiritual eyes. I have a million ideas I would share with people, but before I do, I want to know something – whether I can fully trust my mind as ideas flow through it and get on paper? There have been so many deluded gurus out there who may

Jim Cleveland

have lost the spiritual thread and rushed into delusional ego trips. Isn't it true that a lot of those bad influences are going to pop up, and what are we going to do to protect ourselves from them?

As you are washed in the spirit, you will be pure. May I say that now is the time for brevity. You have the foundation of knowledge that I would give you. It is now time to move on to the simplicity of God, the simple truth of Love and the joy in its spreading. Then you can trust yourself entirely. Until then, just work on it.

I assure you that the heartbreak caused by your fanatics pains us here in the outer, fuller universe as well. And as we serve here on your sphere, we see these tragedies more deeply than an anomaly. We actually experience them with you in empathy, a hallmark of Christ Michael's reign in your local universe. You may be assured that you have our best efforts to spiritualize this planet in co-re-creation with you.

In the case of deluded prophets who poison the waters, there must be an influx of active living waters to purify these streams. By working through the individual and omnipresent, God-centered indwelling Spirit of Man, we thereby begin at the center where all things are possible. From there we emanate to enlighten you, each one, from within. As your secular institutions crumble, you are well-proven to step forward with the deep insights that you possess and restructure the Garden for a new beginning.

You speak pretty eloquently still. Maybe I should just channel and not worry about writing.

You miss the point. Everything is co-creative. You create. I create. We create together. This is the joy of it. Let us now be brief, for truth is within the nugget of the greater truth. God is truly simple to understand once the riddles are solved.

What kind of riddles?

The riddles that you make up for yourself as you try to understand your identity and your place in the universe. The first point I would make is that you are not going to reach the level of understanding you yearn for in this mortal lifetime; you are building structure, scaffolding that will lead you to these greater levels of understanding as you move forward in ascension. Be content with what you can learn according to your capacity to learn it. Be happy with your capacity; fill your vessel and await greater growth in the worlds of Mansonia.

You will understand quite enough in this lifetime if you will simply study the text, this remarkable gift to you because of the problems of your planet, so that you may sort through issues of the day with a foundation of universal truth. Then apply this elevated knowledge into service toward the Light and Life era. Take your steps; serve your siblings; love one another, and the force of God's universe will be with you. The teachers are here to inspire you to do this and add fuller, more dynamic understandings from the principles of this text, and principles within many other inspired texts of your world. The truths of universal spirituality can be gleaned from many sources and your life is rich with them.

But as you study you will discover the utter simplicity of God. The Universal God is a fountain with many streams cascading across the vast whole of the creation. These streams of creative love energy flourish into each droplet of creation, which is you, each of you. Find the stream of love and follow it to the ocean of love that is God and God's ultimate truth. You are a single crystal, shining droplet and a legitimate part of that ocean. You can remain awashed, immersed in this vast ocean of Oneness if you choose, and great joy will be yours, in ascensional intensity as you can assimilate greater blessings of knowledge, goodness and perceptions of beauty.

God is Love that makes this possible. Yes.

Tell me about the millennium shift. Nothing really happened, did it? Will that allow things to calm down a little as far as apocalypse is concerned?

Pay less attention to fear mongers and more attention and cooperative action to those who are actually doing something. We have helped fulfill the Internet, the worldwide web, and other upcoming spectaculars for your networking. Use it. Use them all. Reach out and tell good news.

And you will be there with us? Is that right? What kind of support can we expect?

You can expect to be fulfilled in the light and joy of God above, recognizing his parenthood, feeling joyous to be of service in helping reclaim this infested but opportunity-laden part of the universe. Laden is the right word for it the Correcting Time involves great problem solving, major civilization building. Your roles are not lowly in this cosmic melodrama; you are central to it, on the front lines. As you ascend there will always be the mandate to spiritually serve your fellows.

You might ask why you would wish to be on our side if it is this much work, and not an aura in which to relax and enjoy fulfillment and just feel good about yourselves the way you are?

