



## NEWS... From URANTIA® FOUNDATION

### TRUSTEES AND STAFF SEND GREETINGS

As we conclude a very active 1988 and prepare to begin a new year of service for the readers of *The URANTIA Book*, the Trustees and staff of URANTIA Foundation send you our warmest holiday greetings and our sincere thanks for your continued support and help.

This past year saw encouraging progress on a number of new and continuing projects, as well as increased communication and coordination between URANTIA Foundation and URANTIA Brotherhood on many levels. We look forward to another year of growth and cooperation between these two sister organizations as they seek the Father's will in fulfilling their important roles in the pursuit of mutual goals: wisely disseminating the teachings of *The URANTIA Book* to a spiritually hungry world, and preserving inviolate the text of the Revelation for future generations of truth seekers.

There are many examples of how our two organizations assume different responsibilities as they work together for the same long term goals. In addition to URANTIA Brotherhood Corporation acting as the sales agent for *The URANTIA Book* on behalf of URANTIA Foundation, the Foundation has authorized and financed several ongoing projects, such as the Library Placement and Book Consignment programs, that are being administered by URANTIA Brotherhood. Other projects that are directly administered by the Foundation, such as the Spanish and Finnish translations and the upcoming Index to *The URANTIA Book*, involve the active participation of Brotherhood members on many levels from fund raising to checking the final results. Even carrying out the Foundation's legal responsibilities of copyright and trademark protection requires the assistance and cooperation of every Brotherhood member and reader in order to help maintain the integrity of the text and the exclusivity of the identifying symbols of its authenticity.

It is in this spirit of cooperation that URANTIA Foundation greets the challenges of the new year. We ask for your continued advice, support, and participation in our task of sharing the teachings of *The URANTIA Book* with all who might desire to hear them, both now and in the generations to come.

### KEY WORD INDEX TO BE PUBLISHED

URANTIA Foundation and URANTIA Brotherhood take pleasure in announcing that a *Key Word Index of the Contents of The URANTIA Book* will shortly be available. The *Key Word Index* was developed under the auspices of the Brotherhood in coordination with the Foundation. The Foundation will publish the *Key Word Index* and the Brotherhood will distribute it.

There are two tables of contents in *The URANTIA Book*. The second of these two, found between pages xii and lxvi, is entitled, "Contents of the Book" and is highly detailed. The *Key Word Index* is based entirely on this second table of contents and is an alphabetical sorting of the significant words in each listing found in this section of *The URANTIA Book*. The *Key Word Index* will be approximately 60 pages in length, the same size as the pages in *The URANTIA Book* and will have a soft cover.

It is anticipated that the *Key Word Index* will be published in the early portion of 1989. Look for an announcement of its availability soon.

### BOOK DISTRIBUTION

As of mid-December, distribution (a term which encompasses sales as well as gift and library placements) in 1988 of *The URANTIA Book* reached a level of more than 9,700 copies. Slightly more than four percent of this amount represents donated books.

Amadon Corporation, an affiliate of URANTIA Foundation, reports that figures for the distribution of the French translation, *Le Livre d'URANTIA*, are at a level of more than 1,300 copies by mid-December. Less than one percent of this figure consists of donated books. Thus, the total number of books distributed this year, will exceed 11,000 copies.

While data for December is only partially available, it is estimated that by the conclusion of this year about 175,000 copies of *The URANTIA Book* will have been distributed throughout the world since 1955. Total distribution for the French translation, since its publication in 1961, should reach about 21,500 copies at the conclusion of this year. The combined total distribution for both versions of *The URANTIA Book* will be almost 197,000 copies.

### LIBRARY PLACEMENT PROGRAM

As reported in our July 1988 newsletter, the Library Placement Program continues to be a successful way to make *The URANTIA Book* and *Le Livre d'URANTIA* available consistent with URANTIA Foundation's considered policy of

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Over the years, several hundred different readers have participated in this effort by placing books in libraries. The number of books placed by individuals ranges from one copy to over one thousand. Keep in mind that we will provide the books free of charge, but we need you to contact your local libraries. If you are interested in participating, contact us and we will inform the two committees of URANTIA Brotherhood who administer the program of your interest and have them send you information. It is a valuable service that is not that difficult and personal contact enhances the possibility of the library's acceptance of *The URANTIA Book* or *Le Livre d'URANTIA* for permanent placement on its shelves.

