A moment of opportunity
— Personality in transition —

The Urantia Papers describe an opportunity presented to all humans: the chance to participate in the most breathtaking of universe transformations ~ the evolution of finite mortals into free-will universe sons, able to act and associate in their Father's absolute domain. This brief study is an attempt to describe something of this transition, as portrayed in the Urantia Papers.

As we explore the transformation endured by ascendant personality we come to see humanity—ourselves—in a new light. We discover that “human” is part of a transitional technique: we are that moment of opportunity when the Universal Father aligns and attempts to zip together two absolute fragments of himself, Adjuster and Person. Given time and space and a master universe age, this union emerges from its absonite womb as “a unique child of the Universal Father, a child without duplicate in infinity, a will creature irreplaceable in all eternity.” [p.138:4]
Ultimately, surviving mortals achieve identity in a seven-dimensional universe.

Jesus, to the Mithraic priest [1439:5]

“What is man, that you are mindful of him?”

A technique to align the seven dimensions of human personality with the eternal orientations of the Adjuster?

“The Adjuster is an absolute essence of an infinite being” [1176:6]
Almost 3,000 years ago a poet in Palestine whispered to his God:

“What is man, that you are mindful of him?”

Even today this remains a really good question. Why should the Author of Reality be interested in us? What’s another planet-full of mortals to the Creator of an eternal infinity?

Recently, via the Urantia Papers, an answer has been given. Now, some of us may grumble that the authors were a bit long-winded (2097 pages?). Others may complain that they made some simple Truths way too complex. But if this answer is to be appropriate for the next planetary age, if it is to be sufficient, and satisfying, for scientists, philosophers and mystics alike, consider what was required:

To explain the phenomenon of man, they had to explain Personality, which meant revealing the Universal Father as Source and Center... of personality! They also had to reveal the “Thought Adjusters”, which meant pointing into eternity, to places upstream of the separation of Paradise from The Eternal Son. To explain the human context, they had to rework geology, biology and psychology. And they had to explain how we are salvaged from death, which meant revealing the Creator Sons, distinct from the Eternal Son. Which brings us to the moment when the Universal Father said to the Son,


All this implies a biggish book. But getting back to what they actually tell us about ourselves, when we unwrap this revelation from all this information, the picture we find is simple, and staggering:

“The Adjuster is an absolute essence of an infinite being” [p.1176:6]

An absolute essence? Of an infinite being? So what are we, that they should seek us out? What on earth are these Mysterious Monitors up to? How do the Urantia papers make sense of this outrageous truth? Simple, they help us to see ourselves as we are seen: as a point of personality able to engage a fragment of the Father Himself. We are the attempt to blend two absolute essences into one being.

The experiential personality of evolving man, united to the
Adjuster essence of the existential God, [p.1111:6]

In us, the Father brings together two fragments of himself, Adjuster and Person, and waits upon our will. We are that moment when He allows another will to say “Yes!” or “No!” to him. We are that moment when Eternity opens and welcomes a new child, or the angels mourn the death of that child whom only we could be. This is the phenomenon of man: that we launch a Paradise Finaliter, or we murder that child—whom only we could be.

“The love of the Father absolutely individualizes each personality
as a unique child of the Universal Father, a child without duplicate in infinity,
a will creature irreplaceable in all eternity.” [p.138:4]

In the Father’s frame He either sees us surf His waves of love into His absolute domain, or He endures the pain of losing us, “a child without duplicate in infinity, a will creature irreplaceable in all eternity”. We are that moment of opportunity when the Universal Father attempts to zip together two precious fragments of himself. Let’s see how much we can discover, about ourselves, our relationships, and why—in a fifth epochal sense—our Father is mindful of us.
Simplicity ~ made possible by Complexity (1)
Simplicity and Complexity

Jesus said that we are the children of God. Jesus—the fourth epochal revelation of Truth to this world—revealed that the Universal Father is our Father; “Our Father, who art in Heaven... ”. Simple. The most important and most simple truth a Person can ever know. A simple truth that trumps all the fourth epochal theology and philosophy our world has suffered.

But simplicity can hide a true complexity. Think of switching on a light. What could be more simple? But to the electrician, this is many problems to be solved: getting all that wiring in place, connecting with the power grid, the guarantees of safety... so that even a child need only flick a switch to fill a room with light.

Something like this is happening in space-time, and for us. Our Michael has made of Nebadon a home where we need only “flick a switch” to come to life. To be filled with that “true light which lights every man who comes into the world” we need only say “Yes!”, then hang on for the ride of our life!

This simple, central Truth, that God is our Father, is the tip of an iceberg; the simple, beautiful tip of a vast mountain of unfathomable details, of mind boggling complexity. The relationships and interactions of spirit, mind and matter that allow us to exist; the tapestry of meanings and values that forms the fabric of the finite creation. But this is not our problem. Our Father’s Paradise Creator Sons have volunteered to resolve this complexity, to make smooth the way, to make possible our creation and perfection. All we need do is to live loyally each moment as tadpoles [p.1094:6], to work our little tails off in the joyful adventure of growing up.