The universe is not like that. It is a joyous drive to perfection. God, the Father, gives life an endless array and panorama of opportunity for each of you. Those who squander, suffer. Even so, those who are unfortunate in the annals of time often learn the greater lessons. The universe is a school. You will have ample opportunities to learn and also to teach, here and beyond, then here and beyond again in the schools of the Mansion Worlds. You might as well start learning universal service and brotherhood here, working together to fulfill God's plan in the universe, and even in universes not yet created, for your destiny, if you choose to go forward, is helping to build and bring forward worlds, as your world is being built and brought forward now toward Light and Life, and a greater coalescence and fusion with the One Mighty Love of the One God of the All and the One.

So we should just be happy to be here, and part of it, you're saying. But I can see why many just don't want to be here with all this pain and suffering? We see thousands wiped out routinely in natural and manmade disasters. Doesn't God's plan have some wrinkles in it when it provides little or no opportunity to shine for so many thousands, even millions of people?

I see that you still doubt aspects of God's plan, as always, and you will do so for the foreseeable future. That is well and good. Asking questions is the best way to get advice and if you remain pained and angered by all that happens here, you will ask more questions. Repeating lessons in new ways is actually a major teaching technique in the time and space worlds, and certainly vital while humans are wrestling with the way they define terms and circumstances, which are not compatible with eternal definitions.

As for you, personally, candor is what you need more of from your ever-willing OneTeam now, always wrapped in love and often with a touch of sweetening humor. You sometimes call it "short and sweet." Just keep listening. And this would be our advice for all humans. Center yourself in God, and listen. Listen.

The answers to your evolution are simple. God does not micro-manage. He gives humankind even that. I assure you, however, that God remains firmly in control of the fate of your world. Imagine yourself as the greatest goodness imaginable – your God. What would this God do? Destroy you or nurture your growth, inexperienced in the universe as you are?

In the meantime, there will be disasters, from which will come growth of the greatest and most heroic virtues of humankind. Does this seem to be a mission to you? An end? The greater mission, indeed, is experiential learning and growth in the time and space worlds, nurturing your flame to brilliance and overall incomposition into the brilliant light of everlasting goodness and joy. Your flame is precious as it can light the way for others. Love one another.

Jim Cleveland

Some people would say that's not simple, it's simplistic. We need more practical advice. Something that works in this quagmire.

Living water of love will wash away mud. This is for you to do; we will help. This is not done in question and answer sessions on the computer. The time has come for service, for living example. Do not stretch yourself beyond your reality; just do it, truly do it, in your sphere of influence, with the people you know. Use your talents as you are inspired. God will inspire us all in the Stillness and give us all the insights to deal with problems with which we become stuck using our ingrained resources.

What does humankind know of true practicality when their applications are to false premises? If it is truly dog-eat-dog as a practicality, do we not need to change the practicality – to something more practical?

No doubt. Is there a balance of strength and kindness, power and passivity, a practical balance that we have to achieve then in order to live this way? Is it a high wire act or what?

The Universal Father is the all-encompassing net to cushion your disappointments. Give your faith to love, and service will follow, and following service will come the vibrations of goodness that will permeate your life and the lives of those around you. Your bearing is at once your powerful representation of Goodness. It is a magnetism. When people are drawn to you by your living, acting example, avoid the temptations of self-aggrandizements, as some ultimately false prophets have not, and focus your energies on the greater glory of the all, all reflecting the greater glory of God. In the powerful act of Worship, you will eventually discover and experience these holy energies of brilliant vibration with which your being is washed and warmed and turned wondrous.

The Stillness is your balancing act for the day. It can be brief, it can be deliciously long and peaceful and illuminating.

Some women are going to object to all these Father references. Does this seem a problem to you?

Certainly not to our mindset. A Father is a source of life. In other worlds there are many designations for this Ultimate Power, the most prevalent reported to you in the Urantia text as the First Source and Center.

