

Question

How do we, as students of The Urantia Book, understand, interpret, and explain the discrepancy between the UB's steady-state cosmology and the current scientific view of the Big Bang?

Answer by Chris Halvorson

First of all, one must appreciate that concerning all knowledge which humans had not already correctly acquired prior to the completion of the revelation, if any disclosure of such a factual detail is in agreement with a subsequent human determination of that fact, then the revelators likely violated their mandate. In other words, discrepancy is the rule; agreement is the exception, when you are considering the disclosure of coordinated essential knowledge in The Urantia Papers, in contrast to the revelation of truth, the authoritative elimination of error. In general, if the revelators gave us a new fact, it is either because we cannot determine it by ourselves or because all of our determinations are perforce in error due to inescapable ignorance.

The Urantia Papers were given to us because there is a philosophic emergency overwhelming civilization. Most of the initial assumptions in all areas of human thought are currently "false". For example, the foundational initial assumption of all big-bang theories is that everything came from nothing--creatio ex nihilo. Humans used to desire logical theories, and they knew that magical creation ideas are absurd. However, now, both theists and atheists delight in the Big Bang notion, the former declaring that it proves the existence of the Magic Man, the latter pronouncing that it confirms their magic matter theory.

The scalar (nonvectorial) outward motion of all galaxies away from each other is simply because the space-respiration cycle is currently in the outward phase. Imagine the doomsday theories that humans would have if the phase were currently inward! But fear not, the master universe has an equilibrium size, and it merely "breathes" about those dimensions. Furthermore, one of the primary ad hoc additions to the big-bang model is a rationalization called "inflation". One who knows the reason for this modification of the model can see that the revelators indicate that it rationalizes an illusion, resulting from the fact that the current outward half of the space-respiration cycle happens to be near its midpoint. It's as simple as that. Humans also used to know that a

theory is probably false if it requires endless, and ever more complex, ad hoc modifications to keep it in agreement with the observations.

Besides the outward expansion, Big Bang believers always point to the cosmic microwave background (CMB) as proof of their worldview, claiming that only the primordial fireball can explain it. They reject the interpretation of the CMB as merely thermalized starlight, because they believe that the universe is only about 13.8 billion years old. The revelators disclose that the universe outside of the central universe is actually many trillions of years old, way more than enough time to fully thermalize the electromagnetic radiation in the cosmos. Never mind that the belief that the universe is only three times older than our solar system strains credulity. Why not believe that the universe was created by the Magic Man on the night preceding Sunday, October 23, 4004 B.C. of the proleptic Julian calendar, per Archbishop Ussher? The difference between the notions of our so-called scientists and the notions of our so-called religionists is quite inconsequential.

There is indeed philosophic chaos. Mankind has forgotten that one can believe anything, one can rationalize anything, and one can confirm both true and false theories. Regarding cosmology, consider TUB 103:6.5:

"A logical and consistent philosophic concept of the universe cannot be built up on the postulations of either materialism or spiritism, for both of these systems of thinking, when universally applied, are compelled to view the cosmos in distortion, the former contacting with a universe turned inside out, the latter realizing the nature of a universe turned outside in. Never, then, can either science or religion, in and of themselves, standing alone, hope to gain an adequate understanding of universal truths and relationships without the guidance of human philosophy and the illumination of divine revelation."

I can't say it any better than that. Those who still have the requisite curiosity and courage must take up the challenge of the fifth epochal revelation to mankind, and reawaken philosophy!