

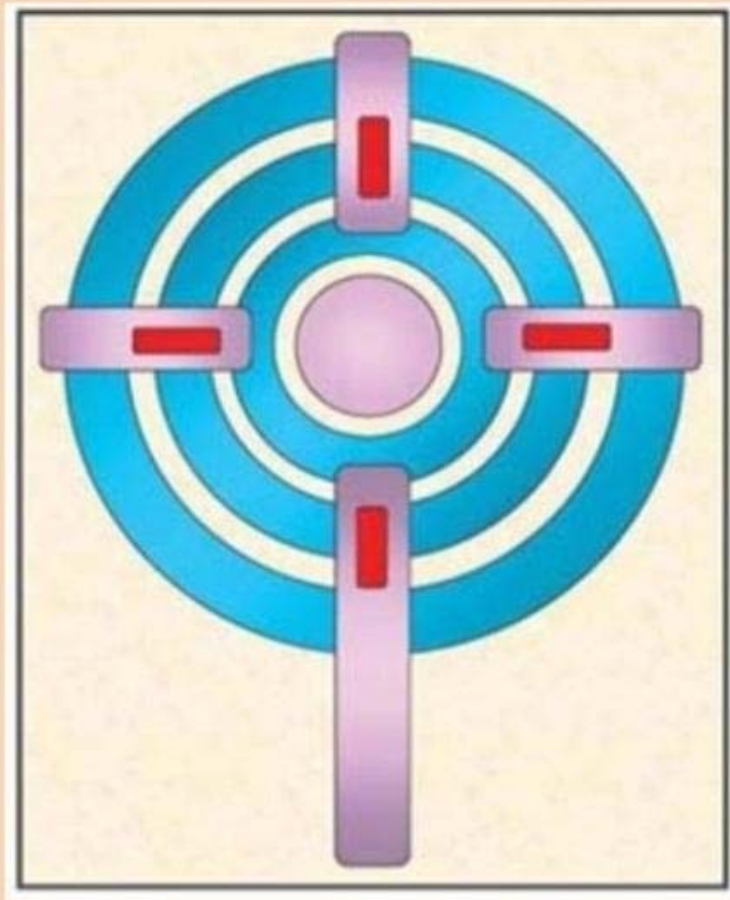
PARALLELS

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PARALLELS

**- Topical Comparisons of Quotes from the
Holy Bible and The Urantia Book -**



THE HOLY BIBLE: My main purpose for offering these Bible "Parallels" with The Urantia Book is twofold. First, I wish to shed some defining light for elevating meaning to many word concepts that run through the Bible; second, I wish to add some meaningful context from The Urantia Book that expands these words' applied meanings to a higher level. These "parallels" span both the Old and the New Testaments, often reaffirming the remarkable and evolutionary consistency that ties these two writings together. It is impressive how astutely the revelators of The Urantia Book apply this Biblical terminology in their discussions, but always with a discerning eye for providing additional insight.

All quotes contained herein are taken from the New International Version (NIV) of the Holy Bible. This translation is chosen because it is contemporary with modern literary expression while it remains faithful to the interpretive integrity of the ancient texts on which it relies. It benefits from the many archaeological and linguistic discoveries in the 20th century (e.g., the Dead Sea scrolls) that help in clarifying accuracy and meaning. Its translators were openly committed to the authority and infallibility of the Bible as God's word in written form. All Bible quotations that follow are cited by biblical book, chapter and verse (e.g. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.") In most instances, the particular book cited is abbreviated.

1 GOD'S WORD:

God gave us the scriptures of the Bible and the revelation of The Urantia Book so that we may come to know him and to better understand his divine purpose and plans through his revelations. God's word illumines who he is and gives us insight as to his special purposes and plans for us. His revealed word gives us guidance for living out our lives in accordance with his good will.

PARALLELS

God's Word

Man does not live by bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.
[Deut. 8:3]

I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread.
[Job 23:12]

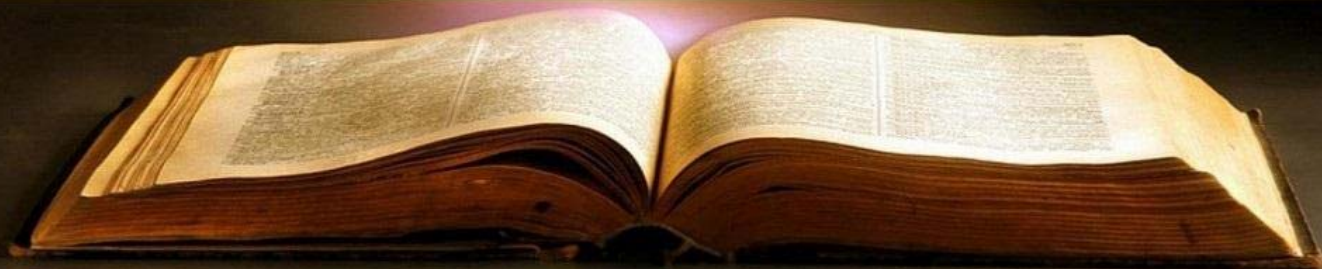
How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.
[Ps. 119:9]

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but it will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.
[Is. 55:10,11]

'Is not my word like fire' declares the Lord, 'and like a hammer that breaks a rock into pieces.'
[Jer. 23:29]

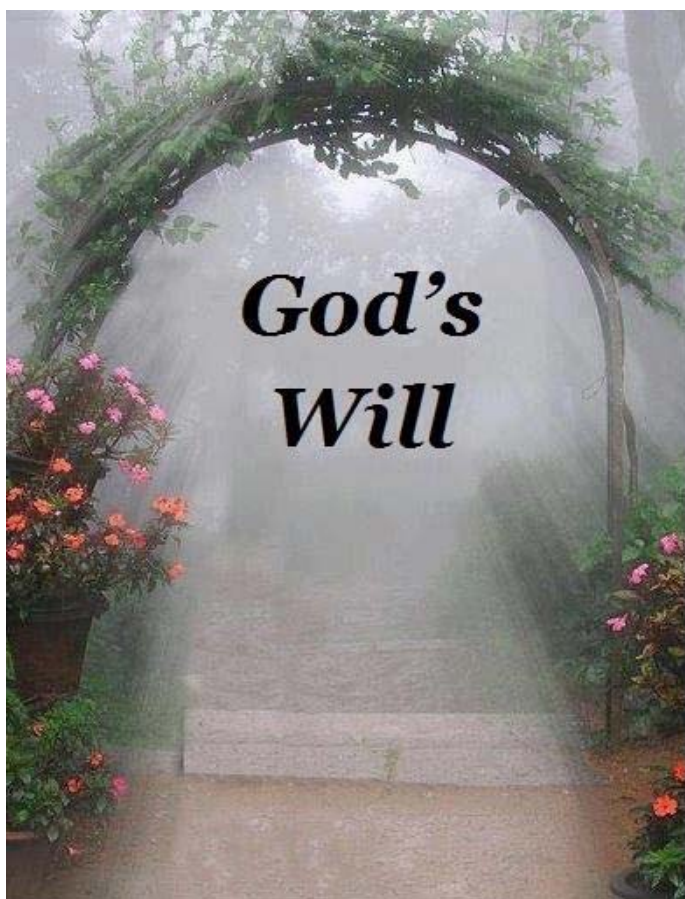
Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.
[Mat. 24:35]

"I have faithfully declared to you that which the Father commanded I should reveal to the children of men. And these words which the Father directed me to speak to the world are words of divine truth, everlasting mercy, and eternal life." [UB 174:5:7 (1903:4)]



2 GOD'S WILL:

Our Father in heaven, Creator of heaven and earth, is a God of absolute and final purpose. From his place in eternity, God's expressed will is inexorable and relentless – his plan for his creation will assuredly be carried out. Our sovereign God rules over his creation. None of his purposes can fail. It is absolutely certain that all of God's plans for his creation will achieve everything that he intends. All of his purposes will be fulfilled.



