

The Lucifer Rebellion Adjudication Time Frame

"Be as wise as serpents..." - Jesus

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Introduction

Much uncertainty and significant differences of opinion exist among *Urantia Book* readers over the question of Caligastia's continuing career on our world. Some even believe that the Lucifer rebellion has already been adjudicated and that Caligastia and Daligastia no longer exist.

I think it is very important that we examine this issue in the light of the teachings that are provided in the *Urantia Book*. Those of us who uphold the *Urantia* revelation as the best and final authority on this matter should do all we can to work toward a common understanding.

As we shall see, the authors of the *Urantia Book* are warning us very clearly that Caligastia and Daligastia are going to be around for a *long* time to come. The universe policies that govern this state of affairs are carefully explained.

Because the rebels refuse to recognize the judgment against them, the adjudication cannot be completed until ALL sympathy for the rebellion comes to an end, including on the mortal level.

*54:3.3. "But if this universe rebel against the reality of truth and goodness refuses to approve the verdict, and if the guilty one knows in his heart the justice of his condemnation but refuses to make such confession, **then must the execution of sentence be delayed** in accordance with the discretion of the Ancients of Days. And the Ancients of Days refuse to annihilate any being until all moral values and all spiritual realities are extinct, both in the evildoer **and in all related supporters and possible sympathizers.**"*

Love makes us real. The Father's personal love for each one of us is the essential enduring reality that gives us eternal existence. Our return of this love gives life to our souls and enables us to become something more than a passing physical phenomenon.

The same principle works in reverse. There is nothing lovable about sin and rebellion. When all offerings of divine mercy have been rejected and all sympathy for the rebels finally dies, they will no longer have any connection to the forward-moving reality of the universe — they will be completely *unreal*. Only then, will the Ancients of Days remove them from existence.

The adjudication of rebellion is not an ordinary trial, as we understand such things. The time delay has nothing to do with the "collection of evidence," as some have suggested. The result of final adjudication will be the eternal extinction of the rebels — against their will — by the Ancients of Days, but this is not intended or carried out as a form of "punishment."

The Ancients of Days will not take this final step so long as the rebels receive even the slightest sympathy from a "lowly" mortal on an evolutionary sphere. We may seem lowly now, but we have a high universe destiny. The true importance of mortal attitudes toward rebellion is best seen from an eternity perspective. Any remaining sympathy after the rebels are annihilated could potentially become a seed for future rebellion.

Our universe administrators are very aware of the human suffering that is caused by the presence and influence of rebel beings, but there is simply no short-term fix for rebellion. It must be allowed to run its course. The abrogation of free will would only make matters worse.

*54:5.12 "An emergency council of ex-mortals consisting of Mighty Messengers, glorified mortals who had had personal experience with like situations, together with their colleagues, was organized on Jerusem. They advised Gabriel that **at least three times the number of beings would be led astray if arbitrary or summary methods of suppression were attempted...**"*

Why This Question is Important

Rebellion against God is a very serious and deadly affair. The *Urantia Book* refers to the Lucifer rebellion as "an orgy of darkness and death," which is certainly an apt description for much that has transpired on our world.

Caligastia has made it his mission in the past to undermine and destroy (if possible) all of the superhuman initiatives that have been offered for the benefit of our planet.

*50:4.12. It was one of the most profoundly shocking episodes of this rebellion for me to learn of the callous perfidy of one of my own order of sonship, Caligastia, who, in deliberation and with malice aforethought, **systematically perverted the instruction and poisoned the teaching** provided in all the Urantia planetary schools in operation at that time. The wreck of these schools was speedy and complete.*

*73.2.5 "Although Caligastia and Daligastia had been deprived of much of their power for evil, **they did everything possible** to frustrate and hamper the work of preparing the Garden."*

*51.3.4 "Caligastia offered **crafty and effective** opposition to the Adamic mission..."*

*119.7.4 "...as we had long known of the Lucifer rebellion in Satania and of the Caligastia disaffection on Urantia, we well understood **the intensity of the struggle** which would ensue when our ruler condescended to incarnate on Urantia in the humble form and likeness of mortal flesh."*

*183.1.2 "...And every bit of all this astounding manifestation of hatred and this unprecedented demonstration of cruelty was the work of evil men and wicked mortals. God in heaven did not will it, neither did the archenemies of Jesus dictate it, **though they did much to insure that unthinking and evil mortals would thus reject the bestowal Son.**"*

The "*struggle*" to stop this new revelation of the Father did not come to an end when Jesus was put to death, and I think it is safe to assume that Caligastia will again attempt to "*do much*" to "*insure*" that the Fifth Epochal Revelation — with its fresh presentation of the Life and Teachings of Jesus — will ALSO suffer rejection, to whatever extent he can manage it.