The quickest way for a tadpole to become a frog is to live loyally each moment as a tadpole. [p.1094:6]

But think what it took, that we tadpoles to need only flip our little tails. To make possible our mortal lives, Michael and his Divine Mins spent hundreds of billions of years [p.1309:1] forming the foundations and mastering the complexity of Nebadon. Then a thousand million years giving birth to their own magnificent family: mighty Melchizedeks, dependable Vorondadeks, baby Lanonandeks; and the entire scene blessed by the beauty of their choirs of ministering daughters. Yet still no sign of Man! For a billion years, Nebadon was Michael’s family affair. But eventually, the time came for him to turn his attention to his Father’s work:

And then, when such a universe has been so completely organized and so repletely manned, does the Creator Son enter into the Father’s proposal to create mortal man in their divine image. [p.359:5]

Not until everything was ready, and his entire family trained, did Michael dare attempt the phenomenon of Man. Michael—our own Jesus—sets up and masters the complexity of a local universe, and makes Nebadon the womb his Father needs, a place where fragments of his Father can be personalized by us, fertilized with all the colour and experience our willful personalities can bring. A place to begin the adventure of turning baby versions of himself into associable absolutes.

For minded creatures like us, the simplicity of experiential truth is enhanced by experiential understanding, and by simple facts, spun into a frame for thought. The forth epochal revelation

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Simplicity ~ made possible by Complexity (2)
revealed a simple truth, that God is our Father. This fifth simply confirms and amplifies, and answers those questions we cosmic babies must inevitably ask. Like children everywhere, we simply have to ask “Why?” and “How?” Why does our Father want us as His children? Does he want us to live with Him? How can He take us into His eternal home? How does He translate us from where we are to where we are to be? How does He make us perfect, even as He is perfect? If we truly are His children, of what are we made? What components went into our creation?

“... when the Father, in projecting the bestowal of the Thought Adjusters, proposed to the Son, “Let us make mortal man in our own image.” [p.78:3]

Made in the image of the eternal, absolute and infinite Father...

“The Adjuster is an absolute essence of an infinite being” [p.1176:6]

How can we grasp the enormity of this? An absolute essence of an infinite being. Perhaps if these Adjusters were merely monitors, or benefactors, or associates, we might be able to begin to imagine such a being. But the authors insist that these mysterious Adjusters, these beings from eternity, each an essence of the Author of Reality, are to be [or not to be] us! But why on earth should such a being seek us out? In the frames for thought existing across this world, such a notion ranges from the astounding to the blasphemous, via the comical. But in no existing frame is it suspected to be true. Hence the need for some “other and higher” frame [p.1260:3]. If the fundamental truth, about what we are and what we are to be, does not fit into our 4th epochal wineskins, we need a new one.

Here is the key to the mystery: while we may seem like mere tadpoles, we are personalized tadpoles, and this personalization is changeless, an absolute. It has “potentiality of seven dimensions of self-expression or person-realization” [p.1226:13]. The business of the Father, to which Michael is committed, is to bring together these two absolute values; to align the eternal orientations of the Adjuster with the seven dimensions of our person-ness; to weave into one being these two bestowals of the Universal Father. Sounds complicated... because it is! This is the Father’s business that Michael has in mind. This is the Father’s plan made possible by Jesus, our Michael of Nebadon. And that it takes a Creator Son to foster and midwife our birth, should hint at the enormity of what is really going on.

Transformation ~ via a sequence of births

The simple truth—that God is our Father—implies the complexity of getting us to Paradise. But what possible technique could ever be sufficient to transform us from fragile finite mortals, into sub-infinite penetrators of our Father’s absolute eternal home?

At last, the Urantia papers reveal how this is done. They describe a sequence of births, each followed by growth and butterfly-like transformations: (1) the Life Carriers evolve a womb that can support gestation for a baby human, (2) the mortal life provides gestation for a baby soul, (3) our local universe career provides gestation for a baby spirit, and (4) the grand universe adventure, traversing the sectors of Orvonton and the billion worlds of Havona, provides the gestation required that all seven dimensions of our Personality properly unfurl. Like seven wings of the surprising butterfly we are to be (or not to be) if we catch (or miss!) our moment of opportunity.
The Parable of the Womb

A Life Carrier, a Lanonandek and a Melchizedek walk into a bar. Actually, Rita’s Bar on Salvington, just around from the gate into Michael’s Northern Hall. Rita, as usual, is behind the bar polishing glasses.

“Welcome lads!” she says as they enter. “What’ll it be?”

“The usual, thanks,” they reply.