PARALLELS

"I am God and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please." [Old Testament - Isaiah 46:9,10]

"When you receive the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe."

[New Testament - 1 Thessalonians 2:13]

"[Said Jesus:] The throne of the Infinite is the eternal dwelling place of the Father in the heaven of heavens; he fills all things and proclaims his laws to universes upon universes. And the Father also rules within the hearts of his children on earth by the spirit which he has sent to live within the souls of mortal men." [Urantia Book 141:2:1 (1588:4)]

3 REVELATION:

Collectively, all of the books of the Bible present a complete, unified story that gradually unfolds across the wide expanse of mankind's history with God. The Bible is consistent and coherent in its divine message and import. Studying the Bible allows one to better comprehend the full breadth of God's word as it expresses his unified truth and divine will.

The Urantia Book balances pure revelation with conceptual patterns having had origin in mortal adjutant mind. This creativity is exercised by the revelators in the maintaining of a healthy respect for the very spirit of these restrictive mandates while still allowing for the delivery of a fullness of revelatory breath and scope in their narratives. They provide for a perfect coordination of these two modes of exposition. They forge bravely ahead with a bounty of new and revelatory ideas while at the same time they provide for the stabilizing anchor that acknowledges the very best that evolved human tradition and ideational practice has secured for our present-day civilization. This delicate handiwork is very much in harmony with the measured balance provided by the equipoised activities of the Angels of the Churches and the Angels of Progress.

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Revelation

The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever.
[Deut. 29:29]

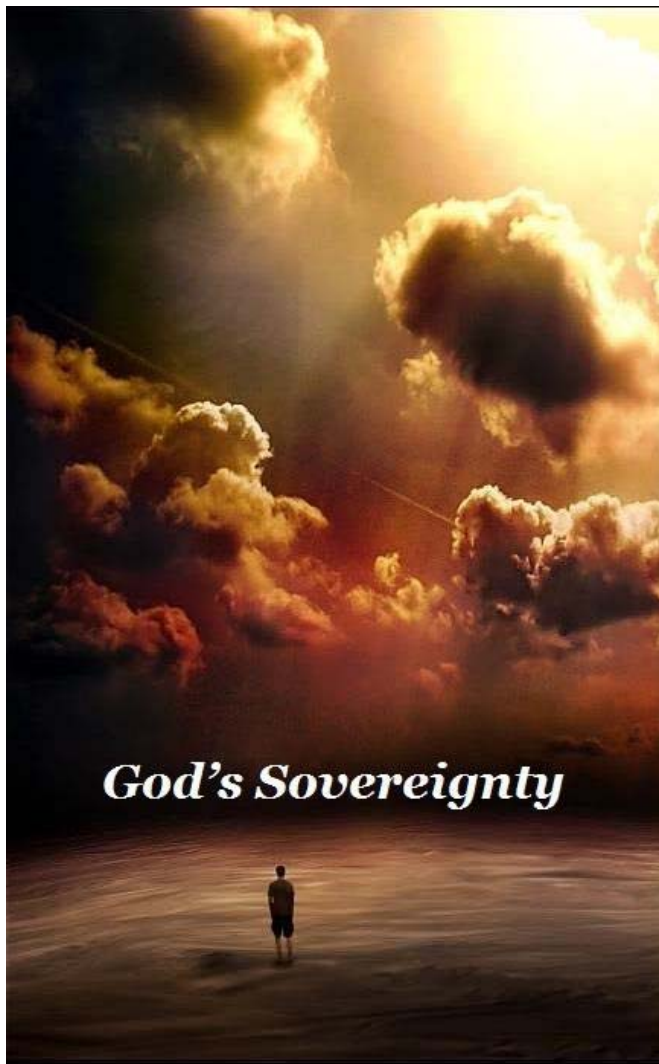
The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.
[Ps. 19:1-4]

There is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.
[Dan. 2:28]

Revelation is evolutionary but always progressive. Down through the ages of a world's history, the revelations of religion are ever-expanding and successively more enlightening. It is the mission of revelation to sort and censor the successive religions of evolution. But if revelation is to exalt and upstep the religions of evolution, then must such divine visitations portray teachings which are not too far removed from the thought and reactions of the age in which they are presented. Thus must and does revelation always keep in touch with evolution. Always must the religion of revelation be limited by man's capacity of receptivity. [UB 92:4:1 (1007:1)]

4 GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY:

Sovereignty is an impersonal disclosure of divinity endowing the possession of unlimited power and authority. The kingdom of heaven is the divine sovereignty that rules over and empowers the spiritual relationship between God and man. The sovereignty of God is the fundamental fact of all creation. The handiwork of creation is wholly subject to the will of the Creator.



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“The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all. Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts, you servants who do his will. Praise the Lord, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the Lord, O my soul.” [Old Testament - Psalms 103:19-22]

“From one man he made every nation of man, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him, though he is not far from each of us.” [New Testament - Acts 17:26,27]

“The God of universes rules the far-flung creation, but it is the Father in heaven who sends forth his spirit to dwell within your minds.” [Urantia Book 169:4:12 (1857:3)]

5 CREATION:

The Paradise-Havona system occupies the center of all creation around which the material universes revolve. The universe of universes is an organized and coordinated aggregation of force-energy. Divine energy pervades all creation being, a river of energy and life continuously being outpoured by the Deities.

Creation

PARALLELS

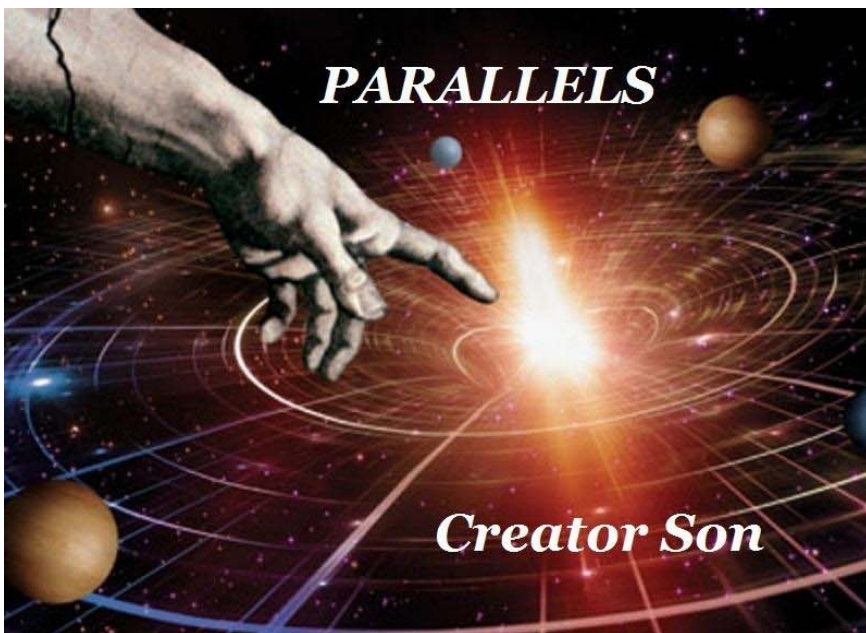
“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.” [Old Testament - Psalms 19:1-4]

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.” [New Testament – Hebrews 1:10-12]

“THE Universal Father has an eternal purpose pertaining to the material, intellectual, and spiritual phenomena of the universe of universes, which he is executing throughout all time. God created the universes of his own free and sovereign will, and he created them in accordance with his all-wise and eternal purpose. [Urantia Book 4:0:1 (54:1)]

6 CREATOR SON:

All local universe creations are supervised by the dual administrative presence of a Paradise Creator Son, who takes origin in the Father-Son union of Paradise Deity, and a Creative Mother Spirit, representing the local universe presence of the Paradise Mother Spirit. In our local universe of Nebadon, our Creator Son Michael and his Spirit companion, the Creative Mother Spirit, have been conjointly responsible for the creation of this material universe in which we live and breathe. The Paradise Father faithfully upholds this locally coordinated act of creative prerogative by fully supporting their divine right to "foster and sustain their work as well as to minister to the creatures of their own making." [UB 8:3:4 (93:6)] Michael functions in Nebadon as father of the inhabited worlds and as sovereign of the local universe - he is the personal residential manifestation of the Universal Father to the local universe materialization.



