

# *The Global Endeavor*

## PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES REFLECTING THE SPIRIT OF THE DRAFT PLAN

IN SECTION 6 OF PAPER 114, the Chief of Seraphim describes and explains the unceasing efforts of the master seraphim who strive to promote the progressive growth and development of society and civilization along lines that the revelators analyze and explain in Part III of *The Urantia Book*. The master seraphim do this modestly and quietly, operating in the human mind and seeking to stimulate and encourage innovators and original thinkers to pursue their highest and most productive insights, doing this of their own free will and at their own initiative.

The work of the master seraphim — their pattern of quiet and modest efforts behind the scenes — is the spiritual model for the Global Endeavor. The persons who participate in the work of the Global Endeavor will not call attention to themselves. To the contrary, they will just offer modest and quiet service and assistance to individuals and groups operating in society. By implication, those explorers of new possibilities on our planet Urantia are individuals and groups who are striving to implement a small share of the “[changes, adjustments, and readjustments](#)” that a Melchizedek of Nebadon emphasizes in section 1 of Paper 99, while describing this process of searching for and inventing new paths for humanity as crucial and enduring characteristics of the entire millennium that everyone living on Urantia has just begun ([a Melchizedek, 1086:4 / 99:1.1](#)).

In order to do justice to the full range of innovations and reforms that the Melchizedek appears to have in mind, the members of the original ad hoc committee who prepared the draft plan for the Global Endeavor sought to encompass all of the positive occupations, professions, and disciplines that the inhabitants of our planet pursue, describing these fields of endeavor at least indirectly or by implication. Therefore, as a matter of intention and design, the draft plan for the Global Endeavor is detailed and complex, as it must be. Unfortunately, however, this complexity appears to have made it difficult for committed readers of *The Urantia Book* to identify with the draft plan in a personal sense, to the degree that they will decide to express active interest and state that they would like to join with many other readers in bringing the endeavor to life.

Because of this challenge of communication and persuasion, the Committee for the Global Endeavor has invented a new program of preliminary practical activities, a program patterned on some of the responsibilities that a substantive working group will carry out in a regional association composed of twelve working groups. (Any actual working group, however, cannot be established until a regional association exists; and a regional association will not exist until it is established by the two global bodies, on the understanding that the members of these global bodies will be elected during the founding convention.)

At this point, in contrast, we believe it is useful to provide for preliminary practical activities that will be conducted in preparatory committees. These practical activities will mainly consist of analytical and descriptive efforts by their members, work during which they will seek to explain current issues and innovative ideas that relate to specific segments of society.

The preparatory committees, in terms of their scope and extent, will cover the same fields of endeavor as the working groups that are defined in Chapter 4 of the draft plan for the Global Endeavor. On the other hand, the preparatory committees will not carry out the full range of functions that will be assigned to an actual working group, the six functions that are explained in considerable detail in Chapter 5.

Instead, the practical work of the preparatory committees will just resemble the activities of a future working group that are associated with assembling and summarizing information; their efforts will not extend to other matters. Further, the preparatory committees will not be authorized to offer assistance and service to persons in society who are contemplating, inventing, or advancing innovative proposals.

Why not? In all frankness, we believe it would be inappropriate and unwise to authorize the members of a preparatory committee to embark on a program whereby they would seek to assist persons in society (*e.g.*, by offering private dialogue or assistance aimed at finding partners or solving problems). After all, the information work that the preparatory committees conduct will be just an introduction to and foretaste of the responsibilities of a future working group. Further, these practical activities of a preparatory committee will not benefit from the full range of substantive and procedural safeguards that we have built into the draft plan for the Global Endeavor.

Nonetheless, it is reasonable to believe that the practical work of the preparatory committees will make their members more actively aware of the challenges and prospects that are associated with various segments of society, or at least the new ideas that are being discussed and developed. Therefore we hope that this analytical engagement aimed at describing the current active ferment in society will make committed readers of *The Urantia Book* more comfortable with the horizons that the Global Endeavor embodies, and more inclined to express an active interest in joining with us and other committed readers in order to pursue them.