To be "*wise as serpents,*" we must expect that he will again have a "*crafty and effective*" plan to "*systematically pervert the instruction*" and "*poison the teaching*" that we have been given in the *Urantia Book*.

53.8.7 "Before the bestowal of Michael *these rulers of darkness sought to maintain their authority on Urantia...*"

Have these "*rulers of darkness*" abandoned their desire to rule the human affairs of this world for their own purposes? I doubt it. Why would they? They have plenty of time and nothing else to do.

53.8.6 "Caligastia, your apostate Planetary Prince, is still *free on Urantia to prosecute his nefarious designs...*"

I am not suggesting that Caligastia is a threat to any one of us, personally. But I do believe he is engaged in a long-term effort to sabotage planetary evolution. This has clearly been his agenda in the past, and I think we can expect more of the same. His betrayal of planetary responsibility appears to be unlimited, utterly remorseless and irreversible.

His training for the role of Planetary Prince included a thorough education in all aspects of human nature and mortal evolution, and he has since become intimately conversant with every type of human weakness and vulnerability. Lanonandek Sons have special characteristics that enable them to be wonderful and effective planetary rulers, but these normally advantageous qualities are now working against us.

*35:9.7. "The large number of these Sons who have lapsed from integrity does not indicate any fault in creatorship. They could have been made divinely perfect, but they were so created that they might better understand, **and draw near to,** the evolutionary creatures dwelling on the worlds of time and space."*

*50:1.2. "...all of this effort to provide sympathetic rulership for the evolutionary worlds entails the increased liability that **these near-human personalities may be led astray by the exaltation of their own minds** over and above the will of the Supreme Rulers."*

The human race, now, just as it was during the life of Jesus, can be divided into three groups:

- 1) Those who support Caligastia (knowingly or unknowingly)
- 2) Those who are loyal to the unseen Father
- 3) Those who are unaware of either the conflict or the existence of superhuman realities

These categories may overlap in some cases, but a large unaware portion of the population is a helpful factor for Caligastia. One of his favorite tricks is the human

belief that he is not among us. Ignorance of his existence creates vulnerability to deception and manipulation.

We are told, referring to Caligastia, that "...*this rebel of the realm, **shorn of all power to harm his former subjects**, awaits the final adjudication, by the Uversa Ancients of Days...*" (66:8.7)

Does this mean that Caligastia is *completely* powerless?

To be consistent with other descriptions of his current status, this must be referring only to the fact that he is no longer able to *directly* approach normal human individuals — "*his former subjects.*"

Since Pentecost, the mortals of this world are individually protected and guided, both by the bestowal of Thought Adjusters and by the Spirit of Truth. But this doesn't mean that Caligastia wouldn't seek influence by other means.

We are also told that he has been "... **comparatively** impotent since the cross of Christ." (53.8.9)

The authors would not use the word "comparatively" if his influence were totally insignificant. He is no longer our Planetary Prince, but he is still a *300 billion-year-old* Lanonandek Son of superhuman brilliance.

35:8.1. "*After the creation of the Vorondadeks, the Creator Son and the Universe Mother Spirit unite for the purpose of bringing into existence the third order of universe sonship, the Lanonandeks...*"

35:8.3. "*The universe of Nebadon **began its existence** with exactly twelve million Lanonandeks...*"

57:3.9. "*300,000,000,000 years ago the Andronover solar circuits were well established... About this time the staff of Michael arrived on Salvington, and the Uversa government of Orvonton extended physical recognition to the local universe of Nebadon.*"

Avenues of Influence

We have been given strong assurances regarding the sanctity of human will and the power of spiritual faith. For example:

