How Bald Knob Cross of Peace and the "Signs of the Times" Relate to the Unity Treatise By Halbert Katzen 7/16/17

(Preface: This statement is entirely my own. It is being made because I feel it is important to share these thoughts. I know nothing of what most Unity Treatise advocates think about these ideas or about my sharing them. The views of a few advocates, with whom I have had some communication about this, span a spectrum regarding both the perspective and the sharing of it.)

The Unity Treatise says: "Wouldn't it be a wonderful 2017 birthday present for your Master Son to present him with the Spiritual Unification of His Urantia movement?"

IF those entrusted on high with the management of our planet through these difficult times are encouraging us to give Jesus a special present of unity for his birthday, THEN perhaps we should not only consider, but even expect, that they are going to be involved with doing the same thing on a level and in a manner appropriate for their status.

The Unity Treatise also states: "These factions, if continued, will delay the purpose of *The Urantia Book*, and will quickly disqualify these three organizations [Urantia Foundation, The Urantia Book Fellowship, and Urantia Association Interantional] from ever having the support of the Revelators to obtain the purpose and goals they set, and if so, this human responsibility will be handed to the watch care of others who prove trustworthy. *The proverbial clock is ticking!*"

One of the altogether reasonable concerns that I have heard raised in connection with the Unity Treatise relates to it being a power play by those involved with it. After all, an outside voice is saying the organizations are in default and that, if they do not do as directed in the Unity Treatise, then other more trustworthy individuals will be used. Those who brought *The Urantia Book* into publication had the objective authority of the book itself. The Unity Treatise, at least at the level of insight, critique, re-aligning with the original plan, holds up on a truth from any source basis. But the birthday present/deadline issue is not something that can be assessed by that standard; believing that part of it to be true is a leap of faith, admittedly. Because the Unity Treatise requires a leap of faith, consequently, it also has some intellectual issues associated with it.

My personal beliefs about the Unity Treatise and its role during this time period have been evolving from the beginning. Though I had a positive "felt" response when I first read it, my intellect is what really resonated with it the most. The teachings, the critiques, and the solution to disunity are things that I found to be both incredibly insightful and reasonable. In short, it passed my truth from any source test. Nonetheless, from the beginning, I did see the problem identified in the paragraph above. But because 1) the need for correction seems long overdue to me, 2) the Unity Treatise plan essentially allows those in seats of power to keep them, 3) the Unity Treatise provided a process for re-alignment that would, by its nature, also be rehabilitative, I was willing to take a leap of faith on this one.

The problem is that after August 21st claims of authority from the same (or even a new source) cannot be approached from a truth from any source perspective the way insights, critiques, and instructions to follow the original plan can be assessed. This means, to me at least (not saying there are not other ways to look at it), that if the organizations do not follow the solution for unity found in the Unity Treatise, then on August 22nd there would be an authority/leadership vacuum on the planet with respect to *The Urantia Book*. This does not make sense to me; this seems like something that cannot be allowed to happen.

My resolution to this problem did not come until recently, through a study some of us have been doing on "the signs of the times." I have come to believe that, as Jesus put it, " the summertime of a new visitation draws near." I did not expect my thoughts to go in this direction when I got on board with the Unity Treatise. So, naturally, I experience this as one of the rewards for faithfulness, similar to the way things opened up so nicely (at the level of new discoveries and scientific advances, anyway) once I started the UBtheNEWS project. Believing that a visitation is part of the plan is attractive to me, of course, because it handles the issue of having an authority/leadership vacuum on August 22nd. While this adds to why I believe we are due for a visitation, it is hardly the crux of the issue. In fact, I am far from feeling certain about my belief that we will get a visitation on August 21st.

My belief is somewhere in the 51% to 65% range. This is enough for me to be willing to share my thoughts openly. When it comes to suffering the potentials and/or actuality of public ridicule for having unpopular ideas of this nature, I seem to have thicker skin than most people (though, of course, we all share this to a degree or we would not be reader-believers). My hope is that by sharing my perspective and providing textual support for my analysis, other reader-believers will find it easier to come to terms with these issues on a personal level and have the interest and courage to speak more openly to others about their thoughts, feelings, on beliefs on all of these interrelated issues.