“Righto – a pint of material light for our Life Carrier friend, a snifter of intellectual insight for our young Lanonandek, and two fingers of spirit luminosity for the Professor.” The three thank her, and settle back. It’s been a long day.

Now Life carriers are always animated, but Rita notices that this particular chap is beaming. “Things going well, are they?” she prompts.

[Life Carrier]

“Oh yes!” enthuses the Life Carrier. “Breakthrough in womb technology! You know how, on some inhabited worlds, the native populations are not smoothly blended with their Adamic uplifters, like on Michael’s Urantia? Well we finally got it sorted. No more morning sickness, easier births. For millions of such mothers, a much better process in every way.” He takes a deep draft from his pint of light and beams brighter still. “You know, I never tire of the idea, that Finaliters begin their ascent as mere fragments in a mortal mother’s womb.”

All three sit quietly for a moment, reflecting upon the Finaliters, those made in the image of the Father, fostered by the efforts of the Life Carriers on the material worlds.

The simple truth—that God is our Father—implies the complexity of getting us to Paradise. But what possible technique could ever suffice, to transform us from fragile finite mortals into sub-infinite penetrators of our Father’s absolute eternal home? This is where Michael’s own family come in: Melchizedeks, Vorondadeks, Lanonandeks, the Material Adams and the Angelic hosts, even the midwayers. His local universe children foster our existence, our progress and our survival. So how do they view us? Their knowledge of what we are must make it hard for them to believe what we are intended to become...
The Lanonandek, considering his glass, adds “Indeed, the womb is a powerful metaphor. Consider how the entire human life serves as womb for the soul, that first-stage morontia form we use to launch their ascendant careers.” He sips from his snifter of insight and reflects on the billions of such souls that he and his team have helped foster.

The Melchizedek, professor at the Local Universe U., furrows his brow. “The womb is indeed a deep concept. We actually run a course, exploring how the entire local universe career serves as gestation for those first-stage spirit ascenders—those chips off the old block—whom we help Michael launch toward Paradise and the Father. In this sense we might even say that all of Nebadon serves as a vast magnificent womb.”

These three local universe sons, quietly reflecting upon the phenomenon of Man, his cycles of embryonic assembly in this variety of wombs, and what it might all mean. Rita, polishing glasses still, glances and winks at One sitting over in the corner, quietly alone; a Solitary Messenger. “Anything to add, Solo?”

In that uncanny way in which Solitary Messengers move, he is no longer in the corner, on the Far Side, but behind and leaning on the bar, beside Rita.

“Well yes. From our frame it looks like this: the Father desired a full family, of Ones like the Son but in splendid variation. So he had his Architects make a "master universe", to serve as womb for fragments of himself. Such fragment-seeds become Adjusters within humans, aligning with their seven dimensions of personality. Such “embryonic man” becomes “ascending Son”, and those of us from Paradise, who know the Father’s will, stand back in awe.

The story so far

We have humans side by side with Adjusters, tadpole persons being adjusted into alignment with the absolute essence of an infinite being. We have Michael of Nebadon making a place and a time where this association can occur. We have Trinity observers (Immanuel) monitoring the scheme, we have Solitary Messengers coordinating the invisible and unimaginable – on behalf of the Master Architects...

And we have humans, being gently launched, stage by stage, transition by transition, until they get up sufficient speed to be launched from their Nebadon nest, aimed for Paradise. But that it takes a Creator Son to make this possible should imply to us the enormity of what is going on.
Immanuel to Michael:

Pour out upon the planet of your bestowal the Spirit of Truth and thus make all normal mortals on that isolated sphere immediately and fully accessible to the ministry of the segregated presence of our Paradise Father, the Thought Adjusters of the realms. [p.1328:3]

Truth is made accessible:

Truth is made accessible to the wisdom-endowed individual by the bestowal on such a mind of the spirits of the Father and the Sons, the Thought Adjuster and the Spirit of Truth. [p.1112:0]
Let the transformations begin:

The Morontia Power Supervisors are able to effect a union of material and of spiritual energies, thereby organizing a morontia form of materialization which is receptive to the superimposition of a controlling spirit. When you traverse the morontia life of Nebadon, these same patient and skillful Morontia Power Supervisors will successively provide you with 570 morontia bodies, each one a phase of your progressive transformation. From the time of leaving the material worlds until you are constituted a first-stage spirit on Salvington, you will undergo just 570 separate and ascending morontia changes. [p.542.2]
... a spiritual transformation bordering on the limits of supremacy

After all, to mortals the most important thing about eternal Paradise is the fact that this perfect abode of the Universal Father is the real and far-distant destiny of the immortal souls of the mortal and material sons of God, the ascending creatures of the evolutionary worlds of time and space. Every God-knowing mortal who has espoused the career of doing the Father’s will has already embarked upon the long, long Paradise trail of divinity pursuit and perfection attainment. And when such an animal-origin being does stand, as countless numbers now do, before the Gods on Paradise, having ascended from the lowly spheres of space, such an achievement represents the reality of a spiritual transformation bordering on the limits of supremacy. [p.127:6]
... only the beginning ... always young ...