To say this even more explicitly, the members of the Committee for the Global Endeavor hope that the practical activities carried out by the various preparatory committees will help us attract and assemble the human resources that we and the future provisional staff will need in order to move forward toward the founding convention where the persons attending it will bring the Global Endeavor to life. The practical activities of the preparatory committees will not be goals in themselves, just tools and techniques that we hope will lead us to the founding convention.

## 1. *Key steps and principles*

- A. The Committee for the Global Endeavor will establish preparatory committee 1 and preparatory committee 12 (the two preparatory committees that will carry out managerial functions), and will do this by appointing three or more members of each one. In addition, the Committee for the Global Endeavor will identify the person who will serve as the chairman of each of these preparatory committees.
- B. If it subsequently becomes appropriate to appoint one or more additional members of a managerial committee, this would likewise occur by means of a formal decision of the Committee for the Global Endeavor.
- C. The managerial committees will be responsible to the Committee for the Global Endeavor, reporting to it at the intervals and in the manner that the Committee specifies.
- D. Preparatory committees 1 and 12, acting by mutual agreement and operating on a plane of equality, will establish any of the ten preparatory committees that will be responsible for carrying out the substantive work explained in section 4 below. The managerial committees will establish such a substantive committee by appointing three or more committed readers of *The Urantia Book* who will serve on it. If it subsequently becomes appropriate to appoint one or more additional members of the substantive committee, this would likewise occur by means of a formal decision of the two managerial committees.
- E. As the managerial committees decide to establish substantive committees one by one, they will use their own discretion and will proceed in any order that seems appropriate. Naturally it will not make sense for the management committees to establish any substantive committee unless and until an appropriate number of committed readers of *The Urantia Book* are available to staff it. Any member of a managerial committee other than its chairman may be appointed to serve concurrently as a member of a substantive committee, if that seems appropriate and wise and if the person concerned desires this.
- F. Since the managerial committees and substantive committees are intended to prepare for the future work of a regional association of the Global Endeavor, they have limited roles and functions. In other words, the preparatory committees do not provide the full range of service and assistance that a substantive working group of a future regional association will make available. Pursuant to the general principles summarized on page 2 of this document, neither the managerial committees nor any of the substantive committees may mimic the role and functions of an actual working group of the Global Endeavor by reaching out to individuals and groups operating in society in order to offer them service and assistance. On the other hand, the members of a substantive committee will be free to get in touch with persons operating in a given field in order to ask about their current horizons and about any new innovations or reforms that they may be considering. This option of conducting personal research would supplement written and online sources of information.

## Our fundamental purpose and intent

As previously stated, the work of the preparatory committees will be tools and techniques, not goals in themselves. The managerial committees will not be obliged to establish all ten substantive committees at any stage of these preparatory efforts, for we are not attempting to create a permanent edifice. To the contrary, we are just seeking to provide an introduction to and foretaste of the responsibilities of an actual working group in a future regional association of the Global Endeavor.

## 2. *The managerial preparatory committees*

In a symbolic and spiritual sense, preparatory committees 1 and 12 carry out a cooperative partnership with each substantive preparatory committee, in order to coordinate, administer, and support its analytical efforts. From procedural perspectives, the two managerial committees supervise and administer the analytical work of the substantive preparatory committees cooperatively and jointly, making all key decisions identified immediately below on the basis of mutual respect and complete equality. In addition, each managerial committee has its own tasks and functions, as stated in the succeeding portions of this section.