66:8.6 "*Even before Michael's bestowal on Urantia, neither Caligastia nor Daligastia was ever able to oppress mortals or to coerce any normal individual into doing anything **against the human will.***"

53:8.8. "... *Neither Satan nor Caligastia could ever touch or approach the faith sons of God; **faith is an effective armor against sin and iniquity.** It is true: "He who is born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one touches him not."*

And our Thought Adjusters also keep Caligastia and Daligastia at a safe distance:

53.8.7 "*...since the day of Pentecost this traitorous Caligastia and his equally*

*contemptible associate, Daligastia, are **servile before the divine majesty** of the Paradise Thought Adjusters..."*

But these assurances have one specific limitation:

*53.8.6 "Caligastia, your apostate Planetary Prince... has absolutely no power to enter the minds of men, neither can he draw near to their souls to tempt or corrupt them **unless they really desire to be cursed with his wicked presence.**"*

And we also know that humans can be abandoned by their Adjusters:

*112.3.2 "Spiritual (soul) death. If and when mortal man has finally rejected survival, when he has been pronounced spiritually insolvent, morontially bankrupt... **thereupon do the rulers of Orvonton order the immediate release of the indwelling Monitor...** This kind of death is final in its significance irrespective of the temporary continuation of the living energies of the physical and mind mechanisms..."*

Caligastia would presumably have no problem associating with humans who have been abandoned by their Adjusters, especially if they "*really desire to be cursed with his wicked presence.*" Audience with Caligastia, in his dazzling personal presence, would thus be a possible "reward" for consciously rejecting survival. The power to make such a profound decision — during this lifetime — is difficult to imagine apart from a human intellect of significant sophistication.

Adjuster-abandoned individuals could be highly functioning while they "*temporarily continue*" in positions of great influence, acting as human proxies for Caligastia. Unlike Caligastia, they would experience no limitation in their ability to "*tempt and corrupt*" their Adjuster-indwelt associates. Caligastia's sophistries of deliberate evil could thus find advocacy in our world's highest chambers of power.

Humans who rebel against God are inevitably causing the death of their own souls, but they are also discovering the intoxicating hubris of false liberty, with its release from all restrictions and obligations having to do with decency, sincerity and accountability. They can be dead spiritually and still wield tremendous influence over human affairs for the duration of their physical existence.

112.3.2 "...this release of the Adjuster in no way affects the duties of the personal or group seraphim concerned with that Adjuster-abandoned individual."

Rejection of survival, in other words, causes no immediate impairment to mind or body. Personality continues to function while the body and mind remain alive, but the individual existence of such a person is brought to an end when the personality merges with the Supreme after physical death:

*112:5.2 "...Having appeared in response to the Father's will, personality will attain Deity destiny, but man must choose whether or not he will be present at the attainment of such destiny. **In default of such choice, personality attains experiential Deity directly,** becoming a part of the Supreme Being. The cycle is foreordained, but man's participation therein is optional, personal, and experiential."*

Soul death is really soul suicide. It is the result of a fully conscious act of will. Rejection of survival requires a deliberate, final and irrevocable decision.

112:5.9 "...all will creatures are to experience one true opportunity to make one undoubted, self-conscious, and final choice."

These passages are telling us that it is indeed still quite possible for humans to consciously join Caligastia's cause and assist with his "nefarious designs." The only requirement is the willingness to abandon one's soul.

Caligastia is completely free to establish strategic alliances with humans — or groups of humans — who knowingly desire his intoxicating superhuman presence and his seductive influence. Being the deceiver that he is, he would probably be the last to point out the eternal consequences of submitting to his agenda.

Soul death, however, might not seem like such a high price for a human who has already denied the Father's existence and does not believe in the possibility of an afterlife. The seductive brilliance of Caligastia's diabolical schemes and deceptions — and the worldly power, wealth and other unfair advantages that he could thereby offer — could easily be an overpowering temptation for susceptible individuals.

We can also expect that he would be VERY shrewd and cunning in his selection of human collaborators. He would look for humans of superior intelligence who are willing to turn against God and join the rebellion, thereby terminating the indwelling of their Thought Adjusters. A small number of these individuals could function as an effective human contact group, and through them he could direct a larger body of loyalists who would carry out his schemes and reap the promised rewards.