In your world, we are aware of gender clashes, which have been wrought of your histories of abuse and conflict. Each of the sexes has developed some undesirable traits because of this, neither more onerous than the other. Animal-like traits of territorial power and submission are the very things that the Indwelling Spirit would lovingly wrestle from you. In this stage of evolution, it is time for these traits to be pulled up from their survivalist roots and placed upon the exciting ascension path to greater glories than can be imaged here. Give your life to the spirit within, the inner call to goodness and light, realization of the joy of kindness and sharing, and reaching out to the unfortunate to show them the way by example. There is no territory that any human can call their own, but for the terrains of the heart.

And, of course, God is above and beyond gender. God created all genders. God created the Holy Infinite Mother Spirit as a reflection. God created the Eternal Son and Creator Sons, and Mighty Messengers, Angels, Divine Counselors, Melchizedek teachers, and Life Carriers, and a massive host of other personalities of the Universe of Universes. There are great numbers of worlds and a great array of personalities who live upon them. You will do well to enlarge your view of reality to encompass these true universal realities, and dwell less on the vagaries of your existence here.

With this greater faith in a greater reality comes a growing peace of mind, and a complementing awareness that the world is made better one person at a time, one kind act at a time, and by using our talents and not burying them as in the parable of Jesus.

Christ Michael, our glorious Creator Son, lived, died and was resurrected in triumph here as Jesus, not as a pattern but as an example. You are incarnated here as well, to make your own example in your own unique adventure with your own unique personality and free will. If you are sidetracked by the tirelessly repetitive turf wars of humankind, you will experience less growth in the realities of the spirit, the reality that you are much greater than the flesh and blood you walk around in.

Is it true that anyone can talk to you teachers? Is our basic premise that this is do-it-yourself transmitting/receiving that anyone can aspire to accurate? Can anyone do it?

Assuredly so for the striving. And all good things come from striving. Individuals will begin to listen inside more, and perceive that they should be quiet and listen even more. As the scripture says: Be still and know that I am God. If we will but listen, then loving answers will come our way, in the best way that they can be received. They can be recorded, of course, as transmitters learn to let the celestial voice guide their thoughts into keystrokes, or into a voice that can be heard or recorded.

This is all entirely personal, of course, and it seems to our mind an inconspicuous and unobtrusive way to communicate with God's children, our siblings, here. It is another of the Heavenly Father's gifts that we may be here and that we may work with you, cooperatively, co-creatively, in good humor, as we move into a quickening and expanding era of planetary spiritual growth that we will experience and help bring forth together.

Sounds pretty good. As usual, I need to read back for clarity and some kind of understanding. You certainly paint a rosy picture for us all.

Faith was always the message. Faith leads directly to love if we can stay the path. Love changes all to roses, and blossomings of many colors, many fragrances, many beauties, all in one creation.

We have faith in you as our hands, our hearts, our feet on Urantia. We offer our mission to you, to grow in love and kindness every day, to stand up for the light of goodness in these myriad challenges of a young planet growing up in turmoil, from default, from rebellion, from the slow and retarded pace of your evolution.

Nonetheless it is an exciting place to be. Many on our side delight in the experience of these Correcting Times in this sector of planetary rebellion. We are all fortunate to be in these exciting times when much, very much, can happen in a single lifetime. And much, very much, is on the threshold.

Live fully. Choose love in all things. Be a child of wonder. Be a spark of the Great Creator. Get beyond the infantile grip of cynicism, which only exposes a vast ignorance of the universe. Know the universe and you will know its friendliness; know your Universal Father and you will know a love power that will bring your soul to an ultimate blossoming, a fusion with your indwelling spirit that will fulfill your divine destiny.

And as all this unfolds, wondrously, remain in cohesion with the simplicity of God that often seems defiantly out of reach in your overly complicated bed of mortal confusions. Until one knows the Stillness.

Be kind. Love one another. Love yourself and be deserving of it.

ENDNOTES

Some suggestions by the author based on the lessons of the OneTeam

Living in Love — Not Cynicism

Living a spiritual life during the tumult of change is learning to give and receive love. We become rejuvenated in the Stillness each day — helping balance mind, body and spirit.