*By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, their
starry host by the breath of his mouth.*
[Ps. 33:6]

*I was appointed from eternity, from the beginning,
before the world began....I was the craftsman at his side.
I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always
in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and
delighting in mankind.*
[Prov. 8:23,30,31]

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with
God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the
beginning. Through him all things were made; without
him nothing was made that has been made.*
[John 1:1-3]

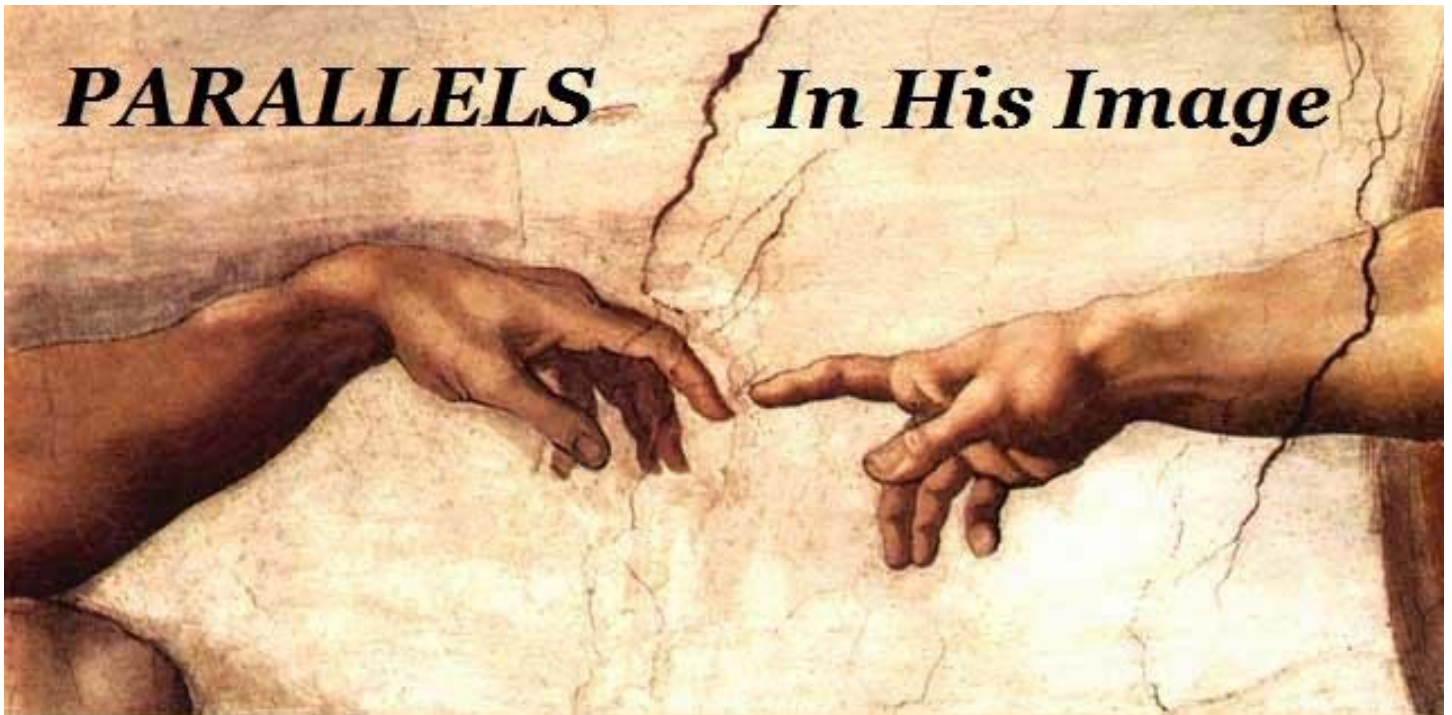
*He has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir
of all things, and through whom he made the universe.*
[Heb. 1:2]

*A Creator Son of the Eternal Son and a Creative Spirit of
the Infinite Spirit created you and your universe; and
while the Father in faithfulness upholds that which they
have organized, it devolves upon this Universe Son and
this Universe Spirit to foster and sustain their work as
well as to minister to the creatures of their own making.*
[UB 8:3-4 (93:6)]

7 IN HIS IMAGE:

The Book of Genesis relates how God set apart from fathomless eternity a safe and sheltered haven for the creation of the world. He filled the sky with birds and the seas with fish. On the dry land flourished all the fruit-bearing trees and over which crept the wild animals and the cattle of the fields. To crown his creation, God molded the nonliving matter of the earth and breathed life into it to create man “in His image.” Man is created a little lower than the angels, less in power and excellence but more favored possessing both free will and the Father’s divine indwelling presence.

PARALLELS In His Image



When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them 'man.'

[Gen. 5:1,2]

What is it that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet.

[Ps. 8:4-6]

Finite appreciation of infinite qualities far transcends the logically limited capacities of the creature because of the fact that mortal man is made in the image of God — there lives within him a fragment of infinity. Therefore man's nearest and dearest approach to God is by and through love, for God is love. And all of such a unique relationship is an actual experience in cosmic sociology, the Creator-creature relationship — the Father-child affection.

[UB 3:4:7 (50:5)]

8 REBELLION IN HEAVEN:

Sin is the knowing and deliberate rebellion against the will of the Father. The rebellious alliance of Lucifer, Satan, and Caligastia brought about a proclamation in a defiant manifesto for unrestrained liberty and self-assertion, rejecting all allegiance to heavenly authority and obligation.



Rebellion in Heaven

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“How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.” [Old Testament - Isaiah 14:12-15]

“And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home – these he kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.” [New Testament - Jude 6]

"There was war in heaven; Michael's commander and his angels fought against the dragon (Lucifer, Satan, and the apostate princes); and the dragon and his rebellious angels fought but prevailed not." [Urantia Book 53:5:6 (606:2)]

9 GOD'S DISCIPLINE:

Trials and tribulations must be dealt with by mortal beings in their personal efforts for experiential growth and progressive perfection. Problems must be resolved, and in so doing, mortal creatures make progress in unifying their minds, souls, and spirits in the attainment of their spiritual destiny. We should place our faith into our Father's loving hands knowing that the vicissitudes of life build strength of character, and that they help us develop empathy for the sufferings of our brothers and sisters. As we pass the tests of time, our faith becomes stronger and our trust in God becomes more secure.



GOD'S DISCIPLINE

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“As silver, copper, iron, lead and tin are gathered into a furnace to be melted with a fiery blast, so will I gather you in my anger and my wrath and put you inside the city and melt you. ²¹ I will gather you and I will blow on you with my fiery wrath, and you will be melted inside her. ²² As silver is melted in a furnace, so you will be melted inside her, and you will know that I the LORD have poured out my wrath on you.” [Old Testament – Ezekiel 22:20-22]

“Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.” [New Testament – Hebrews 12:7,8]

“The apparent cruelty of a perverse fate that heaps tribulation upon some suffering mortal may in reality be the tempering fire that is transmuting the soft iron of immature personality into the tempered steel of real character.”