For me, taking advantage of the best outreach opportunity we have ever seen, while enjoying a solar eclipse with great friends, is enough to take the edge off being mistaken under these circumstances. After all, it is not as though any of us in the Urantia community are responsible for creating an event at Bald Knob Cross of Peace that is arguably the best outreach opportunity the Urantia community has ever seen. This event is its own cause for joyous celebration and participation. So, the way I look at it, the day is either going to be great on a human level or absolutely incredible on a larger level. For sure, those who wish to join us at Bald Knob Cross of Peace on August 21st (or support it) can be assured that they are participating in a great thing. Even with a "no show," it's still the best place for an outreach service party and a most excellent place to view the eclipse.

What I will do here is simply suggest a range of possibilities that I consider to be likely with respect to receiving visitors on August 21, 2017 and April 8, 2024 at Bald Knob Cross of Peace. And I will provide a few comments about what the period in between might look like. This will be followed by some textual support and commentary. The conclusion will emphasize why all of this is a great reason to get our house in order as the Unity Treatise directs us to do.

I am suggesting the idea that some type of visitation is a likely possibility in a limited way; my study has not led me to have any beliefs about exactly who will show up on each of the two

dates. While it is, of course, a possibility that Jesus will show up on either or both occasions, this will not be taken up as a possibility because teachings about the second coming are perfectly clear and come directly from him—"but concerning the times of the coming again of the Son of Man, no one in heaven or on earth may presume to speak." In contrast and in that same paragraph, Jesus also said, "you should be alert to discern the signs of the times. (176:2.6)

I have not had time to do a thorough study of all the different beings worth considering as potential candidates for a visitation. There is a range of primary players that might arrive and what kind of assistants they might have with them is another question. How many of these beings would show on either occasion is the part that is does not lend itself well to reaching likely possibilities, in my opinion.

What exactly is due to unfold and how does not seem like something that can be figured out. But the fulfillment of this prophetic statement, "all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD, suggests strongly to me that some kind of change is going to occur relatively quickly (within the seven-year period) that results in the whole world getting on board with the new dispensation and the plans for progress that come from the visitors.

Such a visitation would, of course, be spectacular by its nature, to a degree. I speculate that the degree of "celestial pageantry" coming along with the visitation will be kept to a minimum because divine wisdom does not seem inclined toward spectacular demonstrations of power that overawe, frighten, confuse, or otherwise operate to override freewill. Divine wisdom seems inclined towards requiring us to do our own evolutionary work. As well, a more "gradual" process over the seven-year period seems to allow for the fulfillment of other prophecies by John the Revelator and the olden seer, Isaiah, regarding a time of difficult testing before reaching a state of global unity, a real foundation on which the Visitors can start to engage the 1000+ year process of reaching light and life. Maybe it will take many thousands of years; the point is simply that we need to get globally aligned before we can start the long process of making lasting global progress.

Note how this perspective honors the two strongly held viewpoints within the Urantia community concerning how quickly things can change. Some people emphasize that light and life is a long way off. Others emphasize that we are "on the brink" of dramatic social change and a "butterfly" is due to emerge from its Christian "cocoon." Believing that visitations will occur at Bald Knob Cross of Peace, between which time the world will come to know of a new visitation, dovetails beautifully with this latter teaching. An interdenominational group of down to earth Christians could stimulate this process very nicely, perhaps.

Quotes and Commentaries

Note that "signs of the times" only appears twice and in both instances the words come from Jesus:

(157:2.1) On Monday, August 8, while Jesus and the twelve apostles were encamped in Magadan Park, near Bethsaida-Julias, more than one hundred believers, the evangelists, the women's corps, and others interested in the establishment of the kingdom, came over from Capernaum for a conference. And many of the Pharisees, learning that Jesus was here, came

also. By this time some of the Sadducees were united with the Pharisees in their effort to entrap Jesus. Before going into the closed conference with the believers, Jesus held a public meeting at which the Pharisees were present, and they heckled the Master and otherwise sought to disturb the assembly. Said the leader of the disturbers: "Teacher, we would like you to give us a sign of your authority to teach, and then, when the same shall come to pass, all men will know that you have been sent by God." And Jesus answered them: "When it is evening, you say it will be fair weather, for the heaven is red; in the morning it will be foul weather, for the heaven is red and lowering. When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say showers will come; when the wind blows from the south, you say scorching heat will come. How is it that you so well know how to discern the face of the heavens but are so utterly unable to discern the signs of the times? To those who would know the truth, already has a sign been given; but to an evil-minded and hypocritical generation no sign shall be given."

