

Beyond Cynicism



Jim Cleveland

BEYOND CYNICISM

Liberating Voices from the Spirit Within

by Jim Cleveland

Liberation from Within

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

- The OneTeam

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

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

I remember being one of those so-called "angry young men" of the 50s. Like others of my generation, I laughed at phonies with Holden Caulfield, preached the exposes of Vance Packard, vicariously road-tripped with Jack Kerouac, delved into studies of alienation and hedonism, the techniques of Alpha thinking, meditation, and altered states of consciousness. I argued against the 'God is Dead' myth. I sought an

understanding of Utopian perfection and of how to get there through confrontational, journalistic reform. I was a reporter, then an editor, then a public relations director and on through life as a series of milestones. Always I thought of myself as an –idealistic cynicÓ and was okay with being both sides of the coin.

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

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

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

I wrapped every target from telemarketers to televangelists in the same dirty shroud. And as my intellectual pursuits carried me to understand deepening realities of corruption in all things my frustration drifted into cynicism, defiant pleasure-seeking, and sometimes arrogant preachiness, laced with sardonic humor.

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

A Cosmology

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

myself to somebody monotoning spiritual instructions and apocalyptic prophecies in a seance room.

Cynicism was actually common sense, I thought. If things were rotten here on this planet, as the Urantia Papers fully acknowledged, at least now I could see the human condition rationally. I understood that evolution continues as it will, that our adversities can bring personal intellectual and spiritual growth, and that the concepts of Truth, Beauty and Goodness do, in fact, rule the more enlightened universe of universes that are explained in the Urantia papers.

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

We Can Receive, We Can Transmit

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

While the main purpose of the contact with these celestial teachers was to open the way to private transmissions for personal growth, some would be asked to provide this transmitting-receiving (TR) service for the study group. Each member of the circle during this time of listening and asking questions was encouraged to make contact with a personal teacher through a meditation and upreach process that came to be known as the Stillness. Some groups around the country had one transmitter; others emerged with several, and some beautiful interactions with a variety of visiting celestial teachers, each with a distinctive personality and style, even when presented through the same transmitter.

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

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

This is, of course, akin to the affection that fundamental religionists have for their scripture, though Urantia Book readers invariably glean insights from other sources and exhibit an ecumenical approach to spirituality. Most readers approach the Urantia

papers from an intellectual mindset, as an historical cosmology of perfectly wrought prose and non-contradictory wholeness. Its strongest appeal has been to those of intellectual interests and pursuits, though I believe that open-minded new age spiritualists will increasingly discover a spiritual anchor and nucleus in an expanded God-centered cosmology, and it will bring a whole new unifying dynamics to their ideas and beliefs – growing from self-awareness and self-fulfillment to God-centered awareness and God-centered fulfillment.

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

The Stillness for Direct Access

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

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

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

For me, the process becomes easier with practice. The lessons one can convey become progressively deeper, even as memory of the exact words that one has transmitted become increasingly hazy in the memory.

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

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

From Speaking to Writing

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

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

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

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

mind. In the end, evolution and growth is all a co-creative process which is exactly the way the time and space worlds work.

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

In these times, I believe that we are collectively and individually moving from allegiance to dogma into an allegiance to the inner spirit. We will reach and grasp in faith and innocence, in wholehearted devotion to the expanded personalization of spiritual energies within us. We will manifest a deeper and more personal relationship with God and enjoy greater participation in the Divine Plan as a beloved and worthy child of the universe.

Quickening Times

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

The big news today is that these energy circuits are opening incrementally on an events-driven, not time-driven schedule on our planet. All of us, not just those who are fortuitously encircuited, can utilize these expanded energies and make a powerful spiritual connection in the Stillness – individually, personally, and receive benevolent,

instructive teachers from God for the asking. This is one of our newest gifts from the Universal Provider, and it is ours when we are able to cross the threshold of faith in the desire for service and in trust that God answers our call when we are sincere.

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

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

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

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

Beyond Cynicism / Jim Cleveland

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

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

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

- Jim Cleveland
Xenia, OH, March 2003

1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Each one can be brought to the fold of spiritual security who does not consciously embrace evil. One does not embrace these false concepts once they are shown the power of loving brotherhood, once they see the light of truth that loving one another radiates the world toward peace and joy. Let that truth, the power of universal,

unconditional love, radiate from your inner spirit, wherever you go and to whomever you meet. You'll do well in life if you do.

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

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

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

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

You touch on many things. You say that all does not come to good, but how do you know? Do you not understand that your spiritual identity goes on when the material

body is set to grave. This indwelling spirit, your soul, is your true identity, and do you not think that the good you have done and are doing is worth saving for posterity? Would God have this lost? No. Nothing good is ever lost.

Haven't you truly wanted to sow seeds of goodness? Have you not sought truth, beauty and goodness and longed for its reality? God knows these things and judges you from these values that you would say are of the heart. God knows that you are an inherently good person, created, as they say, in his image. You are essentially a good person, as most are, and will come to good, namely a place in the ascension schools for mortal beings that Jesus called "many mansions," which the Urantia Papers revelation reveals as the "Mansion Worlds." You will come to good here, for you will be resurrected and refined as partial spirit beings, beginning your spirit world ascension through many schools and many adventures.

All will come to good.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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