[Urantia Book 118:10:9 (1305:4)]

10 THE HOLY SPIRIT:

The Holy Spirit is a supermind endowment available to all normal-minded human beings. It provides the mortal mind with the endowment of spiritual reasoning; it functions to enlarge man's viewpoint of ethics, religion, and spirituality. The influence of the Holy Spirit is pervasive in the thinking and reflective thought of man even without man's conscious co-operation, but the Holy Spirit becomes more effective when man displays a willing openness for this ministry.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

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"Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them. Then his people recalled the days of old, the days of Moses and his people— where is he who brought them through the sea, with the shepherd of his flock? Where is he who set his Holy Spirit among them." [Old Testament – Isaiah 63:10,11]

"God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." [New Testament – Romans 5:5]

"Man's first supermind endowment is that of personality encirclement in the Holy Spirit of the Universe Creative Spirit.... this influence functions to enlarge man's viewpoint of ethics, religion, and spirituality." [The Urantia Book 103:0:1 (1129:1)]

11 GUARDIAN ANGELS:

As you proceed throughout your mortal career, your guardian angels will attempt to influence you in every possible manner consistent with the dignity of your personality. However, they will always stop short of risking interference with the free action of your human will. They will seek only to influence you indirectly by acting to make the best possible uses of the life-directing choices to which you have already committed.

GUARDIAN ANGELS



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“For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.” [Old Testament - Psalms 91:11]

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.” [New Testament – Matthew 18:10]

“All angelic assignments are made from a group of volunteering seraphim, and these appointments are always in accordance with human needs and with regard to the status of the angelic pair — in the light of seraphic experience, skill, and wisdom. Only seraphim of long service, the more experienced and tested types, are assigned as destiny guards.” [Urantia Book 113:2:3 (1242:6)]

12 MELCHIZEDEK [“My King is Righteous”]:

Melchizedek was the priest of the Most High, a term expressing God’s power over the nations of the earth. He appeared from nowhere, without mention of parents or background. Abraham gave the priest Melchizedek a tenth of his wealth.



The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet....You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

[Ps. 110:1,4]

This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him....without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.

[Heb. 7:1-3]

Another priest like Melchizedek [Jesus Christ] appears, one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry [Levitic priesthood] but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life.

[Heb. 7:15,16]

The Melchizedek who lived on Urantia during the time of Abraham was locally known as Prince of Salem because he presided over a small colony of truth seekers residing at a place called Salem. He volunteered to incarnate in the likeness of mortal flesh and did so with the approval of the Melchizedek receivers of the planet, who feared that the light of life would become extinguished during that period of increasing spiritual darkness. And he did foster the truth of his day and safely pass it on to Abraham and his associates.

[UB 35:4:5 (389:4)]

13 GOD’S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM:

Approximately two-thousand years B.C., God chose a tribal chieftain by the name of Abram and his people, and God brought them out of land of Ur of the Chaldeans in Mesopotamia to re-settle in the land of Canaan. This man Abram was a descendant of Shem, the son of Noah and the father of the Hebrew (Semitic) nation. God made a covenant with Abram to give him and his descendants this land. Abram left his home in Haran for Canaan, the land promised him by the Lord.

When called to go to a land that he would later receive as an inheritance, Abram obeyed the Lord in an act of faith and went. Even though he did not know to where he was going, by faith he made his new home in the promised land of Canaan where he was a stranger in a strange land. He lived in tents, as did his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob who were co-heirs of the same promise made by their Lord God. In the far-distant future, their descendants would build a great temple at Jerusalem whose architect and builder is God. Upon arriving in Canaan, the Lord said to Abram, “To your offspring I will give this land.” [Gen. 12:7] There Abram built an altar to the Lord. Abram’s belief in the covenant of the Lord’s promise was counted unto him as righteousness and the Lord renamed him Abraham [father of many]

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No longer will you be called Abram [exalted father]; your name will be Abraham [father of many], for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after for generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you; and I will be their God. [Gen. 17:5-8]

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. [Heb. 11:8]

And Melchizedek made a formal covenant with Abraham at Salem. Said he to Abraham: "Look now up to the heavens and number the stars if you are able; so numerous shall your seed be." And Abraham believed Melchizedek, "and it was counted to him for righteousness." And then Melchizedek told Abraham the story of the future occupation of Canaan by his offspring after their sojourn in Egypt.

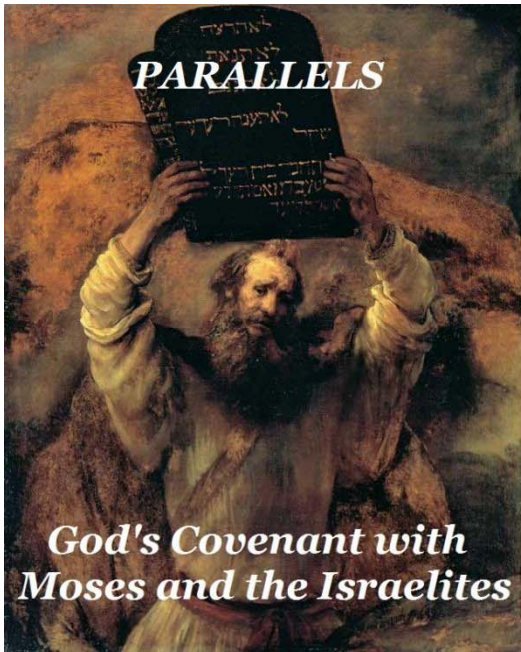
This covenant of Melchizedek with Abraham represents the great Urantian agreement between divinity and humanity whereby God agrees to do everything; man only agrees to believe God's promises and follow his instructions. Heretofore it had been believed that salvation could be secured only by works – sacrifices and offerings; now, Melchizedek again brought to Urantia the good news that salvation, favor with God, is to be had by faith. [UB 93:6:3,4 (1020:6,7)]

God's Covenant with Abraham

14 GOD'S COVENANT WITH MOSES AND THE ISRAELITES:

God founded the nation of Israel to be a source of truth and salvation to all the world. He was forging a holy nation. Because of their general discontent, and because this first generation fresh out of Egypt had ingrained the weak mindset of a slavish people, God needed to purge and rebuild his people. This first generation would not enter into the promised land of Canaan. Forty years spent by the Israelite people wandering in the harsh wilderness provided a vast and hostile environment in which to test and reshape the character of his people by weeding out the weak and undesirable elements. This gave God the time and means necessary to raise a new generation to learn the ways of their God.

Through this renewed and hearty nation of Israel, God's only begotten Son would be born. God's chosen people had been put through a rigorous training program to make them a formidable and worthy channel for bringing his blessings to all the world. God was embedding into his people a whole new way of life, cleansing them from the many pagan practices they had acquired in Egypt and restoring true worship to himself. God designed laws and restrictions to keep his people separate, to consecrate them socially and spiritually, from the wicked pagan ways they would surely encounter in Canaan.