At such a future eternity moment the master universe will still seem youthful; indeed, it will be always young in the face of the limitless possibilities of never-ending eternity. [p.1170:1]

It is not enough that the ascending mortal should know something of the relations of Deity to the genesis and manifestations of cosmic reality; he should also comprehend something of the relationships existing between himself and the numerous levels of existential and experiential realities, of potential and actual realities. Man’s terrestrial orientation, his cosmic insight, and his spiritual directionization are all enhanced by a better comprehension of universe realities and their techniques of interassociation, integration, and unification. [p.1162:1]
or Actualization of Potentials?
Personality and Reality: materialism vs. revelation

The Urantia Papers imply that there is one thing that makes mortals interesting to the original I AM Creator: we are personal. So what is personality? What does it mean to be personal? What relationship does personality have to matter, mind and spirit? And how do all these relate to “reality”?

Materialists and mystics alike are deeply interested in these questions, but their modes of enquiry diverge. The materialist defines to be real only that which a material meter can measure. Thus to understand reality, he makes bigger, sharper meters. The religionist, while admiring the scientific technique, assumes reality is accessed by subjective experience and revelation. Over recent centuries these distinct approaches to understanding have forged antagonistic frames for thought, none of which help clarify the nature of personality, let alone reality. Can the “other and higher frame” presented by the Urantia Papers help?

* * *

To the materialist, reality consists of energy evolving in space and through time. Physics shaped this energy into matter; chemistry turned this matter into life, which evolved mind and became man. Man then dreamt for himself a spirit world, and ever since has endured the valley of the shadow of death, troubled by notions of identity, a persistent sense that “I am”. In the materialist frame, personality is reduced to little more than a novelty of complexified biology.

But the Urantia Papers offer another view, one which avoids the alchemy of turning matter into mind, and mind into spirit. Instead, they describe reality as a configuration of four “absolute presence circuits”, each with its distinct source and center. The source and center of MATERIAL reality, they call the Isle of Paradise. Anything which responds to this central Isle, they define to be material. The source and center of MIND, they call the Infinite Spirit. That which responds to this center, they define to be mind. The source and center of SPIRIT, they call the Eternal Son; that which responds to the Son, they define to be spirit. Finally there is the Universal Father; PERSONALITY is defined to be that which responds to Him. Personality is revealed to be a circuit so fundamental, and so precious, that the Universal Father did not, or could not, delegate its care. In this “other and higher frame”, one might even conclude that the domains of matter, mind and spirit serve to help personalise the family of the I AM.

So the Urantia Papers turn the materialist frame both upside down and inside out. They reveal personality to be not only the motivational center of reality, but also a desired culmination. Instead of life and mind and man evolving from energy,
“To the finite mind there simply must be a beginning, and though there never was a real beginning to reality, still there are certain source relationships which reality manifests to infinity.” [p.1153:2]
blindly and by chance, the Papers reveal the material domain to be arranged by mind under the control of spirit for the purposes of the I AM motivator. And it is one of these purposes of the I AM that is the center of our theme: if the Universal Father really did say to the Eternal Son, “Let us make mortal man in our own image”, then for this venture to succeed they require a place and a time, a finite womb and a universe age, from which to give birth to such sons. So, what does this make man? When the poet asked that question, “What is Man?”, he may not have been ready for the answer.

**Reality check**

With so many facets and phases of reality floating about, it’s time for a reality check. Note that we cannot observe or measure the (absolute) relationships described in the Urantia papers; our best logic and deduction will not provide a proof. So how can we judge whether such sources and relationships are true? Consider that problem of “seeing the forest for the trees”: how can we ever hope to understand the nature of our Father’s universal forest, stuck as we are in one cell of a leaf of a sapling?

Are such fundamental aspects of reality beyond mortal capacity to discover? If so, then the Papers state that such things, eventually, may be revealed. Such is the case with the Urantia papers, which describe themselves as the fifth revelation of epochal significance to this world. But modern, skeptical humanity has learned the hard way to seek proof rather than apply faith. So what to do when faced with revelation? How to proceed? How to integrate revelation into the cultures evolved by mankind? Are we to dismiss logic? Is the acceptance of revelation illogical?