Learn to radiate and receive love as a knowledgeable and faith-driven child of God. This will free you from the grip of spirit poisons such as cynicism, and lead you to a joyful peace of mind in assurance of your eternal destiny.

All the love that you can give, God returns in greater measure.

Love must be given to be received. Love given will attract love. Those who lack love so tragically in their lives often are those who cannot give love. And when you give love, God rewards you with something that you truly need.

Love yourself. Constantly forgive yourself and others. You are worthy of giving and receiving love. Don't let any human's judgment of you have negative effect. You are a beloved child of God and worthy just as you are, and in every way. Eternal salvation and life are yours for the striving.

Do not burden yourselves with the judgments others may try to foist on you. In turn, don't judge them. Give them their path. Let them make their own free will decisions. It's their life. If you can advise and support in a loving way, do so.

No matter if you stumble and fall, make mistakes, strike back in anger when you should have returned love, neglected an opportunity to give service, drew within yourself detrimentally and failed to see the truth, acted petulantly or arrogantly, forgive yourself. Consider deeply and learn your lesson from these shortcomings and go on. Strive on for perfection, in love and not fear, forgiveness and not judgments.

Your deficiencies confirm your evolutionary imperfections, by God's plan, as well as the inherent opportunity to overcome them and grow toward spiritual truths. To know God and to strive to be like God is pretty much our purpose.

To focus and work toward achieving this simple, yet profound, purpose, you will wisely choose to search for a balance in your life between mind, body and spirit. A healthy mind leads to a healthy body, more energy, more insight to develop the spiritual side of our nature. The converse is true. All works together. When all work together in your being, you are a calm and collected presence, showing at once strength and love.

Energies to accomplish this, subtle but real, are taken into your being each time you go into the Stillness, give a time to God. Whether you always realize it on your conscious level or not, benefits will be reaped. Being imperfect, you are strongly evaluated by the intent of your actions, not your ability to achieve it.

Each day that you can devote a quiet time to God will signal another step of progress toward the balance you seek, and you will be given celestial suggestions that will greatly enhance your understandings and your ability to serve well.

The Stillness for Spiritual Rejuvenation

Each of us can feel these enhanced spiritual energies that are coming through. Find a time of Stillness each day. Feel your love for God, your reverence for the divine plan that you enjoy learning to understand. Smile and meld into your relaxed acceptance of God's will for you, aligning your will with God's in faith and trust and love.

To enhance this openness, I have used basically the same pattern that Tarkas, our group's teacher, described to us in his first lesson to the group, in December 1992, transmitted through a friend in Indianapolis since none of us had yet mastered the technique of receiving and transmitting.

This is a four-step process of worship, prayer, forgiveness and service in the Stillness, and I commend it to you, for your adjustments and personal modifications. This, however, is only one method, and the Stillness should be a personalized experience for you and your creation.

I first begin with a moment or two of worship, contemplating and marveling at the vast complexity and miracle of the creation. Perhaps I will focus on some small but intricate aspect of it, like the life cycles of trees, the metamorphosis of a frog, the continental plates, the wonders of the various energy circuits, the magnificence of the free will gift and how we should best use it.

Truly the outworking of the evolutionary worlds of time and space is something to contemplate for a lifetime, and as we do, we come to greater levels of appreciation for God, and more understanding of how the time-space worlds operate. I once felt the Urantia Book was a near complete outpouring of the truths of the universe. I now realize that it is only a primer.

This level of worshipful contemplation, invariably leading to a greater love for the God who serves as our Heavenly Father, can only come in this relaxed and open state of faith and trust, the cacophony of the material world having receded away. God's messengers cannot

occupy your mind if, by your free will choice, you allow other agendas to occupy it.

The daily Stillness requires practice. If you are experienced in meditation and have the ability to still and focus your mind, and bring your body to a full state of relaxation, you are well on the way. If not, you can learn to achieve this meditative state by learning to still the mind and suspend analytical thinking via well-known and effective methodologies.

In The Stillness Foundation, overviewed elsewhere in this volume, we sometimes call the Stillness a place where Eastern meditation and Western worship meet. Meditation relaxes the body and opens the mind; from there we turn to worship and prayer, with the open, willing, trusting and faith-imbued mind to listen to the voice inside, the insights that will be given in this contemplative, worshipful state.