God's Covenant with Moses and the Israelites

Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. [Ex. 19:5,6]

You came down from Mount Sinai; you spoke to them from heaven. You gave them regulations and laws that are just and right, and decrees and commands that are good. You made known to them your holy Sabbath and gave them commands, decrees and laws through your servant Moses. In their hunger you gave them bread from heaven and in their thirst you brought them water from the rock; you told them to go in and take possession of the land you had sworn with uplifted hand to give them. [Neh. 9:13-15]

The God of the people of Israel chose our fathers; he made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt; with mighty power he led them out of that country, he endured their conduct for about forty years in the desert, he overthrew seven nations in Canaan and gave their land to his people as an inheritance. All this took about 450 years. [Acts 13:17-20]

Moses was an extraordinary combination of military leader, social organizer, and religious teacher. He was the most important individual world teacher and leader between the times of Machiventa and Jesus. Moses attempted to introduce many reforms in Israel of which there is no record. In the space of one man's life he led the polyglot horde of so-called Hebrews out of slavery and uncivilized roaming while he laid the foundation for the subsequent birth of a nation and the perpetuation of a race. [UB 96:5:1 (1057:6)]

15 SACRIFICE:

The sacrificial rite of Moses' time was the method for his people to ask forgiveness for their sins and to restore their relationship with God as a holy act of atonement. Because all mankind was considered sinful in nature, and since this path of sin leads to death, the sacrificial animal symbolically took the sinner's place for a just restitution, paying the ultimate price for sin. The animal's death redeems the worshiper from sharing the same fate. Moving ahead to the New Testament, we find the belief that the death of Jesus Christ, the "sacrificial lamb of God", became the last and final sacrifice for all those who live in his name. Animal sacrifice was no longer relevant or effective to propitiate an angry and offended God. By belief in Jesus as savior and acceptance of his life-sacrifice, all mankind becomes freed from the penalty of sin.

PARALLELS

Sacrifice



Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.
[1Sam. 15:22]

"The multitude of your sacrifices – what are they to me?" says the Lord. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats....Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me"
[Is. 1:11,13]

"For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings."
[Hosea 6:6]

It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
[Heb. 10:4]

Gifts and bribes are given to men; but when tendered to the gods, they are described as being dedicated, made sacred, or are called sacrifices. Renunciation was the negative form of propitiation; sacrifice became the positive form. The act of propitiation included praise, glorification, flattery, and even entertainment. And it is the remnants of these positive practices of the olden propitiation cult that constitute the modern forms of divine worship. Present-day forms of worship are simply the ritualization of these ancient sacrificial techniques of positive propitiation. [UB 89:4:7 (978:3)]

16 THE LORD'S TEMPLE:

The Lord's first covenant with Moses' people provided guidelines for worship and the rituals of sacrifice, and for the building of an earthly tabernacle. The tabernacle began as God's home on earth where he dwelt with the prophet Moses and the chosen people. The tabernacle of the Testimony was set up by Moses' people in the desert based on the heavenly pattern given Moses by God. This is where Moses is to place stone tablets representing the Ark of the Testimony which God gave him at Mount Sinai. This sanctuary of the tabernacle on earth is but a shadowy copy of that which is eternally established in heaven: "This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: 'See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown to you on the mountain.'" [Heb. 8:5]

Solomon's temple replaces the tabernacle of the wandering Israelites as the centralized place of worship. So Solomon built the temple and completed it. Solomon's temple consisted of three square areas ending in a cube-shaped room called the Holy of Holies to contain the Ark of the Covenant. Like the portable altar, the tabernacle of the Testimony, which served the Israelites during their long sojourn in the desert wilderness, this temple was a replica of Yahweh's heavenly court. The ark was brought into the temple at Jerusalem containing only the two stone tablets that Moses had placed into it at Mount Sinai.



Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!...Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

[1Kings 8:27,30]

The priests and the Levites stood to bless the people, and God heard them, for their prayer reached heaven, his dwelling place.

[2Chron. 30:27]

The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord is on his heavenly throne.

[Ps. 11:4]

The centralization of the Jewish temple worship at Jerusalem constituted alike the secret of the survival of their monotheism and the promise of the nurture and sending forth to the world of a new and enlarged concept of that one God of all nations and Father of all mortals. The temple service at Jerusalem represented the survival of a religious cultural concept in the face of the downfall of a succession of gentile national overlords and racial persecutors. [UB 121:2:6 (1333:8)]

17 PEOPLE OF THE BOOK:

Christianity, Judaism and Islam have been called the religions of the Book because they all share something in common regarding accepted traditions and writings contained within the Bible, especially those contained in the earliest books of the Old Testament. Also, all three share the great biblical Patriarch Abraham as a common “father of many nations.” These religions require that man believe in that which is self-evident: that there is order in the universe, that this order is imposed from an intelligent source, and that this source is a personal God who reveals himself to his creation. Throughout the ages, God has spoken to all peoples willing to listen.

People of the Book



PARALLELS

"God also said to Moses, 'Say to the Israelites, "The LORD, the God of your fathers--the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob--has sent me to you." 'This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.'" [Old Testament – Genesis 3:15]

"The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go" [New Testament – Acts 3:13]

"The idea of Yahweh has undergone the most extensive development of all the mortal theories of God. Its progressive evolution can only be compared with the metamorphosis of the Buddha concept in Asia, which in the end led to the concept of the Universal Absolute even as the Yahweh concept finally led to the idea of the Universal Father. But as a matter of historic fact, it should be understood that, while the Jews thus changed their views of Deity from the tribal god of Mount Horeb to the loving and merciful Creator Father of later times, they did not change his name; they continued all the way along to call this evolving concept of Deity, Yahweh." [Urantia Book 96:1:15 (1054:5)]

18 SUBMISSION – Obedience to God’s Authority:

God had prepared Eden and placed Adam in the garden to feed from it and care for it. God created Adam pure and sinless, and he gave him relative freedom but for one commandment – to obey, and to refrain from eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam’s disobedience, his unwillingness to submit to God’s will and command, caused him to be subjected to inevitable death and resulted in a broken relationship with a holy and a righteous God.



PARALLELS

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.” [Old Testament - Psalms 37:5,6]

“Submit yourselves to God....humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.” [New Testament - James 4:7,10]

”When the creature submits to the will of the Creator, he does not submerge or surrender his personalityRather are such personalities progressively augmented by participation in this great Deity adventure; by such union with divinity man exalts, enriches, spiritualizes, and unifies his evolving self to the very threshold of supremacy”. [Urantia Book 117:5:2 (1285:5)]

19 REPENTANCE – Remorse for Our Sinful Rebellion against God:

God wants a personal relationship with each one of us. God created mankind for his own good pleasure. God offers to forgive all who confess their sinful condition. Once we have offered to God the repentance for our sins, we open the door to God's blessing. It is our supreme desire to conform to God's word and will because of our faith and trust in his benevolent goodness. Remember that the people of Ninevah withstood the judgment of God by repenting at the preaching of Jonah and did not perish.



PARALLELS

"Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord' – and you forgave the guilt of my sin." [Old Testament - Psalms 32:5]

"[Said Jesus] There will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent....I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." [New Testament - Luke 15:7,10]

"It is the very goodness of God that leads men into true and genuine repentance. Your secret of the mastery of self is bound up with your faith in the indwelling spirit, which ever works by love." [Urantia Book 143:2:7 (1610:2)]

Repentance

20 REDEMPTION – God’s Forgiveness for Our Sins, Without Penalty:

Jesus’ life on this world of ours provides the perfect pattern for our redemption, justification and sanctification before his heavenly Father, the Lord our God. He redeemed us so that by faith we might receive the promise of his outpoured Spirit. Jesus has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into his heavenly kingdom where we find redemption for our sins.

Though we will not achieve personal perfection in our lives on this world, we are at least free from that power of sin that leads us into condemnation through our redemption in Jesus Christ. In the face of temptation to commit sin, we will at least know upon reflection how we should have acted. We may err because of our current state of imperfection, but we have the knowledge not to be led into sinful temptation by the power of God through faith and obedience to his word. Even though we have been redeemed, we will at times continue to yield to sin, but the Spirit of Jesus will teach, remind, and empower us to be led onto God’s righteous path.