### **JOINT AND COOPERATIVE FUNCTIONS**

- Establishing a substantive preparatory committee that will be responsible for analyzing and reporting on ideas, ideals, and possible innovations associated with particular segments of society, as described in section 4 below. For this purpose, the managerial committees will appoint three or more committed readers of *The Urantia Book* who will serve as the members of the substantive committee, while designating the person who will chair it.
- Appointing one or more additional members of a substantive committee that already exists.
- Counseling the member of a committee who is serving as its chairman, in order to help him or her overcome any issues that may have arisen. If the management committees eventually conclude that it would be appropriate for them to terminate the mandate of the current chairman and appoint someone else who would assume these responsibilities, they have the authority to do that.
- Assigning a specific analytical task to a substantive committee, whether this task involves:
  - (a) a general examination of all segments of society associated with the responsibilities of the substantive committee;
  - (b) a specialized or tailored consideration of particular aspects; or
  - (c) a more thorough or more detailed analysis of one or more factors that the substantive committee identified in a recent or prior report.

## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 1**

— Preparatory committee 1 will review any draft analysis that a substantive committee has prepared pursuant to a task that the managerial committees have assigned, as well as any draft analysis that a substantive committee may have prepared at its own initiative. In conducting such a review, preparatory committee 1 will seek to ensure that the analysis meets high standards of quality associated with coherence, persuasiveness, and correct expression.

— If preparatory committee 1 concludes that a draft analysis is not entirely satisfactory, it should return the draft to the substantive committee while identifying those aspects that need to be improved. In all these regards, however, preparatory committee 1 should respect the right and prerogative of the substantive committee to describe and appraise the ideas, ideals, and possible innovations that are being considered or proposed. In other words, preparatory committee 1 should confine its editorial efforts to ensuring that the analysis is clear, coherent, and persuasive.

— When preparatory committee 1 is fully satisfied, it should state this by informing the substantive committee and preparatory committee 12.

— Preparatory committee 1 should then send the completed analysis to the Committee for the Global Endeavor via its chairman, while requesting that he proceed to circulate the report to all readers of *The Urantia Book* who have expressed an interest in the Global Endeavor.

## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 12**

— Preparatory committee 12 monitors and evaluates the ongoing activities of the entire group of preparatory committees from spiritual, philosophic, moral, ethical, and psychological perspectives. In part, preparatory committee 12 addresses the “insiderness” of the effort, including any psychological or spiritual aspects that affect other participants.

— In relation to each substantive committee, preparatory committee 12 carries out careful and thorough consultations aimed at evaluating the work from the following perspectives:

- (1) Are the analytical and descriptive efforts proceeding in a kind, thoughtful, tolerant, generous, respectful, and loving spirit that bespeaks the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, and that also honors other key ideals of the revelation? Are the operations of the substantive committee spiritually fragrant, proceeding in ways that may attract, inspire, and encourage human beings to work together for common purposes?
- (2) Does a general tone of respect, friendliness, and warmth pervade the personal relationships of committee members with each other, including characteristic practices whereby the chairman and the other members cooperate in a spirit of mutual respect?

- (3) Do the members of the committee find the work spiritually satisfying and fulfilling?  
Should the committee adopt improved individual or group methods that would enhance personal growth or increase dedication and devotion?

— Unless the two managerial committees jointly decide on a different interval, preparatory committee 12 should carry out these consultations every two months during the work of a substantive committee that is actively engaged in analytical efforts. If a substantive committee has completed the previous analytical task and has not yet begun another one, the standard interval between the periodic consultations of preparatory committee 12 will not begin until the substantive committee has started working on a new analytical assignment.

— Upon occasion, the consultations that preparatory committee 12 conducts may lead one or more members of a substantive committee to express concerns about the general program of practical activities, the pattern of managerial supervision, or about specific actions of either or both managerial committees. In that event, preparatory committee 12 may wish to notify preparatory committee 1 and discuss whether or not it may be appropriate for the managerial committees to adopt corrective measures.

### *3. The substantive preparatory committees*

After the managerial committees have established a particular preparatory committee and have assigned a specific analytic task, the substantive committee will conduct its work along the lines explained in section 4 below.

It should be understood, however, that the descriptions of the segments of society that fall within the responsibilities of a particular preparatory committee are notional and general. In other words, these descriptions do not automatically imply that any of the ten preparatory committees with substantive responsibilities will actually be operating. Further, the descriptions provided below certainly do not mean that all ten substantive committees will be operating at any given moment. As previously stated, the managerial committees will decide to establish substantive committees one by one, using their own discretion and proceeding in any order that seems appropriate.