Absolute secrecy would no doubt be a critical requirement for those few in any generation who knowingly join his camp, and he would likewise be sure to conceal his true identity and real purposes from his human "friends." Caligastia has had lots of practice working with humans.

67.4.6 "...It was likewise easy to win the support of the primitive-minded evolutionary mortals."

In addition to these direct methods of influence, we have also been warned about Caligastia's ability to work through "blind agents" — sincere individuals who believe they are doing the right thing, as in the case of Serapatatia:

75.3.3 "Serapatatia... was entirely honest and thoroughly sincere in all of his activities; he was never conscious, even later on, that **he was being used as a circumstantial tool** of the wily Caligastia."

Caligastia may be iniquitous, but he is not stupid. He is not likely to waste his time on trivial or inconsequential mischief, except, perhaps, to create confusion and misdirection regarding his superhuman stature and long-term objectives.

53:8.9 "... In general, when weak and dissolute mortals are supposed to be under the influence of devils and demons, they are merely being dominated by their own inherent and debased tendencies, being led away by their own natural propensities. **The devil has been given a great deal of credit for evil which does not belong to him.**"

Adjudication and its Preconditions

While the *Urantia Book* does not offer a precise prediction as to the overall time frame of the adjudication process, the authors do give us clear statements of the issues involved and the conditions that must be met *prior* to final adjudication, along with several estimates of the amount of time that will likely be required.

Much of the confusion over these questions seems to grow out of the fact that the rebellion found sympathetic support on three distinctly different levels:

- 1) The Satania system worlds
- 2) The superhuman administration of evolutionary worlds
- 3) Mortal affairs on the evolutionary worlds

Statements in the *Urantia Book* that refer to the status of the rebellion must always be interpreted with these three possibilities in mind. For example, from the point of view of a Melchizedek, the rebellion "*...ends on the fallen worlds as fast as divine Sons arrive.*" (53:9.7)

This is true, but only with regard to the superhuman administration of those worlds, which does, of course, assure the *eventual* outcome on the mortal level. We find a similar perspective in these statements:

134:8.9 "*And when Jesus came down from his sojourn on Mount Hermon, the Lucifer rebellion in Satania and the Caligastia secession on Urantia **were virtually settled.***"

136:3.1 "*...There on Mount Hermon, as an unaided mortal of the realm, he had met and defeated the Urantia pretender, Caligastia, the prince of this world. That eventful day, on the universe records, **Jesus of Nazareth had become the Planetary Prince of Urantia.***"

As with the arrival of divine Sons on other "*fallen worlds,*" Jesus ended the rebellion on this world, administratively speaking, when he confronted the rebels on Mount Hermon. Caligastia was finally stripped of all standing and authority.

75:2.2 "*It must be remembered that Caligastia was still the titular Planetary Prince of Urantia... **He was not finally deposed** until the times of Christ Michael on Urantia.*"

66:8.5 "*...during the life of Michael in the flesh, this traitorous Prince **was finally shorn of all authority** on Urantia.*"

All of his superhuman supporters (apart from Daligastia) were then taken into custody.

77:7.8. "***The entire group of rebel midwayers** is at present **held prisoner** by order of the Most Highs of Edentia. No more do they roam this world on mischief bent.*"

77:7.4. "***...the rebel cherubim and seraphim** who also were on earth **up to the time** of Christ's death and resurrection...*"

45:1.10. "The seven satellites surrounding the Father's world are variously utilized in the different systems. In Satania they are now used as the **detention spheres** for the interned groups of the Lucifer rebellion..."

It was also at this time that Michael established the Jerusem commission of twenty-four former Urantians to be his representation on the quarantined worlds.

114:1.1 "... One of this council is now always resident on Urantia as resident governor general."

And even more recently:

53:9.4 "... the opening of the case of Gabriel vs. Lucifer has signaled the inauguration of temporary planetary regimes on all the isolated worlds."

The installation of a loyal superhuman administration on a mortal sphere, however, does not instantly or arbitrarily change human thinking or human sympathies. *This is very important!* Human free will is *never* violated or suppressed by higher universe authority. Mortal participation in the Lucifer rebellion is given *unrestricted opportunity* for expression, even under the auspices of a loyal superhuman administration.