PARALLELS

Redemption

I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. [Ex. 6:6]

I know that my redeemer lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. [Job 19:25]

No man can redeem the life of another or give God a ransom for him – the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough – that he should live on forever and not see decay.... But God will redeem my life from the grave; he will surely take me to himself. [Ps. 49:7-9,15]

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. [Col. 1:13,14]

The forgiveness of Jesus is not condonation; it is salvation from condemnation. Salvation does not slight wrongs; it makes them right. True love does not compromise nor condone hate; it destroys it. The love of Jesus is never satisfied with mere forgiveness. The Master's love implies rehabilitation, eternal survival. It is altogether proper to speak of salvation as redemption if you mean this eternal rehabilitation. [UB 188:5:2 (2018:1)]

21 ADVOCACY (Mediation) – Jesus Christ is Our Intermediary before God:

Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” [John 14:6] Jesus Christ is the living bridge that forevermore crosses the gap between man and God, creature and Creator. Jesus Christ has prepared the way for all of us to enter into the kingdom of God. Jesus Christ is the visible, tangible image of the invisible God. He is the complete revelation to man what God is like. To know Jesus is to know God. Being both God and man, Jesus becomes the reliable way of finding the Father. Uniting our lives to Jesus is uniting our lives to God. As the “way”, Jesus is the living bridge to finding the Father, the way of salvation and eternal life.

As the Son of Man, Jesus willingly submitted to the physical limitations of his humanity, and finally unto his mortal death. Before his incarnation, Jesus was one with God. When his mission on earth was nearly finished, Jesus asked his Father to restore him to his original place of honor and authority: “And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.” [John 17:5]



Even now my witness is in heaven; my advocate is on high. My intercessor is my friend. [Job 12:19,20]

Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. [Mat. 10:32]

For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ, who gave himself as a ransom for all men. [1Tim. 2:5,6]

But when Jesus had finished his earth life, this name of the Father had been so revealed that the Master, who was the Father incarnate, could truly say:

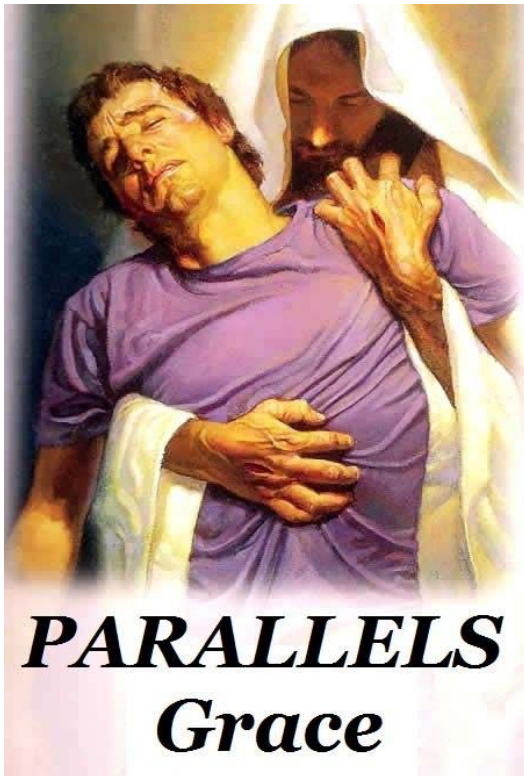
I am the living bridge from one world to another. I am the living link between time and eternity. [UB 182:1:9,24,25 (1965:3,18,19)]

Jesus is a divine Son, one in the Universal Father's full confidence. He had been with the Father and comprehended him fully. He had now lived his earth life to the full satisfaction of the Father, and this incarnation in the flesh had enabled him fully to comprehend man. Jesus was the perfection of man; he had attained just such perfection as all true believers are destined to attain in him and through him. Jesus revealed a God of perfection to man and presented in himself the perfected son of the realms to God. [UB 142:7:17 (1605:2)]

22 GRACE – The Unmerited Favor of God, the Gift of God:

God's word is truth. When we choose to have faith in God's word, we are accepting God's truth as an act of faith. As we gain experience with God through our acts of faith, we begin to put our boundless trust in him. Our knowledge of God grows as we increasingly put our trust in his promises. We desire to partake of his divine nature. We begin to see him as he really is, a God of love and mercy – our faith becomes a confidence in his grace.

It is the grace of God that turns us away from ungodliness and worldly passions, directing us “to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives” [Titus 2:12], and leading us to our salvation. Grace brings us the unmerited favor of God, the giving of the gift of good things and salvation, to undeserving people who could never earn it by themselves.



In the time of my favor I will answer you, and in the day of salvation I will help you. [Is. 49:8]

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. [2Cor. 9:8]

For if many died by the trespasses of one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many. Again, the gift of God is not like the results of one man's sin: The judgment followed sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. [Rom. 5:15,16]

In all praying, remember that sonship is a gift. No child has aught to do with earning the status of son or daughter. The earth child comes into being by the will of its parents. Even so, the child of God comes into grace and the new life of the spirit by the will of the Father in heaven. Therefore must the kingdom of heaven -- divine sonship -- be received as by a little child. You earn righteousness -- progressive character development -- but you receive sonship by grace and through faith. [UB 144:4:3 (1621:2)]

23 ELECTION – God’s Leading of Us for a Specific Purpose:

Our gracious God chooses an individual or a group of people for a specific purpose or destiny: “We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” [Rom. 8:28] Four thousand years ago, God chose a tribal chieftain named Abram and his people, and God brought them out of the land of Ür of the Chaldeans in Mesopotamia to re-settle in the land of Canaan. In response to Abram’s willing faith and submission to God’s command, God renamed him Abraham, “father of many”, and made a covenant to give him and his descendants this promised land forever. When God took his chosen people out of bondage from Egypt, he told them, “You will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” [Ex. 19:6] The Lord chose his people, the Israelites, because he loved them: “You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth.” [Amos 3:2]

By his divine power, Jesus “called us by his own glory and goodness” [2Pet. 1:3] to give us life and godliness through our knowledge of him. We are God’s elect who have been chosen “through the sanctifying work of the Spirit for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood.” [1Pet. 1:2] With God’s Spirit working within us, God chooses us in Christ “to be holy and blameless in his sight....to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.” [Eph. 1:4,5]



PARALLELS

Election

For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him. [Gen. 18:19]

It is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. [2Cor. 1:21,22]

When Thought Adjusters indwell human minds, they bring with them the model careers, the ideal lives, as determined and foreordained by themselves and the Personalized Adjusters of Divinington, which have been certified by the Personalized Adjuster of Urantia. [UB 110:2:1 (1204:5)]

The reserve corps of destiny consists of living men and women who have been admitted to the special service of the superhuman administration of world affairs. This corps is made up of the men and women of each generation who are chosen by the spirit directors of the realm to assist in the conduct of the ministry of mercy and wisdom to the children of time on the evolutionary worlds. [UB 114:7:1 (1257:1)]

24 RIGHTEOUSNESS - Acting in Accord with Divine or Moral Law:

The Lord deals with us according to our righteousness, and we are justified by our faith. For keeping the ways of the Lord and keeping our focus on God's righteousness, he rewards us by justifying us. When Abraham turned his faith towards his righteous God, his trusting allegiance was credited unto him as righteousness. He was strengthened in his faith, trusting fully in God's faithfulness to keep his promises.