> “Metaphysics has proved a failure; mota, man cannot perceive. Revelation is the only technique which can compensate for the absence of the truth sensitivity of mota in a material world.” [p.1136:3]

Unaided, we have only three paths whereby to approach Reality: (1) reason, (2) philosophy and (3) faith. The answers of faith range from crude superstitions to sublime experience. The answers of philosophy either stagnate in nihilism, or get lost in metaphysics. The answers of science are bound by reason to the material domain. None alone appear sufficient, or appropriate, for the next planetary age. Is there any other way for us to discover who and what we are? In Paper 103, one of Nebadon’s Melchizedeks puts it like this,

> “Faith most willingly carries reason along as far as reason can go and then goes on with wisdom to the full philosophic limit; and then it dares to launch out upon the limitless and never-ending universe journey in the sole company of TRUTH.” [P.103:9:7, p.1141:5]

The Urantia papers make possible a 4th approach: via truth, made accessible by revelation.

> Revelation is a technique whereby ages upon ages of time are saved in the necessary work of sorting and sifting the errors of evolution from the truths of spirit acquirement. [p.1110:4]
A non-time sequence?

I AM

... as I AM

The Infinite Capacity

The Infinite Potential

The Universal Creator!
1. Personal Love
2. Spiritual Luminosity
3. Intellectual Insight
4. Material Light

4. Mathematical Reason
3. Intellectual Wisdom
2. Spiritual Truth
1. Personal Love
The measure of a man…

“What you see is what you get”

But wait! there’s more…

(See page 1108)
The measure of a man: “What you see is what you get”? 

When a materialist scientist or philosopher contemplates reality, they consider only that which they can measure: that subset of energies emerging from the material domain. Likewise, when they study “Man”, their first step is to assume that “what you see is what you get”, and that by looking ever closer, all will eventually be revealed. But the Urantia papers claim there is much more to “Man” than mortal eye (or meter) can see.

While this poetic notion, that we are a “moment of opportunity”, may in some grand and cosmic sense be true, and while it may be the motivating truth that stirs our Creator Son to action—to complete his mission to make perfect his Father’s ascending children—from our subjective experiential perspective, this is hardly the case. Subjectively, we are the decisions we have made, encapsulated in flesh. We judge ourselves by the decision we are about to make. We live in our little inner worlds, furnished slowly, decision by decision, and coloured by our aspirations...

“Meanings are nonexistent in a wholly sensory or material world. Meanings and values are only perceived in the inner or supermaterial spheres of human experience.”

“The advances of true civilization are all born in this inner world of mankind. It is only the inner life that is truly creative.” [p.1220:1,2]

The Inner world

An inner world is created within each of us by the seven adjutant mind spirits, then lit by Michael’s Spirit of Truth—our inner stage is built from near divine material. But how do we furnish these private apartments? How do we open these unseen rooms to our fellows? By what process do we as individuals engage a shared reality? For the most part, our fantastic dreamscapes, woven from experience, from truth and myth and fact, remain private—personal evolutionary essays. They represent our conscious effort to understand, and to respond to, the challenges of life. Of course, we are free to make a mess of this interior design. But remember the Adjuster guarantee: our best efforts, however many or few, are salvaged and organized into the fabric of our soul. One wonders how animal fear can persist and coexist with such a level of security.

The set of inputs to our private inner worlds are diverse, and their interaction is complex. To keep such a system stable, there needs to be coordinating factors, some set of integrators that continuously rebalances and restores a dynamic normality. As we explore this internal interaction, we find there are at least three systems in place—a triad of complementary influences that help keep us on an even keel. The first is mainly an integration of subconscious stimulation; the second is an organization of our conscious motivation, while the third is a coordination of superconscious inspiration.

Our attempt to understand the way all these components conspire to generate our inner world should proceed slowly. As a first small step, let’s spend a few minutes reflecting on how our adjutant-based minds were made.
From page 709...

“At first only the spirit of intuition could function in the instinctive and reflex behavior of the primordial animal life.”

“With the differentiation of higher types, the spirit of understanding was able to endow such creatures with the gift of spontaneous association of ideas.”

“Later on we observed the spirit of courage in operation; evolving animals really developed a crude form of protective self-consciousness.”

“Subsequent to the appearance of the mammalian groups, we beheld the spirit of knowledge manifesting itself in increased measure. And the evolution of the higher mammals brought the function of the spirit of counsel, with the resulting growth of the herd instinct and the beginnings of primitive social development.”

“The tendency to bow down before power and prostrate oneself in worshipful adoration in the presence of mystery is foreshadowed in the fawning of the dog before its master.” (p.997)

Entire emotional response subsystems are seemingly woven into the evolving psychosomatics.

Animal cunning... intellect amplified by feeling!

Slowly, sequentially, all manner of emotions are experimentally woven into the evolving package...

“Increasingly, on down through the dawn mammals, the mid-mammals, and the Primates, we had observed the augmented service of the first five adjutants. But never had the remaining two, the highest mind ministers, been able to function in the Urantia type of evolutionary mind.”

Finally, Worship and Wisdom make contact, and the existence of a new planetary humanity is announced.