(176:2.6) "And now concerning the travail of Jerusalem, about which I have spoken to you, even this generation will not pass away until my words are fulfilled; but concerning the times of the coming again of the Son of Man, no one in heaven or on earth may presume to speak. But you should be wise regarding the ripening of an age; you should be alert to discern the signs of the times. You know when the fig tree shows its tender branches and puts forth its leaves that summer is near. Likewise, when the world has passed through the long winter of material-mindedness and you discern the coming of the **spiritual springtime of a new dispensation**, should you know that the **summertime of a new visitation** <u>draws near</u>. [Emphasis added.]

Consider how this metaphorical language using seasons might also have a literal meaning to it. Note the use of the terms "dispensation" and then "visitation" and how all of this is being distinguished from Michael's return. Note that being alert to the signs of the times is something we are told to do by Jesus. Consider that this is an instruction for which we are responsible, as entrusted stewards of truth.

Consider that *The Urantia Book* itself is the clear evidence of the "spiritual springtime of a new dispensation." Given how politically powerful Christians promote creationism and the general deterioration of the public school system in the United States since *The Urantia Book*'s publication, consider that *The Urantia Book* is a contemporary macro level expression, of this teaching:

(90:2.9) Ever and anon, true prophets and teachers arose to denounce and expose shamanism. Even the vanishing red man had such a prophet within the past hundred years, the Shawnee Tenskwatawa, who predicted the eclipse of the sun in 1806 and denounced the vices of the white man. Many true teachers have appeared among the various tribes and races all through the long ages of evolutionary history. And they will ever continue to appear to challenge the shamans or priests of any age who oppose general education and attempt to thwart scientific progress.

The inclusion of these facts about Tenskwatawa and the eclipse were not necessary for making the point. Why put them in? Taken in context with the fact that Shawnee National Forest and the Bald Knob Cross of Peace are both at the intersection of the eclipses, where "X" marks the spot, I consider this to be a clue, one that begs for meaning and value.

In Paper 52: Planetary Mortal Epochs a Mighty Messenger, by connecting statements by John the Revelator directly to statements by Isaiah, "the olden seer," integrates these traditionally authenticated revelations of epochal significance into the expanded teachings of our fifth epochal revelation. While reading through these passages from *The Urantia Book* and Isaiah 66, reflect on how the imagery regarding dark and light works so well with an eclipse event and how the birthing imagery in both the prophecies and the warning work well with the idea of Adamic blood being reintroduced to the planet. Bear in mind, of course, that humanity did not get the Adamic infusion we needed and the children of Adam and Eve were deprived of their mortal experience. We need more of their genetics to set things right and *The Urantia Book* has acknowledged that we are headed for increased genetic problems at the rate we are going.

(52:7.11) It was of the conclusion of the terminal mission of the Teacher Sons (at least that would be the chronology on a normal world) that John wrote: "I saw a new heaven and a new earth and the new Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a princess adorned for the prince."

(52:7.12) This is the same renovated earth, the advanced planetary stage, that the olden *seer* envisioned when he wrote: "For, as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, so shall you and your children survive; and it shall come to pass that from one new moon to another and from one Sabbath to another all flesh shall come to worship before me,' says the Lord." [Emphasis added. Every solar eclipse is also a new moon.]

(52:7.13) It is the mortals of such an age who are described as "a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, an exalted people; and you shall show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into this marvelous light."

(52:7.14) No matter what the special natural history of an individual planet may be, no difference whether a realm has been wholly loyal, tainted with evil, or cursed by sin—no matter what the antecedents may be—sooner or later the grace of God and the ministry of angels will usher in the day of the advent of the Trinity Teacher Sons; and their departure, following their final mission, will inaugurate this superb era of light and life.

(52:7.15) All the worlds of Satania can join in the hope of the one who wrote: "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that you look for such things, be diligent that you may be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless."

(52:7.16) The departure of the Teacher Son corps, at the end of their first or some subsequent reign, ushers in the dawn of the era of light and life—the threshold of the transition from time to the vestibule of eternity. The planetary realization of this era of light and life far more than equals the fondest expectations of Urantia mortals who have entertained no more farseeing concepts of the future life than those embraced within religious beliefs which depict heaven as the immediate destiny and final dwelling place of surviving mortals.