Sometimes you will think you've failed because you can't still your active mind, or can't keep it from wandering, or you just fall asleep because you are tired. Nonetheless, meaningful progress is being made by the effort itself, our teachers tell us. Even if you feel that meaningful contact was not made, the teachers continually reassure us that the very effort opens energy channels that will enhance our being, and provide insights which we need, often a day or more later, as the information can be filtered into our consciousness.

From a few moments of worship, I then make a specific prayer for a specific problem or person. Make your prayers specific. They can be directed to Christ Michael/Jesus properly for he is the ruler of our local universe. But if you feel more comfortable addressing the Heavenly Father because you are accustomed to doing so, then go directly to this First Source and Center, which is, incidentally, the most common reference to God in the majority of time-space worlds.

We are told by the teachers that your prayer request/petition will revolve back to the local universe, and our Creator Son Michael

(incarnated as Jesus), for fulfillment, but you are forever able to talk directly to God whenever you choose, and encouraged to do so. A spark/fragment of God, you remember, is always with you, as your indwelling spirit, living and experiencing your adventure and ascension with you, providing the piloting hand of the Universal Father to you, the child, and always available.

The critical connection spoken of by both the Urantia papers authors and by the celestial teachers is that connection you make with this internal –Thought Adjuster,Ó sometimes called the Higher Self, the Indwelling Spirit, whatever the terminology. The teachers are here to expedite this contact and strengthen its potential, in the meantime providing lessons of spiritual truth through their own particular kind of contact, which is at a different level of circuitry, and now much easier to access with the recent opening of critical energy circuitry to our planet.

Next, in the Stillness, I consider if I'm certain that I've forgiven myself and others completely for any real or imagined transgression. Names come to mind and I consciously forgive them. I also forgive myself for the most misguided thing I've done lately and determine the lesson I should learn from it and how to rectify any possible damage.

I continue to visualize the Heavenly Father as loving and benevolent. When we stumble and fall, as has been said, he helps us up, dusts us off and asks us to choose again – more wisely if possible. I love God for giving me the adventure of mortal life, the freedom and free will to make my own decisions here, my own unique personality which is like no other, my mind endowment, and the indwelling spirit to pilot me, the opportunity to ascend and work toward perfection in the Mansion Worlds. We truly have many gifts to be thankful for, and it helps to enumerate them now and then.

Finally, in the Stillness, I think of loving service, a way to use my talents here to serve God. Tarkas tells us to look for the spirit of God that resides within each of our brothers and sisters, strive to see through the surface personality, which can be misguided and

misdirected by fears and frustrations, and to see within to this indwelling spirit which yearns to push outward in creative, loving expression. The person's traumatized hurts and frustrations often keep this from shining through – but it is there, within. Through our daily service in radiating non-judgmental love, we can help this person feel better. know better ... understand that he or she is a true child of God with great potential.

These steps of achieving meditative stillness for worship, prayer, forgiveness and service can take as long as you wish. You will sometimes choose to extend the experience, for it can be invigorating. Or it can be accomplished in a matter of minutes so that you can move expediently to the concerns you wish to have addressed, asking for the guidance you need. But give God time first, in worship and allegiance. I consider this very important, in order to be assured that you are surrounded by his Holy Light.

In this quiet, worshipful contemplation, then, with an open mind like an open canvas, simply take dictation. Initially, the words may be slow in coming. Keystroke or write them without analysis or judgment. Don't stop to analyze or make revisions. Keep your thoughts flowing and take down the words. Then read them back later for your analysis, after the spirit has dictated the lesson and the personal reassurances you need. Consider the source by engaging your spirit of truth.

If you're truly making contact, putting aside your mind to take the spiritual dictation given you by one or more of the Father's numerous personalities here, then your written words will be illuminating and expansive, and pretty much directed to what you specifically need to hear and learn at this particular time. You can embark on a personal growth path with your own spiritual guide/teacher, and learn from your new celestial friend every day. Be assured that teachers from the Teaching Mission have experienced mortal life too, and know from whence they speak. Tarkas and others have also served missions on other time and space worlds to further enrich their perspectives.