Righteousness

PARALLELS

"The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and faithfulness." [Old Testament - 1Sam. 26:23]

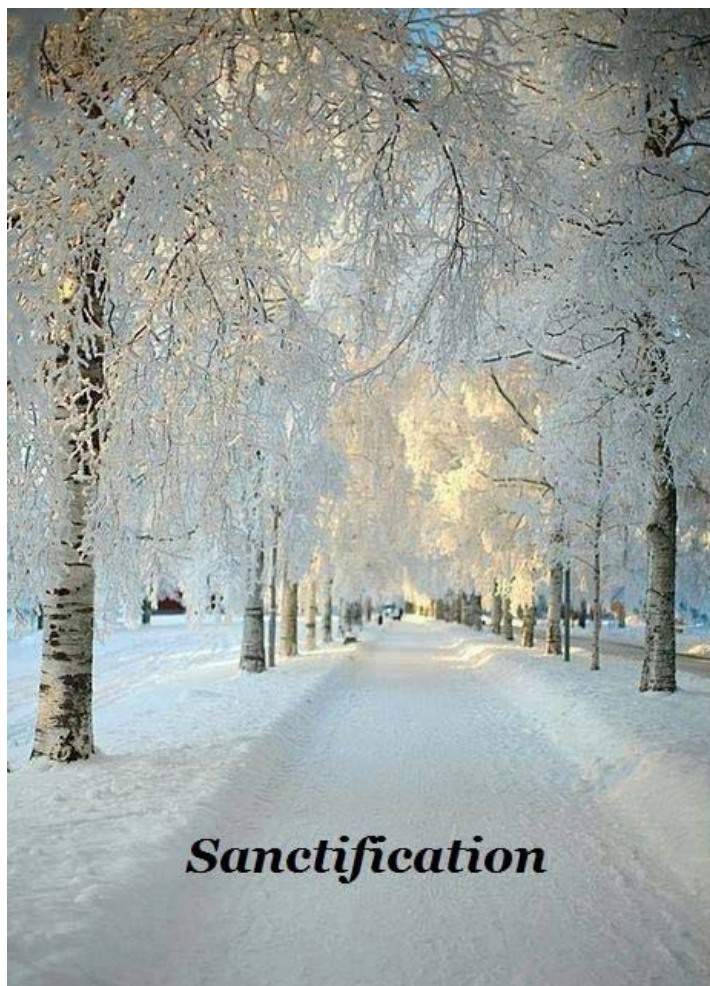
"For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'" [New Testament - Romans 1:17]

"It is in the consideration of the technique of *receiving* God's forgiveness that the attainment of the righteousness of the kingdom is revealed. Faith is the price you pay for entrance into the family of God; but forgiveness is the act of God which accepts your faith as the price of admission. And the reception of the forgiveness of God by a kingdom believer involves a definite and actual experience and consists in the following four steps, the kingdom steps of inner righteousness:

1. God's forgiveness is made actually available and is personally experienced by man just in so far as he forgives his fellows.
2. Man will not truly forgive his fellows unless he loves them as himself.
3. To thus love your neighbor as yourself *is* the highest ethics.
4. Moral conduct, true righteousness, becomes, then, the natural result of such love." [Urantia Book 170:3:3-7 (1851:10-14)]

25 SANCTIFICATION – God Makes us “Clean and Pure” (Holy):

Sanctification relates to our personal transformation process for the working out of our salvation. This is an ongoing process by God's Spirit whereby our inner lives reflect more and more that of God's own holiness. We must purify our inner temple of the Spirit from all influences that contaminate the body, mind, and soul. We must become perfect even as God is perfect. We must become holy even as God is holy.



Sanctification

PARALLELS

“I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities.” [Old Testament - Isaiah 1:25]

“Let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates the body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.” [New Testament - 2Corinthians 7:1]

“The Holy Spirit is partly independent of human attitude and partially conditioned by the decisions and co-operation of the will of man. Nevertheless, the ministry of the Holy Spirit becomes increasingly effective in the sanctification and spiritualization of the inner life of those mortals who the more fully obey the divine leadings.” [Urantia Book 34:5:5 (379:5)]

26 SALVATION – Deliverance from the Dominion of Sin and Death:

All people, good and evil, are destined to eventually pass through the shadowy destination of their mortal death. We cannot avoid our inevitable mortality of the flesh, but we can reach out to God for our eternal salvation from the grasp of a final death.



Salvation

PARALLELS

"He will swallow up death forever....Surely this is our God, we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord; we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation" [Old Testament - Isaiah 25:8,9]

"The Father raises the dead and gives them life." [New Testament - John 5:21]

"The kingdom of heaven consists in these three essentials: first, recognition of the fact of the sovereignty of God; second, belief in the truth of sonship with God; and third, faith in the effectiveness of the supreme human desire to do the will of God -- to be like God. And this is the good news of the gospel: that by faith every mortal may have all these essentials of salvation." [Urantia Book 140:10:9 (1585:7)]

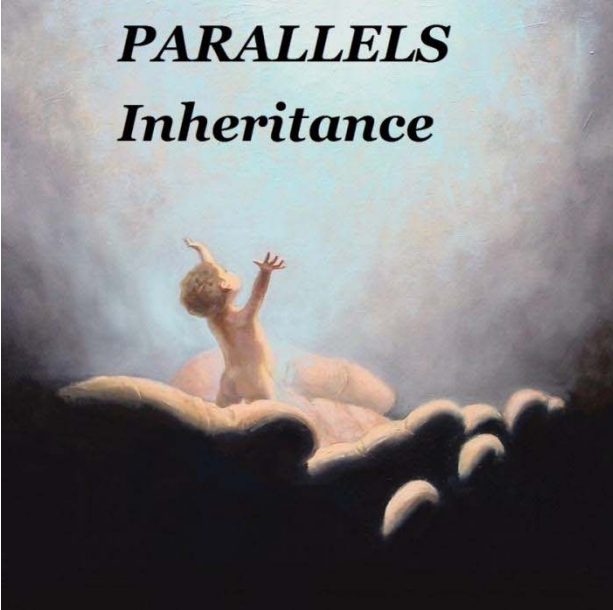
27 INHERITANCE – Privilege and Responsibility as God’s Child:

The Lord God took his chosen people – the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (“Israel”) – out of Egypt to be the people of his inheritance. Today, if we belong to Jesus Christ, then we too are accorded as Abraham’s seed and thus heirs according to God’s covenant. Jesus Christ was born of woman and under the Law of Moses, and he redeemed us once and for all by his sacrifice on the cross so that “we might receive the full rights of sons.” [Gal. 4:5] God adopts us “in accordance with his pleasure and will.” [Eph. 1:5] Both men and women are adopted as “sons of God” and thus equally heirs of his heavenly kingdom. The nature of being a “son” in this sense is to be one of those given the rights of inheritance as God’s child regardless of gender.

While our present condition is characterized by suffering, we are encouraged to anticipate our liberation from the weakness of the flesh and our hopeful resurrection. As the sons of God, we will be delivered into the “glorious freedom of the children of God.” [Rom. 8:21] Only the righteous can inherit the kingdom of God. As God’s adopted children, we are justified in the name of Jesus Christ, and we are sanctified by the outpouring of his promised Spirit of Truth. For all those who are sanctified in God’s Spirit, they are given an inheritance from our heavenly Father by the grace of his word, “an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.” [1Pet.1:4]

PARALLELS

Inheritance



Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. [Mat. 25:34]

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now, if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ. [Rom. 8:14-17]

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. [Gal. 3:26-28]

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! [1John 3:1]

You are sons of spiritual promise, faith sons; you have accepted the status of sonship. You believe in the reality of your sonship, and thus does your sonship with God become eternally real. [UB 40:6:4 (445:3)]

28 REGENERATION – Spiritual Rebirth and Renewal, Union with Christ:

Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” [John 3:3] God’s Spirit gives us new spiritual life through faith and the Holy Spirit brings us into the Father’s holy family. As potential children of our heavenly Father, we are challenged to put off our former way of life and our old self which is corrupted by the sins of the flesh. We are also compelled to renew the righteous attitude of our mind and to invigorate the nature of our spirit, “to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.” [Eph. 4:24]

As potential children of our heavenly Father, we are challenged to put off our former way of life and our old self which is corrupted by the sins of the flesh. We are also compelled to renew the righteous attitude of our mind and to invigorate the nature of our spirit, “to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.” [Eph. 4:24] Our resurrection into the Father’s kingdom necessitates the giving up of our earthly bodies of the mortal flesh. God prepares for us new bodies that will be suitable to our new state of being.