As the Son of Man, Jesus achieved and demonstrated the human defeat of universe rebellion. The final termination of the rebellion on our world now only awaits a future time when ALL humans do likewise, but this is not expected until far in the distant future, as we shall see.

The attempt by the rebels to corrupt Michael's bestowal mission did, however, bring an end to all sympathy for their cause on the Satania system worlds, thus bringing the rebellion to an end at the system level:

53:8.2 "...Subsequent to their effort to corrupt Michael when in the bestowal flesh, **all sympathy for Lucifer and Satan has perished throughout all Satania, that is, outside the isolated worlds of sin.**"

The ending of the rebellion at the system level was not simply an administrative or judicial decision. It ended because the rebels lost all sympathy and support. HUMAN sympathy for the Lucifer rebellion, however, has NOT come to an end, which is why it is still ongoing on the mortal level.

53.8.3 "The bestowal of Michael terminated the Lucifer rebellion in all Satania **aside from the planets of the apostate Planetary Princes.**"

Caligastia and Daligastia — the leaders of the rebellion on our world — must therefore remain free:

53.8.6 "Caligastia, your apostate Planetary Prince, **is still free on Urantia...**"

67.4.5 "Matters will undoubtedly **rest as they now are** until the entire Lucifer rebellion is finally adjudicated and the fate of all participants decreed."

Caligastia and Daligastia know that the continuing rebellion on the mortal level is the only remaining factor prolonging their lives, so it is in their interest to keep it going

for as long as possible. Meanwhile, the rulers of the universe are not arbitrarily delaying adjudication:

54.6.8 *"Shortsighted and time-bound mortal minds should be slow to criticize **the time delays** of the farseeing and all-wise administrators of universe affairs."*

54:5.8.7. *"It is evident that Immanuel counseled Michael to remain aloof from the rebels and allow rebellion to pursue **a natural course of self-obliteration**. And the wisdom of the Union of Days is the time reflection of the united wisdom of the Paradise Trinity."*

The adjudication process is governed by unchanging universe policy, which requires the complete ending of ALL sympathy for the rebels and their seductive sophistries:

54.5.9 *"The Faithful of Days on Edentia advised the Constellation Fathers to allow the rebels free course to the end that all sympathy for these evildoers should be the sooner uprooted in the hearts of every **present and future** citizen of Norlatiadek — **every mortal**, morontia, or spirit creature."*

Note that this includes ALL mortals — present and future — not only on Urantia, but on all the other rebellion planets in Satania.

54.5.10 *"On Jerusem the personal representative of the Supreme Executive of Orvonton counseled Gabriel to foster full opportunity for **every living creature** to mature a deliberate choice in those matters involved in the Lucifer Declaration of Liberty."*

54.5.10 *"To keep open the Paradise doors of ascension to the beings of Norlatiadek, it was necessary to provide for the full development of rebellion and to insure the **complete determination of attitude** on the part of **all beings in any way concerned therewith**."*

"Complete determination of attitude" leaves no shades of gray, and "all beings in any way concerned therewith" would again have to include all mortals — present and future.

Conscious denial of the Father's existence and deliberate, purposeful evil are both still very much in play on this planet. Both are expressions of false liberty derived from the Lucifer Manifesto. Both are applauded by Caligastia.

Purposeful, calculated evil is NOT in the same category with ordinary evolutionary evil, like greed, selfishness, revenge, aggravated violence, shortsighted passions, etc. We all make mistakes and do the wrong thing sometimes, but that's not sin or rebellion. We learn from these experiences and avoid repeating them in the future.

Deliberate evil, on the other hand, knows no boundaries of moral restraint. It is done *on purpose*, with scheming anticipation and full knowledge of its destructive power and devastating consequences. It crosses the line into sin and iniquity, in the *Urantia Book's* meaning of these terms.

111:4.11 *"This is the problem: If freewill man is endowed with the powers of creativity in the inner man, then must we recognize that freewill creativity embraces the potential of **freewill destructivity**. And when creativity is turned to*

destructivity, you are face to face with the devastation of evil and sin—oppression, war, and destruction."