Enter the Stillness. Enjoy it for basic relaxation and renewed energy. Carry it upward to genuine spiritual upreach and embrace. You may come to love it, and truly treasure this time of relaxation and rejuvenation each day. In the fullness of the love it will engender in you, there can hardly be fear. And without fears, there will not be that dissatisfaction and restlessness that breeds cynicism. You will know the Truth and the Truth will set you free.

THE STILLNESS

The Stillness is like a breath of peace each day.
The Stillness brings an oasis of shade our way.
The Stillness gives us reunion with our oldest friend.
Heavenly Father shines his love from quiet within.

The Stillness hears the nudge of Angels whispering.
The Stillness draws our thoughts to brilliance, glistening.
The Stillness makes us smile in our gentle listening
For the living waters flowing through our minds, Christening.

The Stillness lifts our hearts and minds in resonance
Harmonizing our souls with silent sustenance
That fills our selves to higher levels of radiance
Upon the celestial, ethereal, actual planes of renaissance.

The Stillness energizes our thoughts and deeds
The Stillness gives light and confidence that we need
The Stillness fills our every pore with light.
The Stillness, God and I, together each night.

Enter lovingly.

RELATED SOURCES:

The Light and Life Journal and Light and Life Online Express newspaper are available in current issues and complete libraries at www.lightandlife.com, along with Teaching Mission transmissions, and other explorations of the spiritual universe in books, art and music. The original Urantia Book text of 1995 is available for free download.

The Teaching Mission Archives, over 25,000 of pages of celestial transmissions from the TeaM Stillness groups around the U.S. through the 1990s and into the new century, may be accessed directly at www.tmarchives.com

The Stillness Foundation is dedicated to the daily practice of Stillness, in which meditation joins worship, prayer, forgiveness and love. The organization offers educational programs and publications. Contact Michael Painter at mikepaint@aol.com.

The Center for Christ Consciousness, evolving from the Stillness Foundation, provides worship and Christ centering programs from its California headquarters. Contact Donna D'Ingillo at donnadingillo@juno.com and visit www.ctrforchristcon.org.

The Urantia Foundation at www.urantia.org has published The Urantia Book since 1955, and held the copyright until the text was moved into the public domain. The organization is translating the work into languages throughout the world.

Jim Cleveland

The Urantia Book Fellowship also publishes the Urantia papers via its Uversa Press, and provides socializing and educational opportunities worldwide. Visit their extensive website at www.ubfellowship.org.

TR/News Network. For a paper newsletter featuring recent celestial transmissions and news of humans working with celestial personalities, contact Allene Vick at allenetnn@sprintmail.com.

The Church Within is dedicated to developing our personal relationship with God, our Universal Father. Pastors offer weekly services and other features at www.churchwithin.org.

Urantia Book related publications, including books and “The Circular” newsletter, are available from Square Circles Publishing Company at www.squarecircles.com.

“The Center Within,” a book of teachings from celestial teacher Will, and other related mind-body-spirit books is available from Origin Press at www.ikosnos.com.

Teaching Mission transmissions from teachers Olfana, Tarkas and others are available from the Half Moon Bay, CA group at www.hmbtm.com.

The Jesusonian Foundation provides a wealth of information about the Urantia papers at it extensive website at www.truthbook.org.

Other books by Jim Cleveland

- The Alien Intimacies, Fiction
- The Celestial Songbook
- Celestials over Cincinnati, forthcoming

Available at www.1stbooks.com and booksellers everywhere.

About the Author

JIM CLEVELAND has had a long career in journalism, public relations, publications and marketing. He has a B.S. in journalism from the University of Southern Mississippi and an M.A. from the University of Mississippi, along with years of theological and spiritual studies. He is owner and manager of lightandlife.com and its related periodicals, a charter director of The Stillness Foundation, and active with Urantia Book, Teaching Mission and *A Course in Miracles* organizations.

