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THE GARDEN OF EDEN

The cultural decadence and spiritual poverty resulting from the Caligastia downfall and consequent social confusion had little effect on the physical or biologic status of the Urantia peoples. Organic evolution proceeded apace, quite regardless of the cultural and moral setback which so swiftly followed the disaffection of Caligastia and Daligastia. And there came a time in the planetary history, almost forty thousand years ago, when the Life Carriers on duty took note that, from a purely biologic standpoint, the developmental progress of the Urantia races was nearing its apex. The Melchizedek receivers, concurring in this opinion, readily agreed to join the Life Carriers in a petition to the Most Highs of Edentia asking that Urantia be inspected with a view to authorizing the dispatch of biologic uplifters, a Material Son and Daughter.

This request was addressed to the Most Highs of Edentia because they had exercised direct jurisdiction over many of Urantia's affairs ever since Caligastia's downfall and the temporary vacation of authority on Jerusem.

Tabamantia, sovereign supervisor of the series of decimal or experimental worlds, came to inspect the planet and, after his survey of racial progress, duly recommended that Urantia be granted Material Sons. In a little less than one hundred years from the time of this inspection, Adam and Eve, a Material Son and Daughter of the local system, arrived and began the difficult task of attempting to untangle the confused affairs of a planet retarded by rebellion and resting under the ban of spiritual isolation.

# 1. THE NODITES AND THE AMADONITES

On a normal planet the arrival of the Material Son would ordinarily herald the approach of a great age of invention, material progress, and intellectual enlightenment. The post-Adamic era is the great scientific age of most worlds, but not so on Urantia. Though the planet was peopled by races physically fit, the tribes languished in the depths of savagery and moral stagnation.

Ten thousand years after the rebellion practically all the gains of the Prince's administration had been effaced; the races of the world were little better off than if this misguided Son had never come to Urantia.

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VRT EDEN

KULTURNA dekadentnost i duhovna siromaština koji su nastali kao rezultat Kaligastijinog pada i društvene pometnje koja je za njim uslijedila, nisu bitnije utjecali na fizički i biološki status žitelja Urantije. Organska evolucija ja nastavila ići svojim brzim tijekom, uglavnom neovisno o kulturnom i moralnom nazadovanju koje je uslijedilo za otuđenjem Kaligastije i Daligastije. U ovom su razdoblju planetarne povijesti, prije gotovo četrdeset tisuća godina, Nositelji Života ustanovili da se sa čisto biološkog gledišta razvojni napredak naroda Urantije približio punom potencijalu. Ovo je mišljenje zatim upućeno zboru Melkizedeka koji su se s njim složili, nakon čega je upućena zajednička molba Najvišima Edenije da se na Urantiju pošalje inspekcija koja će odlučiti o eventualnom slanju Materijalnog Sina i Kćerke u cilju biološkog unaprijeđenja.

Zahtjev je upućen Najvišima Edentije zato što su oni, nakon pada Kaligastije i privremenog upražnjenja uprave na Jeruzemu, imali neposrednu upravu nad većinom planetarnih poslova koji su se ticali Urantije.

Na Urantiju je došao Tabamantija, nezavisni upravitelj niza decimalnih ili eksperimentalnih svjetova, koji je po procjeni rasnog napretka ispravno sugerirao da se na Urantiju pošalju Materijalni Sinovi. Kroz nešto manje od stotinu godina nakon ove inspekcije stigli su Adam i Eva, Materijalni Sin i Kćerka lokalnog sustava, koji su se posvetili nastojanju da raspetljaju zamršene poslove ovog svijeta pod karantenom duhovne izolacije, koji je bio ozbiljno unazađen planetarnom pobunom.

# 1. NAIDI I AMADONITI

Na normalnom planetu dolazak Materijalnog Sina obično najavljuje primicanje veličanstvenog doba izuma, materijalnog napretka i intelektualnog prosvjetljenja. Dok poslijeadamička era za većinu svjetova predstavlja doba bitnog znanstvenog postignuća, ovo nije bio slučaj na Urantiji. Premda su na planetu živjeli fizički pristali ljudi, plemena su i dalje propadala u tami divljaštva i moralne stagnacije.

Deset tisuća godina nakon pobune uništene su praktično sve tekovine knezove administracije; ljudi su bili u tek neznatno boljem stanju nego da ovaj zavedeni

Only among the Nodites and the Amadonites was there persistence of the traditions of Dalamatia and the culture of the Planetary Prince.

The Nodites were the descendants of the rebel members of the Prince's staff, their name deriving from their first leader, Nod, onetime chairman of the Dalamatia commission on industry and trade. The Amadonites were the descendants of those Andonites who chose to remain loyal with Van and Amadon. "Amadonite" is more of a cultural and religious designation than a racial term; racially considered the Amadonites were essentially Andonites. "Nodite" is both a cultural and racial term, for the Nodites themselves constituted the eighth race of Urantia.

There existed a traditional enmity between the Nodites and the Amadonites. This feud was constantly coming to the surface whenever the offspring of these two groups would try to engage in some common enterprise. Even later, in the affairs of Eden, it was exceedingly difficult for them to work together in peace.

