

May 8, 1980

Dear Martin:

Thank you for your letter. We have obvious differences of opinion. This should neither disturb us or interfere with our appreciation of one another.

It is my sincere conviction that URANTIA Brotherhood is failing a responsibility of ministry to the Christian Church and other basic institutions of the world. It is probably best not to use the term "default" as it has emotional connotations. The Brotherhood is clearly not following the example or teachings of Jesus regarding public ministry. This should not blind us to the fact that the Brotherhood is doing many wonderful and important things.

My decision to conduct a ministry to higher education and the leaders of the Christian Church is not the result of impatience or idealism. I have waited and prepared for twenty-five years. From a selfish and comfortable point of view I would like to rationalize and tell myself the current Brotherhood policy of no public ministry is proper. It would be so much easier and many of my friends would be pleased. To do this I would have to ignore the indwelling spiritual guidance which I have as I sincerely understand it. No, it is not impatience; I begin my ministry with reluctance that I have no other spiritual alternative. I do not enjoy disturbing my friends in URANTIA Brotherhood nor my friends in the Christian Church.

Neither is my decision to bring a ministry to higher education and the leaders of the Christian Church the product of idealism. I trust I have no illusions of grandeur or delusions of persecution. I am fully aware of the difficulties such a ministry will involve. A ministry to the leaders of the Christian Church will meet with no more immediate success than did Jesus' ministry to the leaders of Judaism. The progress of spiritual reality simply requires an experiential beginning. In the face of the great need of the church and the world for the fifth epochal revelation, the spiritual realist knows there is no short cut to the necessary difficulties, seeming failures, and disappointments of bringing an enlarged view of reality to mankind. The true religionist must act in conformity to the will of God as he sincerely understands it.

If my primary concern was for "important and satisfying" service, I would have continued as president of URANTIA Brotherhood. I can assure you the praise and appreciation I received as president was humanly much more pleasant and ego satisfying than will be the ministry which I sincerely believe the Father wishes me to pursue.

Our differences should not interfere with as much co-operative service as possible. Until the Executive Committee thinks the kind of ministry I am doing is good, I do not think it is proper to discuss it at a regional or national conference. I shall not be trying to get the Brotherhood to change its policy regarding public ministry. This is a matter which must be left to their own spiritual guidance.

I shall, however, be happy to accept and participate in the Brotherhood with individuals and the group at the level of their understanding and dedication, even as in my relationships with the church I have attempted to relate at the level of their spiritual understanding.

The one thing which the policies of URANTIA Brotherhood or the Christian Church will not be allowed to do is to take the place of or substitute for the will of God in my life as I sincerely understand it. Once we get mature enough, after clearly explaining our point of view, we are perfectly willing to allow other people or groups to follow their own inner guidance.

I look forward to many years of co-operative service and fellowship with you and all of the members and friends of URANTIA Brotherhood.

Cordially, with warm personal regards,

Mr. Martin W. Myers
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