In addition to the efforts of individuals, mass mailings to libraries offering to donate books are also undertaken. For example, in October of this year, a mailing to over 6,000 libraries around the world was sent out. The return

requests are still coming in so a final count on responses is not available at this time. While only a small percentage of libraries may respond to this request, we believe it is worth the effort and hope to periodically continue these efforts.

#### TRANSLATION UPDATE

The Finnish and Spanish translation efforts are continuing at a steady pace. Day by day we are getting closer to making these teachings available in more languages.

#### Excerpts from letters

"I've just finished reading *The URANTIA Book*, which I got from the library. Started reading the Life of Jesus first and was so impressed with it. He comes alive and I wish I could have known Him. The book has increased my faith. I have had a deep faith in God all my life . . . albeit God was a stern father figure and a punishing God. In the past few years, my concept of God is changing more towards the concept *The URANTIA Book* explains."

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"Thank you for *The URANTIA Book*. When I first ran across it I thought the content of the book was just 'weird' enough to make it interesting reading.

"However, I was pleasantly surprised to see that this book contained a rare wisdom which I have found in only a couple other sources . . . I have searched other 'religious' books for answers to the contradictions . . . without success. I might question the validity of the teaching in *The URANTIA Book* if it didn't fill in the answers to the questions I have asked in the past.

"I am very impressed by the series on the teachings of Jesus. The lessons and discussions give the true insight into what Jesus taught . . ."

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"Some time ago, browsing in a local bookstore, I was moved to purchase a copy of *The URANTIA Book*. At the time, I knew nothing of the book but was actively searching for something in which I could believe. I took *The URANTIA Book* home, flipped through it and, promising myself I would one day read it, placed it on the closet shelf where it remained until this summer.

"A number of quite extraordinary (and I dare say fortuitous) events prompted me to begin to study *The URANTIA Book* several months ago and I have the most overwhelming sensation of having come home, of having finally caught a glimpse of that which I have long sought.

"A close friend of mine attends meetings of the local *URANTIA Book* Study Group and has let me know that I am welcome there. For the moment, I feel I need to continue my solitary exploration of this book but I'm so glad there is a study group near me for I know the day will come when I'll very much want to be a part of it."

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"Everytime I go into my favorite bookstore I am drawn to certain books that I know will help me better understand myself and my relationships with my fellow man and God. Last week I picked up off the shelf *The URANTIA Book* that you publish. I have really had to think about it, but I truly feel that this is universal truth brought down to us from the hierarchies of our universe to help us grow. Their wonderful and glorious revelation has brought to me something that has stirred my heart and I am so grateful to them for that."

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"I . . . had given up on Christianity because I could not deal with the conflicts I had with the concept of Jesus' death on the cross as some kind of fitting reconciliation between an offended God and fallen man. After making some affirmations about my spiritual life and lack of direction I went to look for a book in our university library of four million books. The book I went for was not on the shelf, but guess what was standing in its place . . ."

"*The URANTIA Book* has been the greatest mind-expanding experience I have found in my study to find answers to the meaning of life."

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"October 1988 will be memorable as the month I came upon and started reading *The URANTIA Book*. It is a welcome breath of fresh air. There is no doubt in my mind and heart that it is a revelatory work of divine inspiration. How, I wondered, could such a book have remained unknown to me for so long? And when I mused, in answer to my own query: When the student is ready, the teacher will appear."

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#### Quotation

“Your planet is a member of an enormous cosmos; you belong to a well-nigh infinite family of worlds, but your sphere is just as precisely administered and just as lovingly fostered as if it were the only inhabited world in all existence.” (Page 183)\*

\*Quotation from *The URANTIA Book*, copyright © 1955 URANTIA Foundation. All rights reserved.