Regarding the reference to Isaiah 66:23—"From one New Moon to another AND from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD." [emphasis added]—notice how challenging it is to make sense of this passage until one associates it with information provided in *The Urantia Book* about Jesus and with the upcoming eclipses. One of the reasons I think we must be due for a visitor on August 21st and not just on April 8th is because I think we will need the help of visitors in order to get unified on a basic level within seven years. I do not think hard times, a period of tribulation in and of itself, would be enough to get the job done.

Note how John the Revelator's vision of the future is placed before Isaiah, who is referred to as a "seer" instead of by name, further emphasizing that he had actual visions of the future.

Isiah 66: Judgment and Hope

1 This is what the LORD says: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? 2 Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the LORD. "These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word. 3 But whoever sacrifices a bull is like one who kills a person, and whoever offers a lamb is like one who breaks a dog's neck; whoever makes a grain offering is like one who presents pig's blood, and whoever burns memorial incense is like one who worships an idol. They have chosen their own ways, and they delight in their abominations; 4 so I also will choose harsh treatment for them and will bring on them what they dread. For when I called, no one answered, when I spoke, no one listened. They did evil in my sight and chose what displeases me." 5 Hear the word of the LORD, you who tremble at his word: "Your own people who hate you, and exclude you because of my name, have said, 'Let the LORD be glorified, that we may see your joy!' Yet they will be put to shame. 6 Hear that uproar from the city, hear that noise from the temple! It is the sound of the LORDrepaying his enemies all they deserve. 7 "Before she goes into labor, she gives birth; before the pains come upon her, she delivers a son. 8 Who has ever heard of such things? Who has ever seen things like this? Can a country be born in a day or a nation be brought forth in a moment? Yet no sooner is Zion in labor than she gives birth to her children. 9 Do I bring to the moment of birth and not give delivery?" says the LORD. "Do I close up the womb when I bring to delivery?" says your God. 10 "Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice greatly with her, all you who mourn over her. 11 For you will nurse and be satisfied at her comforting breasts; you will drink deeply and delight in her overflowing abundance." 12 For this is what the LORD says: "I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. 13 As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." 14 When you see this, your heart will rejoice and you will flourish like grass; the hand of the LORD will be made known to his servants, but his fury will be shown to his foes. 15 See, the LORD is coming with fire, and his chariots are like a whirlwind; he will bring down his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. 16 For with fire and with his sword the LORD will execute judgment on all people, and many will be those slain by the LORD. 17 "Those who consecrate and purify themselves to go into the gardens, following one who is among those who eat the flesh of pigs, rats and other unclean things-they will meet their end together with the one they follow," declares the LORD. 18 "And I, because of what they have planned and done, am about to come and gather the people of all nations and languages, and they will come and see my glory. 19 "I will set a sign among them,

and I will send some of those who survive to the nations-to Tarshish, to the Libyans and Lydians (famous as archers), to Tubal and Greece, and to the distant islands that have not heard of my fame or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. 20 And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD-on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels," says the LORD. "They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels. 21 And I will select some of them also to be priests and Levites," says the LORD. 22 "As the new heavens and the new earth that I make will endure before me," declares the LORD, "so will your name and descendants endure. 23 From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, all mankind will come and bow down before me," says the LORD. 24 "And they will go out and look on the dead bodies of those who rebelled against me; the worms that eat them will not die, the fire that burns them will not be quenched, and they will be loathsome to all mankind."

I found it especially comforting to read in Isaiah 66 about how God does not tease us with signs. It also gives re-assurance that things can change for the better relatively quickly on a large scale.

Do we dare turn a blind eye, as Urantia Book reader representatives, to such a startling understanding of this ancient prophecy from the olden seer Isaiah? Are we to make light of the fact that the authors of this revelation put the necessary facts into *The Urantia Book* for making sense of what was said by Isaiah or are we to bring the facts to light?

Note how the revelations of Isaiah anticipate everything that has occurred in terms of Jesus being put to death and *The Urantia Book* itself. Consider that there is nothing I am saying, of course, about which the Revelatory Commission would not already be aware. Consider that if a visitation is planned for this time period and our celestial supervisors knew it, then how well the Urantia Book institutions happened to have done with spreading the teachings of *The Urantia Book* and keeping us functioning as a unified community, while certainly important (especially to the souls of the reader-believers involved), becomes enormously less significant to how things unfold on Urantia. From this perspective, everything related to controversies about whether we are "on our own" and whether the Unity Treatise authentic becomes rather insignificant. I can feel the love and see the wisdom in this type of plan, no problem.