“An immediate and new order of mobilization of the seven adjutant mind-spirits…”
Evolving the human mind

As described in Papers 36 and 65, when a world is ready for human habitation, a group of Local Universe “Life Carriers” are given the responsibility of starting and overseeing the evolutionary chain that culminates in a planetary humanity. The many details involved in this operation make an intriguing story, but of interest to us here is how the Life Carriers conspire with the seven adjutants to create an arena for conscious human thought.

“The seven adjutant mind-spirits always accompany the Life Carriers to a new planet, but they should not be regarded as entities; they are more like circuits. The spirits of the seven universe adjutants do not function as personalities apart from the universe presence of the Divine Minister; they are in fact a level of consciousness of the Divine Minister…” [p.402]

The first problem confronting these Life Carriers is how to make matter responsive to mind—how to make a complex physical arrangement responsive to something as intangible as the ministry of the adjutants; how to make biochemistry responsive to an urge; how to initiate an instinctive reaction, then later a delicious emotion or heroic deed, within the salty fluids of a new planetary life implantation.

Their approach was to do it gradually. At first, their patterns of life had to be able to react to the compulsions of the Master Physical Controllers. Next, they dialed up responsiveness to each of the seven adjutant circuits—the prime targets for their evolutionary efforts. Their intricate and sequential complexification of neural patterns and associated hormonal recipes eventually led to mankind (see figure opposite).

“The seven adjutant mind-spirits are called by names which are the equivalents of the following designations: intuition, understanding, courage, knowledge, counsel, worship, and wisdom. These mind-spirits send forth their influence into all the inhabited worlds as a differential urge, each seeking receptivity capacity for manifestation quite apart from the degree to which its fellows may find reception and opportunity for function.” [p.401]

“These mind-spirits send forth their influence into all the inhabited worlds as a differential urge,” The Vorondadek author of Paper 36 paints an intriguing picture: as the Life Carriers tweak the animal genotypes, the adjutant circuits are independently seeking to encircuit these evolving forms. This suggests that adjutant interaction requires an interface, and that each adjutant requires a different one. This also implies that the Life Carriers’ task is to produce differentially tuned organic centers that can respond to and accommodate the differential urges of these seven adjutant circuits. What manner of organic interface, what kind of neural psycho-biochemical configuration, might this require? Will our medical practitioners ever be able to exploit it? Have healers through history been able to repair or enhance it? Whatever this interface is and however it works, Papers 36 and 65 imply that these centers for adjutant interaction exist, and that it is through this set of centers that the adjutants reach inside us to generate our private inner world, our stage for conscious thought, that ship on which “the human will is captain”. [p.12174]

Let’s consider briefly the possible nature of such an interface.
Our inherited predisposition and learned habitual reactivity, our conscious and unconscious selectivity of reactivity to the various adjutants, help explain the uniqueness of each individual human, and the capriciousness and freedom of our thought. We are directing our play, so we should try to understand at least some of the actors and influences on stage.
Jesus’ 20th year

“He has very nearly mastered the technique of utilizing the energy of the spiritual drive to turn the mechanism of material achievement.” [p.1405]

Progress

But mortal personality, through its own choosing, possesses the power of transferring its seat of identity from the passing material-intellect system to the higher moronta-soul system which, in association with the Thought Adjuster, is created as a new vehicle for personality manifestation. [pp.1232/3]

Jesus is rapidly becoming a man, not just a young man but an adult. He has learned well to bear responsibility. […] He has learned how to be fair and just even in the face of injustice. He is learning how to adjust his ideals of spiritual living to the practical demands of earthly existence. He is learning how to plan for the achievement of a higher and distant goal of idealism while he toils earnestly for the attainment of a nearer and immediate goal of necessity. He is steadily acquiring the art of adjusting his aspirations to the commonplace demands of the human occasion. He has very nearly mastered the technique of utilizing the energy of the spiritual drive to turn the mechanism of material achievement. […] More and more he depends upon the ultimate guidance of his heavenly Father while he assumes the fatherly role of guiding and directing the children of his earth family. He is becoming experienced in the skillful wrestling of victory from the very jaws of defeat; he is learning how to transform the difficulties of time into the triumphs of eternity.” [p.1405]
An impression of the “non-spiri tal energies of temporal existence”.

“And the human intellect protests against being weaned from subsisting upon the non-spiritual energies of temporal existence” [p.1097]
Using the human type of mind

“In the mortal experience the human intellect resides in the rhythmic pulsations of the adjutant mind-spirits and effects its decisions within the arena produced by encircuitment within this ministry.” [p.1286]

So what is going on? How do the urges and influences of the adjutants, a level of consciousness of the Divine Minister, become for us a system of mind? To what degree are we influenced by these adjutant pulsations? If our “intellect resides in” them, in what sense are we free to independently respond to our experience of life?

“Always should the domains of the physical (electro-chemical) and the mental response to environmental stimuli be differentiated, and in turn must they all be recognized as phenomena apart from spiritual activities.” [p.739]

One of the advances of psychology over the last few decades has been to discover the relationship between our biochemistry and our “state of mind”. Consider the effect of hormones and their use in various therapies.