It may be hard for us to imagine, but *sin does not exist* on evolutionary worlds that are untouched by rebellion:

34:7.7 "...planets which have never been tainted with sin nor touched by rebellion."

Jesus explains it this way:

148.4.6 "*Evil is inherent in the natural order of this world, but **sin is an attitude of conscious rebellion which was brought to this world** by those who fell from spiritual light into gross darkness.*"

And this is the divine response:

54.5.11 "*The Divine Minister of Salvington issued as her third independent proclamation a mandate directing that nothing be done to half cure, cowardly suppress, or otherwise hide the hideous visage of rebels and rebellion. The angelic hosts were directed to work for full disclosure and **unlimited opportunity for sin-expression** as the **quickest technique** of achieving the perfect and final cure of the plague of evil and sin.*"

Arbitrarily removing Caligastia and his co-conspirator prior to achieving the "*perfect and final cure*" (i.e., while they are still able to enlist human sympathy and support) would obviously NOT be consistent with this policy.

Estimates of the Overall Time Frame

How long will it take to reach this "*perfect and final cure*"? How long will it be before sin and iniquity can no longer be found on Urantia?

53.8.4 "*...the Uversa tribunals have not yet rendered the executive decision regarding the appeal of Gabriel praying for the destruction of the rebels, but such a decree will, no doubt, be forthcoming in **the fullness of time** since the first step in the hearing of this case has already been taken.*"

The following passages suggest that this "*fullness of time*" could take anywhere from 100,000 to 800,000 years of Urantia time, perhaps reaching even to a "*future age*" when our planet is on the threshold of Light and Life.

This passage suggests 100,000 years:

54.5.13 "... And yet that would be nearer a comparison with the length of Lucifer's life even if his adjudication, now begun, should not be completed for **a hundred thousand Urantia years...**"

The next two passages, when combined, also suggest that final adjudication is in the far distant future, as viewed from the human perspective:

54.5.12 "... The entire Uversa corps of counselors concurred in advising Gabriel to permit the rebellion to take its full and natural course, **even if it should require a**

million years to wind up the consequences."

53.9.3 "...the case of Gabriel vs. Lucifer, placed on the records of the Uversa supreme court **almost two hundred thousand years ago**, as you reckon time."

1,000,000 yrs (total time estimate) minus 200,000 yrs (elapsed time so far) =
800,000 yrs.

Even if the time required to "wind up the consequences" includes a period of post-adjudication recovery, the "full and natural course" of rebellion is nonetheless placed in the context of vast stretches of time.

And we also have this statement:

93.10.8 "... It is altogether possible that, **in some future age** when Urantia is approaching the era of light and life, after the affairs of the Lucifer rebellion and the Caligastia secession have been **finally adjudicated**, we may witness..."

Urantia "approaching the era of light and life" is consistent with the distant reaches of time suggested by the other two estimates. The authors would not use the word "finally" if such a development could be anticipated anytime soon.

Additional justification for allowing Caligastia to remain so long in our midst is provided by this explanation:

54.6.7 "...The passing of time has enhanced the consequential good to be derived from the Lucifer folly; and since the evil to be penalized was quite fully developed within a comparatively short time, it is apparent that the all-wise and farseeing universe rulers would be certain to **extend the time in which to reap increasingly beneficial results**. Regardless of the many additional reasons for delaying the apprehension and adjudication of the Satania rebels, this one gain would have been enough to explain why these sinners were not sooner interned, and why **they have not been adjudicated** and destroyed."

In other words, it's going to be a *long time* before we see final adjudication. Meanwhile, the "increasing beneficial results" from allowing Caligastia to remain on the planet far outweigh any short-term advantage that might be gained by having him removed arbitrarily, prior to the final outworking of these problems.

Conclusion

One of the remarkable outcomes of the Lucifer fiasco will be the development of a civilization on this world that is thoroughly resistant to universe rebellion. Urantia will eventually reach Light and Life *in spite* of the counter-efforts of a rebellious former Planetary Prince.

Living in the presence of rebellion is apparently seen as a rare and valuable type of experience within the overall scheme of things. It provides effective inoculation against any possibility of future rebellion. Countless Urantians will carry this powerful wisdom, individually, through all future time and eternity.