I can also see the love and wisdom in "keeping this hidden in plain sight" from the community. In other words, I think it is very good for reader-believers to take seriously the possibility of a visitation at Bald Knob Cross *at this point in time*. I doubt very much that it would have been a good thing for this to have been on our minds prior to more recent times. Seems like we had enough trouble staying on track as it was and thinking about this type of stuff would have only made us worse off as a community.

Some reader-believers may feel that certain "prophetic forecasts" need to occur first that have not yet transpired, like a "greater John the Baptist." Consider that such things may come to pass in the seven-year period and also that, unlike the prophetic revelations found in Paper 52 and from Jesus' own mouth, some "prophetic forecasts" in *The Urantia Book* are qualified by the word "may." For instance, this is how the section at 170:5.1 starts: "Having summarized the teachings of Jesus about the kingdom of heaven, we are permitted to narrate certain later ideas which became attached to the concept of the kingdom and to engage in a prophetic forecast of the kingdom as it *may* evolve in the age to come." [Emphasis added.]—before it goes on to say this:

(170:5.19) Sooner or later another and greater John the Baptist is due to arise proclaiming "the kingdom of God is at hand"—meaning a return to the high spiritual concept of Jesus, who proclaimed that the kingdom is the will of his heavenly Father dominant and transcendent in the heart of the believer—and doing all this without in any way referring either to the visible church on earth or to the anticipated second coming of Christ. There must come a revival of the actual teachings of Jesus, such a restatement as will undo the work of his early followers who went about to create a sociophilosophical system of belief regarding the fact of Michael's sojourn on earth. In a short time the teaching of this story about Jesus nearly supplanted the preaching of Jesus' gospel of the kingdom. In this way a historical religion displaced that teaching in which Jesus had blended man's highest moral ideas and spiritual ideals with man's most sublime hope for the future—eternal life. And that was the gospel of the kingdom.

This passage is also qualified by the word "may":

(44:1.15) If Adam and Eve had only survived, then would you have had music in reality; but the gift of harmony, so large in their natures, has been so diluted by strains of unmusical tendencies that only once in a thousand mortal lives is there any great appreciation of harmonics. But be not discouraged; some day a real musician *may* appear on Urantia, and whole peoples will be enthralled by the magnificent strains of his melodies. One such human being could forever change the course of a whole nation, even the entire civilized world. It is literally true, "melody has power a whole world to transform." Forever, music will remain the universal language of men, angels, and spirits. Harmony is the speech of Havona. [emphasis added]

Consider passages indicating that we will eventually get another Adamic infusion to assist us with our insurmountable genetic issues and that the need for this is urgent: (55:7.3) When such an era is attained on your world, no doubt Machiventa Melchizedek, now the vicegerent Planetary Prince of Urantia, will occupy the seat of the Planetary Sovereign; and it has long been conjectured on Jerusem that he will be accompanied by a son and daughter of the Urantia Adam and Eve who are now held on Edentia as wards of the Most Highs of Norlatiadek. These children of Adam might so serve on Urantia in association with the Melchizedek-Sovereign since they were deprived of procreative powers almost 37,000 years ago at the time they gave up their material bodies on Urantia in preparation for transit to Edentia.

(82:6.11) After all, the real jeopardy of the human species is to be found in the unrestrained multiplication of the inferior and degenerate strains of the various civilized peoples rather than in any supposed danger of their racial interbreeding.

(110:4.6) For many thousands of years, so the records of Jerusem show, in each generation there have lived fewer and fewer beings who could function safely with self-acting Adjusters. This is an alarming picture, and the supervising personalities of Satania look with favor upon

the proposals of some of your more immediate planetary supervisors who advocate the inauguration of measures designed to foster and conserve the higher spiritual types of the Urantia races.

(68:6.11) From a world standpoint, overpopulation has never been a serious problem in the past, but if war is lessened and science increasingly controls human diseases, it may become a serious problem in the near future. At such a time the great test of the wisdom of world leadership will present itself. Will Urantia rulers have the insight and courage to foster the multiplication of the average or stabilized human being instead of the extremes of the supernormal and the enormously increasing groups of the subnormal? The normal man should be fostered; he is the backbone of civilization and the source of the mutant geniuses of the race. The subnormal man should be kept under society's control; no more should be produced than are required to administer the lower levels of industry, those tasks requiring intelligence above the animal level but making such low-grade demands as to prove veritable slavery and bondage for the higher types of mankind.