“But many seemingly mysterious adjustments of living organisms are purely chemical, wholly physical. At any moment of time, in the blood stream of any human being there exists the possibility of upward of 15,000,000 chemical reactions between the hormone output of a dozen ductless glands.” [p.737]

Our emotional climate

It appears that as humans, we inherit an intellectual arena stocked with prepackaged tendencies—the motivations engendered by the “rhythmic pulsations of the adjutants”. The main contribution of these circuits may be to create, via interaction with our endocrine system, an emotional climate for our intellectual arena. As children, we establish a basic set of reactions to these inherited tendencies. Then, with these fundamentals in place, the drama of the human condition begins—the struggle of our wills to orchestrate the response of this complex package to the ceaseless demands of living. And it is these wilful, moral responses that allow our Thought Adjuster the opportunity to capture and weave yet another thread into the morontia fabric of its future garb.

“You should understand that the morontia life of an ascending mortal is really initiated on the inhabited worlds at the conception of the soul, at that moment when the creature mind of moral status is indwelt by the spirit Adjuster. And from that moment on, the mortal soul has potential capacity for supermortal function, even for recognition on the higher levels of the morontia spheres of the local universe.” [p.551]

Our genetic endowment, together with our learned reactions to adjutant stimulation, define the quality of our interface to the adjutant system. They also condition the capacity of the adjutants to create for us a more or less ideal emotional climate within which we then struggle with our lives, a sequence of endless decisions. The images above attempt to symbolize some of the factors that impinge upon our arena of conscious thought. They indicate that the contribution to our awareness from the animal, adjutant-based subconscious realm is only one of a set of inputs to the system. They also indicate that our soul, our initial morontial interface to our Adjuster, can become our new and improved base of operations, once sufficiently established.

“This actual transfer from material association to morontia identification is effected by the sincerity, persistence, and steadfastness of the God-seeking decisions of the human creature.” [p.1229]
The stage of our inner world

You cannot completely control the external world—environment. It is the creativity of the inner world that is most subject to your direction because there your personality is so largely liberated from the fetters of the laws of antecedent causation. There is associated with personality a limited sovereignty of will. [p.1220:7]

Since this inner life of man is truly creative, there rests upon each person the responsibility of choosing as to whether this creativity shall be spontaneous and wholly haphazard or controlled, directed, and constructive. How can a creative imagination produce worthy children when the stage whereon it functions is already preoccupied by prejudice, hate, fears, resentments, revenge, and bigotries? [p.1220:8]

Ideas may take origin in the stimuli of the outer world, but ideals are born only in the creative realms of the inner world. [p.1220:7-9]
Liberation from slavish response

Having thus provided for the growth of the immortal soul and having liberated man’s inner self from the fetters of absolute dependence on antecedent causation, the Father stands aside. Now, man having thus been liberated from the fetters of causation response, at least as pertains to eternal destiny, and provision having been made for the growth of the immortal self, the soul, it remains for man himself to will the creation or to inhibit the creation of this surviving and eternal self which is his for the choosing. No other being, force, creator, or agency in all the wide universe of universes can interfere to any degree with the absolute sovereignty of the mortal free will, as it operates within the realms of choice, regarding the eternal destiny of the personality of the choosing mortal. As pertains to eternal survival, God has decreed the sovereignty of the material and mortal will, and that decree is absolute. [p.71:3]
The association of human identity with the morontial soul ...

[...], when the final choosing of the mortal will permits the Adjuster to complete the association of human identity with the morontial soul during evolutionary and physical life, ... [“chariots of fire.”][p.1212:3]

A potential transfer of the seat of the identity ...

But selfhood of survival value, selfhood that can transcend the experience of death, is only evolved by establishing a potential transfer of the seat of the identity of the evolving personality from the transient life vehicle—the material body—to the more enduring and immortal nature of the morontia soul  [p.1229:7]

Possesses the power of transferring its seat of identity ...

But mortal personality, through its own choosing, possesses the power of transferring its seat of identity from the passing material-intellect system to the higher morontia-soul system which, in association with the Thought Adjuster, is created as a new vehicle for personality manifestation. [pp.1232/3]

The former seat of the identity of selfhood...