#### **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 2**

##### **Preparatory committee on personal growth and development**

Preparatory committee 2 will analyze and report on the active efforts and innovative proposals that are currently being pursued by persons and groups who help others achieve, express, and apply their full potential as members of human society. This work of theirs includes the efforts of educational, career, and employment advisers, as well as those of personal growth consultants and psychologists, psychiatrists, and other counselors and therapists who help individuals overcome their emotional and mental difficulties.



### **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 3**

#### **Preparatory committee on philosophy and religion**

Preparatory committee 3 will analyze and report on the new methods and approaches being pursued or considered by persons who are active in philosophy and religion, including anyone who teaches in these fields or writes about either subject.

### **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 4**

#### **Preparatory committee on civic life, public service, and global cooperation**

Preparatory committee 4 will analyze and report on new trends and proposals that are being recommended or implemented by persons who are active in civic life or public affairs on local, regional, national, international, or global levels. These pursuits of theirs include service to civic and public interest groups, the legal profession and related fields, police and others who address security concerns, military personnel, civilian officials of the various branches of government, and diplomats. The committee will also examine initiatives associated with persons who analyze or disseminate information on these subjects, or who teach or write about them.

### **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 5**

#### **Preparatory committee on social harmony**

Preparatory committee 5 will consider, evaluate, and comment on the active efforts of persons who promote cooperation, cohesion, sympathy, and mutual understanding among human beings regardless of gender, race, color, emotional affinities, nationality or ethnic origin, social or political opinions, and religious views or other spiritual or philosophic beliefs. The work of such persons includes service to organizations and associations that advocate equity and fairness, either as a general principle or on behalf of those who share one or more characteristics. In addition, the committee will also examine forms of service to social workers, sociologists, and others who teach or write on any of these subjects, as well as to individuals and groups that explain or interpret the social or cultural achievements of certain categories of human beings, or who promote interest in such topics.

### **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 6**

#### **Preparatory committee on science**

Preparatory committee 6 will analyze and report on the new ideas and proposals being advanced or implemented among persons who are active in mathematics and the natural sciences, or who teach or write about any of these subjects. This includes all sciences that relate to the empirical or theoretical study of the physical world and its phenomena, or the study of those aspects of matter, energy, or physical life that extend beyond our planet.

## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 7**

### **Preparatory committee on education**

Preparatory committee 7 will consider trends and innovations that are being considered or adopted among persons who are active in the mental, moral, or ethical training of individuals, families, or larger groups such as communities, nations, and races, or who write or teach about such topics. Aesthetic aspects are part of this training, which includes instruction to persons of all ages and may be theoretical, practical, or both. In addition, preparatory committee 7 will take appropriate note of the activities of persons who collect, classify, arrange, manage, and disseminate the accumulated knowledge and wisdom of all mankind.

## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 8**

### **Preparatory committee on health**

Preparatory committee 8 will analyze and report on imaginative and innovative methods and approaches that are being recommended or adopted by persons who seek to promote health and prevent or treat disease, or who write or teach about such topics or conduct research in regard to them. These activities of theirs also include service to those whose work pertains to sanitation, water purification, immunization, or other duties that relate to health or medical care, as well as to individuals and groups who develop, test, or manufacture medicines or devices that help people maintain their health or overcome disability or illness.

## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 9**

### **Preparatory committee on the home and the family**

Preparatory committee 9 will examine and summarize imaginative or innovative approaches that are being considered or implemented among persons who are active in fields that relate to the preservation and advancement of the home, or who write or teach about such topics. These efforts will include the activities of those who seek to prepare or train individuals for the responsibilities of marriage and parenthood, those who provide moral, intellectual, or material assistance that helps parents raise their children, and those who promote appropriate concern and care for elders who can no longer function without assistance. In addition, preparatory committee 9 will consider the contributions made by counselors and advisers who help resolve conflicts and maintain healthy personal relationships within the family, those who facilitate adoption or appropriate care and nurture in foster homes, and those whose activities of a legal, administrative, or judicial character are mainly associated with family matters.



## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 10**

### **Preparatory committee on industry, agriculture, and commerce**

Preparatory committee 10 will analyze and report on new trends and advanced methods that are being considered or adopted among persons who are active in industrial, agricultural, or commercial fields, including financial, developmental, and experimental aspects, automated systems for processing and handling information, and all branches of engineering. In addition, the preparatory committee will take appropriate account of innovative interpretations and theories that may have been put forward by persons who write or teach about such topics. In all these regards, the committee will do its best to identify and highlight trends and proposals whose net effect is to reinforce motivations and intentions associated with the desire to provide service to other human beings or to society as a whole.

## **PREPARATORY COMMITTEE 11**

### **Preparatory committee on literature, the arts, and entertainment**

Preparatory committee 11 will examine trends and innovations that are being considered or adopted among persons who are active in literature, the arts, or entertainment, including music, humor, drama and other visual media, games, exercise, sports, and travel, or who provide the setting and circumstances for social gatherings, relaxation, or other forms of wholesome amusement. In addition, working group 11 will consider the efforts of those who write or teach about such topics. From all these perspectives, the preparatory committee will wish to pay particular attention to initiatives or innovations that help to promote more uplifting forms of rest and relaxation, leisure activities that will make positive contributions to human life.

## *4. Providing relevant and insightful information*

— Each substantive preparatory committee will assemble information about ideas, ideals, and possible innovations associated with the work that individuals and groups operating in the corresponding fields are proposing or pursuing in order to promote progressive growth and development.

— Insofar as possible, the members of a preparatory committee should do their best to focus on and analyze advanced and innovative methods that appear to be under consideration and that may have been actively promoted, but that have not yet been universally implemented as a matter of routine practice by most persons operating in these professions and disciplines.

— Although a preparatory committee will also find it necessary to assemble and summarize key events in the fields that the members of the committee are studying, this relatively factual material should not dominate any bulletin or summary so as to overshadow analysis that relates to proposing or promoting reforms.

— Given the consent or specific instructions of the managerial committees, a substantive committee may find it appropriate and helpful to subdivide the fields it covers into relatively compact categories, so that it can prepare individual summaries and analyses that are well organized, detailed, and convincing.

— Committee members may wish to draw on information that they read in journals and newspapers, but material they can find on the Internet will often be better suited to their needs. In addition, committee members should feel free to cite or summarize information that they find in reference books, theses, or dissertations. At their option, committee members may also wish to get in touch with persons operating in a given field in order to ask about their current horizons and about any new innovations or reforms that they may be considering.

— In any case, a preparatory committee should do its best to verify the accuracy of the information that it summarizes. It should strive to be balanced and fair by including a representative sample of responsible views — including the objections of persons in the respective fields who are arrayed against some innovative proposal on the grounds that it is unnecessary, inappropriate, or both.

— Further, a preparatory committee must ensure that its bulletins and summaries do not amount to endorsing or advocating any particular proposal, just describing and analyzing it in ways that are evenhanded and fair. There is a fine line between analysis and advocacy, and a preparatory committee will have to walk it with care and caution.

— When a substantive preparatory committee has completed a draft paper consisting of information and analysis having the characteristics described above, it shall submit the draft to preparatory committee I, on the understanding that preparatory committee I may decide to call for improvements in organization, focus, wording, or all of the above. In that event, the substantive committee shall revise the paper to the best of its ability and shall then submit the improved version to preparatory committee I for another round of review.

## *5. An introduction to the Global Endeavor and how it will operate*

We hope that the persons who read this document describing a new program of practical activities will already be familiar with the key characteristics of the Global Endeavor. Since that may not be the case, it seems reasonable to provide a brief explanation.