Regarding the issue of seven-year periods, what does *The Urantia Book* have to say about such things? Perhaps the most intriguing teaching, because of how it relates to the possible return of Adam and Eve or, even more likely, some of their children, is this: (74:5.1) For almost seven years after Adam's arrival the Melchizedek receivers remained on duty, but the time finally came when they turned the administration of world affairs over to Adam and returned to Jerusem.

What statements are made that encourage us to expect the "unusual": (45:4.1) At the center of the seven angelic residential circles on Jerusem is located the headquarters of the Urantia advisory council, the four and twenty counselors. John the Revelator called them the four and twenty elders: "And round about the throne were four and twenty seats, and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment." The throne in the center of this group is the judgment seat of the presiding archangel, the throne of the resurrection roll call of mercy and justice for all Satania. This judgment seat has always been on Jerusem, but the twenty-four surrounding seats were placed in position no more than nineteen hundred years ago, soon after Christ Michael was elevated to the full sovereignty of Nebadon. These four and twenty counselors are his personal agents on Jerusem, and they have authority to represent the Master Son in all matters concerning the roll calls of Satania and in many other phases of the scheme of mortal ascension on the isolated worlds of the system. They are the designated agents for executing the special requests of Gabriel and the unusual mandates of Michael.

(21:5.9) "After his elevation to settled sovereignty in a local universe a Paradise Michael is in full control of all other Sons of God functioning in his domain, and he may freely rule in accordance with his concept of the needs of his realms. A Master Son may at will vary the order of the spiritual adjudication and evolutionary adjustment of the inhabited planets. And such Sons do make and carry out the plans of their own choosing in all matters of special planetary needs, in particular regarding the worlds of their creature sojourn and still more concerning the realm of terminal bestowal, the planet of incarnation in the likeness of mortal flesh."

(53:9.7) The rebellion has ended on Jerusem. **It ends on the fallen worlds as fast as divine Sons arrive.** We believe that all rebels who will ever accept mercy have done so. We await the flashing broadcast that will deprive these traitors of personality existence. We anticipate the verdict of Uversa will be announced by the executionary broadcast which will effect the annihilation of these interned rebels. Then will you look for their places, but they shall not be found. "And they who know you among the worlds will be astonished at you; you have been a terror, but never shall you be any more." And thus shall all of these unworthy traitors "become as though they had not been." All await the Uversa decree. [Emphasis added.]

Concluding Remarks

Doing Urantia Book outreach at Bald Knob Cross of Peace on August 21, 2017 is arguably the best single day event outreach opportunity we have ever seen. Generally speaking, the main organizations and reader-believers are not interested in either supporting or participating in this opportunity of a lifetime. There is just a very small amount of participation and support at this point in time. We will be attending an interdenominational gathering as a house divided AND disinterested. The circumstances beg for the following parable to be referenced that was applicable when Jesus was here:

(173:5.2) "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a certain king who made a marriage feast for his son and dispatched messengers to call those who had previously been invited to the feast to come, saying, 'Everything is ready for the marriage supper at the king's palace.' Now, many of those who had once promised to attend, at this time refused to come. ..."

How exactly is it that those of us attending are supposed to cover for the disinterest of the general population of Urantia Book reader-believers and the three main institutions while doing outreach? And why should we have to make excuses or avoid important subjects that may come up and, more importantly, that we should want to bring up?

Without unity, those of us who believe the Unity Treatise is authentic are going to Bald Knob Cross of Peace with a real and sad social situation to confront. I would rather not have it be this way. Would it be a problem somehow, if the upcoming eclipses and the Unity Treatise (even beliefs about a visitation) were leveraged in our hearts and minds to re-unify the Urantia community and then "nothing spectacular" happened on August 21st, other than the fact that we got excited enough with belief, anticipation, and hope to reunify ourselves? This sounds more like a solution than a problem to me. There is no reason to worry about an anticlimax in this scenario. Let's not blow the opportunity of a lifetime. Please join with me in encouraging our leaders to be both great and even more powerful leaders by following the plan for unity found in the Unity Treatise!