The soul of survival value faithfully reflects both the qualitative and the quantitative actions and motivations of the material intellect, the former seat of the identity of selfhood.  [p.1237:1]
4 universal gravities… “absolute presence circuits”

4. material gravity
3. mind gravity
2. spirit gravity
1. personality gravity

“Personality Gravity is noncomputable. We recognize the circuit, but we cannot measure either qualitative or quantitative realities responsive thereto.” [p.133:2]
Locating a place for space, and the arrow of non-time sequence (?)
That which is beyond imagination in one frame, may become at least “imaginable” in some other higher frame. So let’s finish by attempting to change gears, to shift into the other higher frame spun by the Urantia Papers, and see what they reveal about how the Universal Father views His ascending mortal children. Even from our very mortal view, we can imagine some simple ideas about the nature, the perspective and the motivation of our Dad—the Universal Father:

On the perspective of the Universal Father:

“As far as the Universal Father is concerned—as a Father—the universes are virtually nonexistent; he deals with personalities; he is the Father of personalities.” [p.164:1]

On the nature of the Universal Father:

“Undoubtedly the attainment of God in absolute would reveal the Primal Ancestor of universes as well as the Final Father of personalities.” [p.1296:4]

On the motivation of the Universal Father:

“[…], when the Father, in projecting the bestowal of the Thought Adjusters, proposed to the Son, “Let us make mortal man in our own image.” And as the spirit fragment of the Father dwells within you, […]” [p.78:3]

The technique of our Universal Father?

“But I declare to you that my Father in Paradise does rule a universe of universes by the compelling power of his love. Love is the greatest of all spirit realities. Truth is a liberating revelation, but love is the supreme relationship.” [p.1608:1]

The love of the Universal Father—our father—is the power that transforms us towards perfection, and into absolute association. Literally, perfection means “thoroughly made”; when he decided to make us in his image, he intended us not to be half baked. Hence “as Jesus passed by” he often said:

“Be you therefore perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

The Unimaginable Frame

“From the sequential, time viewpoint, all reality has its origin in the infinite I AM, whose solitary existence in past infinite eternity must be a finite creature’s premier philosophic postulate. The concept of the I AM connotes unqualified infinity, the undifferentiated reality of all that could ever be in all of an infinite eternity.” [pp.1152/3]

The reality behind the surface that we see may be beyond imagination, but our trust and logical faith can help us to see that our Father, and his universe of universes, are trying to make themselves known:

“Unqualified infinity is meaningless to the finite creature, but infinity is capable of self-limitation and is susceptible of reality expression to all levels of universe existences. And the face which the Infinite turns toward all universe personalities is the face of a Father, the Universal Father of love.” [p.1153:5]
— Personality in transition —
the personalization of the family of the I AM (?)
While we many never know how the I AM partitioned reality as Qualified and Unqualified, we can imagine how the tensions from such absolute separation become the generator of energy powering the transactions of eternity and the economies of infinity.

While we may never know how the Master Architects turn a qualified focus of the Father into the absonite, that bounded place for space, that buffer against the timeless touch of eternity, that cave in infinity serving as womb for the sequences of time, we can nevertheless imagine that such a place must be. Only such a sheltered nest could permit to exist those changes which the Father would have ripple back into his absolute domain.

While we may never know how the Force Organizers ripen space potency, we can see in their work the first glimpse of sequence, as they evolve the energies of infinity into the matter and power of space.

While we may never know how the Master Spirits weave their membranes of finite creation, or how life and mind can join with matter, then be evolved to man, there is one thing we assuredly can know: the drawing power of love upon ourselves, that joyful urge of persons towards persons. And that it is Michael who makes possible our choice to surf the surging waves of willful love all the way back to his Father, his Source and Center, now our Father too.

CONCLUSION

The Urantia Papers reveal personality to be so fundamental—as first source of everything and the destiny of all—that the Universal Father did not, or could not, delegate its care. The Papers also reveal an absolute transition—of particles of personality into free-will universe Sons.

This transition is caused by the Universal Father, and powered by love: “Let us make man in our own image.” This request of the Father becomes a command through the Son and the Spirit. The hosts of Havona stir, the machinery of Paradise responds, the most wondrous adventure begins: Sons, made as if from nothing to become ones like the Father; made from mortal stuff on the worlds of time; in the quiet places of a qualified, finite space. We are told that such transformations are an opportunity unique to this brief moment of time, but we are left to guess what ramifications may ripple from our birth.

*   *   *

Can you really realize the true significance of the Adjuster’s indwelling? Do you really fathom what it means to have an absolute fragment of the absolute and infinite Deity, the Universal Father, indwelling and fusing with your finite mortal natures? When mortal man fuses with an actual fragment of the existential Cause of the total cosmos, no limit can ever be placed upon the destiny of such an unprecedented and unimaginable partnership.

In eternity, man will be discovering not only the infinity of the objective Deity but also the unending potentiality of the subjective fragment of this same God. Always will the Adjuster be revealing to the mortal personality the wonder of God, and never can this supernal revelation come to an end, for the Adjuster is of God and as God to mortal man. [p.1181:3]
Four Interactions:
4. Mathematical Reason
3. Intellectual Wisdom
2. Spiritual Truth
1. Personal Love

Four Illuminations
4. Material Light
3. Intellectual Insight
2. Spiritual Luminosity
1. Personal Love

Technique of personality assurance (?)