On the first page of Chapter 4 of the draft plan, “Working group responsibilities,” the following five principles are emphasized:

(a) The ten substantive working groups will seek to serve, assist, and inspire individuals and groups in society who wish to propose or promote initiatives, innovations, or reforms that relate to their own fields of experience, knowledge, or interest.

(b) The working groups will not advocate or advance proposals of their own. To the contrary, they will be a catalyst and resource for those who are active in society and who wish to develop or refine their ideas and approaches.

(c) The working groups are therefore frameworks for altruistic and idealistic service aimed at fostering higher levels of human civilization. Members and associates will operate modestly and quietly; they will refrain from attracting attention to themselves and will stay well in the background.

(d) The work of the master seraphim is their spiritual inspiration and model, but the activities of the working groups embody a range of practical adjustments. For example, the religious guardians are only one of the twelve corps of master seraphim, and therefore only one of the ten substantive working groups will serve and assist fellow human beings who are active in religion. On the other hand, the same working group will also serve and assist those who are active in philosophy.

(e) Members and associates shall not evangelize those they serve, nor seek to impose their own views or values. Nonetheless, dissemination of the teachings will be an indirect benefit, the outcome of personal cooperation and natural curiosity. Many of those whom a working group assists will wonder, “Why are you people doing this? What do you get out of it?” It is therefore reasonable to believe that the endeavor will stimulate substantial interest in the fifth epochal revelation.

The revelators who sponsored *The Urantia Book* have explained in considerable depth, and with complete clarity, that life on Urantia and on other inhabited planets is *an evolutionary process* in which human beings are responsible for participating intelligently and actively. In other words, we the people of Urantia are responsible for our own planetary destiny, at least in large measure and to a very substantial degree. After all, we are not marionettes fastened to some set of strings that God is manipulating from a supposedly golden throne in heaven!

Because of the Lucifer rebellion, the Caligastia betrayal, and the failure of Adam and Eve to fulfill their mission, human beings living on Urantia are “far behind the curve.” The Mighty Messenger who wrote Paper 52, “**Planetary Mortal Epochs**,” states that our world is “**a full dispensation and more behind the average planetary schedule**”:

On an average world the post-Adamic dispensation is an age of great invention, energy control, and mechanical development. This is the era of the appearance of multiform manufacture and the control of natural forces; it is the golden age of exploration and the final subduing of the planet. Much of the material progress of a world occurs during this time of the inauguration of the development of the physical sciences, just such an epoch as Urantia is now experiencing. **Your world is a full dispensation and more behind the average planetary schedule.**  
[A Mighty Messenger, 593:5 / 52:3.6 — emphasis added: the sentence in bold type]

With all this in mind, a Melchizedek warns us that “**certain economic adjustments and social changes are imperative if cultural disaster is to be avoided**”:

Mechanical inventions and the dissemination of knowledge are modifying civilization; certain economic adjustments and social changes are imperative if cultural disaster is to be avoided. This new and oncoming social order will not settle down complacently for a millennium. The human race must become reconciled to a procession of changes, adjustments, and readjustments. Mankind is on the march toward a new and unrevealed planetary destiny.

Religion must become a forceful influence for moral stability and spiritual progression functioning dynamically in the midst of these ever-changing conditions and never-ending economic adjustments.

Urantia society can never hope to settle down as in past ages. The social ship has steamed out of the sheltered bays of established tradition and has begun its cruise upon the high seas of evolutionary destiny ... [A Melchizedek, 1086:4-6 / 99:1.1-3]

This is the net context for the efforts of innovators and original thinkers operating in society who are doing their best to imagine, invent, and promote reforms and other improvements that will help society advance and progress. Further, the committed readers of *The Urantia Book* who participate in the future work of the Global Endeavor will seek to serve and assist these innovators and original thinkers, on the understanding that patience and persistence are required. After all, as an Archangel of Nebadon tells us, “**No great social or economic change should be attempted suddenly**” [an Archangel of Nebadon, 911:5 / 81:6.40].