PARALLELS



Regeneration

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. [John 3:5,6]

The splendor of the heavenly bodies is of one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. [1Cor. 15:40]

For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. [1Cor. 15:53]

When, by living faith, you become divinely God-conscious, you are then born of the spirit as children of light and life, even the eternal life wherewith you shall ascend the universe of universes and attain the experience of finding God the Father on Paradise. [UB 193:0:3 (2052:3)]

Just as a butterfly emerges from the caterpillar stage, so will the true personalities of human beings emerge on the mansion worlds, for the first time revealed apart from their onetime enshrouding in the material flesh... It is difficult to instruct you regarding your morontia personality forms for the local universe career. You will be endowed with morontia patterns of personality manifestability, and these are investments which, in the last analysis, are beyond your comprehension. [UB 112:6:1,2 (1235:5,6)]

29 GLORIFICATION – The Ultimate Transformation and Completion:

If we choose to have faith in God, we will live according to his truth and receive the precious blessing of his promises. We will consecrate our bodies, minds, and souls to God; we will align our spirit with his Spirit. We have been called according to God's purposes, and God's Spirit has justified and sanctified us. Our final glorification will be the completion, the consummation, the perfection, and the full realization of our salvation. Our glorification will be our return to the perfection that God had always intended for us

Glorification

PARALLELS

“Brilliant light surrounded him. Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of God.”
[Old Testament – Ezekiel 1:27,28]

“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” [New Testament – 2Corinthians 3:18]

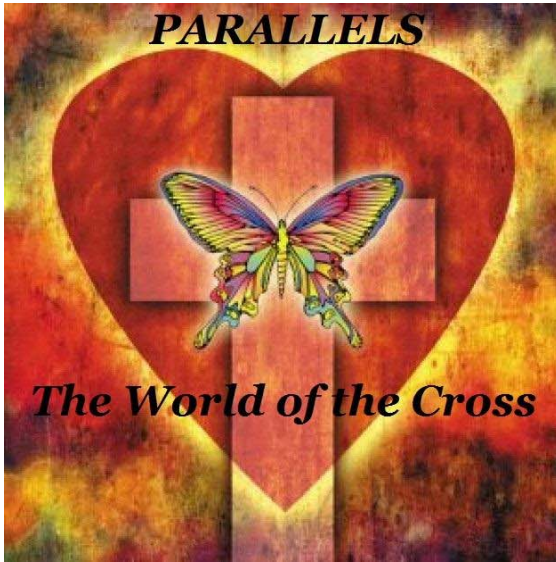
“You mortals are divinely beloved, and every one of you may choose to accept the certain destiny of a glorious experience, but you are not yet by nature of the divine order; you are wholly mortal. You will be reckoned as ascending sons the instant fusion takes place, but the status of the mortals of time and space is that of faith sons prior to the event of the final amalgamation of the surviving mortal soul with some type of eternal and immortal spirit.” [UB 40:6:1 (447:5)]



30 THE WORLD OF THE CROSS:

Jesus, the Son of God, was made man for the liberation of the human race from sin and death. He assumed full humanity – body, mind, and spirit – all that constitutes man except sin. He unified himself to human flesh: “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” [John 1:14] He united his divinity and humanity in holy perfection. Jesus suffered in the flesh, he died, and he was resurrected. He ascended into heaven for recognition by the Father.

By uniting to himself in his own person a body animated by rational spirit, the Word became man, man in inexpressible and incomprehensible manifestation. Regarding Jesus’ divinity and humanity, the proper character of each nature was kept inviolate yet united in one person. Human lowliness was assumed by majesty, mortality by eternity. His divine nature was united to one that could suffer, making him ideally suitable to become the perfect bridge between God and man.



Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

[Phil. 2:5-11]

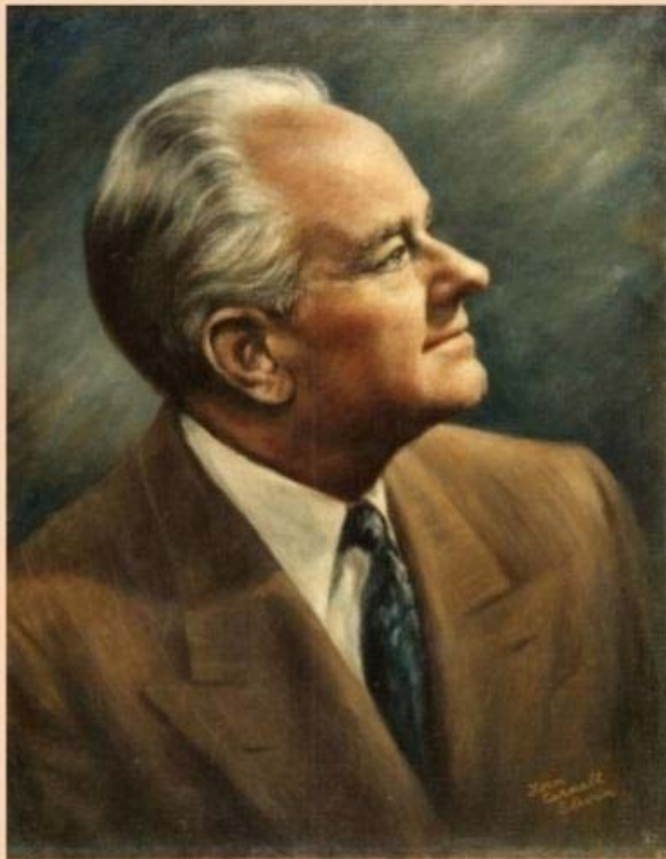
Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity.

[Heb. 2:14]

Although Jesus did not die this death on the cross to atone for the racial guilt of mortal man nor to provide some sort of effective approach to an otherwise offended and unforgiving God; even though the Son of Man did not offer himself as a sacrifice to appease the wrath of God and to open the way for sinful man to obtain salvation; notwithstanding that these ideas of atonement and propitiation are erroneous, nonetheless, there are significances attached to this death of Jesus on the cross which should not be overlooked. It is a fact that Urantia has become known among other neighboring inhabited planets as the "World of the Cross." [UB 188:4:1 (2016:6)]

PARALLELS

**- Topical Comparisons of Quotes from
Ernest Shurtleff Holmes and The Urantia Book -**



ERNEST SHURTLEFF HOLMES (January 21, 1887 – April 7, 1960) was an American spiritual writer, teacher, and leader. He was the founder of a Spiritual movement known as Religious Science, a part of the greater New Thought movement, whose spiritual philosophy is known as "The Science of Mind." He was the author of *The Science of Mind* and numerous other metaphysical books, and the founder of *Science of Mind* magazine, in continuous publication since 1927. His books remain in print, and the principles he taught as "Science of Mind" have inspired and influenced many generations of metaphysical students and teachers.