Shortly after the destruction of Dalamatia the followers of Nod became divided into three major groups. The central group remained in the immediate vicinity of their original home near the headwaters of the Persian Gulf. The eastern group migrated to the highland regions of Elam just east of the Euphrates valley. The western group was situated on the northeastern Syrian shores of the Mediterranean and in adjacent territory.

These Nodites had freely mated with the Sangik races and had left behind an able progeny. And some of the descendants of the rebellious Dalamatians subsequently joined Van and his loyal followers in the lands north of Mesopotamia. Here, in the vicinity of Lake Van and the southern Caspian Sea region, the Nodites mingled and mixed with the Amadonites, and they were numbered among the "mighty men of old."

Prior to the arrival of Adam and Eve these groups -- Nodites and Amadonites -- were the most advanced and cultured races on earth.

Sin nikada nije bio na Urantiji. Jedino su Naidi i Amadoniti očuvali tradicije Dalamatije i kulturu Planetarnog Kneza.

Naidi su bili potomci pobunjenih pripadnika Kneževog osoblja, nazvani prema imenu svog prvog vođe Naida, koji je jedno vrijeme predsjedavao Dalamatijskim odborom industrije i trgovine. Amadoniti su bili potomci onih Andonita koji su odlučili ostati vjerni Vanu i Amadonu. "Amadonit" je prije kulturna i religiozna oznaka nego rasno obilježje; u rasnom pogledu Amadoniti su u biti bili Andoniti. "Naid" je istovremeno kulturno i rasno obilježje, jer su Naidi bili osma rasa Urantije.

Naidi i Amadoniti su tradicionalno bili u neprijateljskom odnosu. Njihove su nesuglasice izlazile na površinu svaki put kad su se njihovi potomci pokušali upustiti u neko zajedničko poduzeće. Čak i kasnije, pri sprovedbi edenskih poslova, bilo im je teško zajednički surađivati u miru.

Ukratko nakon uništenja Dalamatije, sljedbenici Naida su se podijelili u tri osnovne grupe. Centralna se grupa zadržala u neposrednoj okolini njihovog izvornog doma, blizu rijeka koje napajaju Perzijski zaljev. Istočna grupa se preselila u visinske oblasti Elama, smještene istočno of Eufratove doline. Zapadna se grupa smjestila u centru i okolici sjeveroistočnih sirijskih obala Mediterana.

Ovi su Naidi slobodno stupali u odnose i imali djecu sa sangijskim rasama i ostavili su za sobom moćno potomstvo. Jedan se dio potomaka pobunjenih Dalamatijaca kasnije pridružio Vanu i njegovim vjernim sljedbenicima u zemljama sjeverno od Mezopotamije. Ovdje, u okolini Jezera Van i južne oblasti Kaspijskog mora, Naidi su stupali u veze s Amadonitima i svrstali su se među "silne ljude od starine."

Prethodno dolasku Adama i Eve ove su grupe -- Naidi i Amadoniti -- bile najnaprednije i najkulturnije rase na zemlji.

## 2. PLANNING FOR THE GARDEN

For almost one hundred years prior to Tabamantia's inspection, Van and his associates, from their highland headquarters of world ethics and culture, had been preaching the advent of a promised Son of God, a racial uplifter, a teacher of truth, and the worthy successor of the traitorous Caligastia. Though the majority of the world's inhabitants of those days exhibited little or no interest in such a prediction, those who were in immediate contact with Van and Amadon took such teaching seriously and began to plan for the actual reception of the promised Son.

Van told his nearest associates the story of the Material Sons on Jerusem; what he had known of them before ever he came to Urantia. He well knew that these Adamic Sons always lived in simple but charming garden homes and proposed, eighty-three years before the arrival of Adam and Eve, that they devote themselves to the proclamation of their advent and to the preparation of a garden home for their reception.

From their highland headquarters and from sixty-one far-scattered settlements, Van and Amadon recruited a corps of over three thousand willing and enthusiastic workers who, in solemn assembly, dedicated themselves to this mission of preparing for the promised -- at least expected -- Son.

Van divided his volunteers into one hundred companies with a captain over each and an associate who served on his personal staff as a liaison officer, keeping Amadon as his own associate. These commissions all began in earnest their preliminary work, and the committee on location for the Garden sallied forth in search of the ideal spot.

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. But their evil machinations were largely offset by the faithful activities of the almost ten thousand loyal midway creatures who so tirelessly labored to advance the enterprise.

## 3. THE GARDEN SITE

The committee on location was absent for almost three years. It reported favorably concerning three possible locations: The first was an island in the Persian Gulf; the second, the river location subsequently occupied as the

## 2. PLANOWI ZA UTEMELJENJE VRTA

Tijekom skoro stotinu godina prije Tabamantijine inspekcije, Van i njegovi suradnici su iz svojih visinskih centara svjetske etike i kulture najavljivali dolazak obećanog Božjeg Sina koji je trebao unaprijediti ljudske rase, poučavati istinu i biti dostojanstveni nasljednik nevjernog Kaligastije. Premda je većina svjetskih žitelja ovih dana ispoljavala u najboljem slučaju vrlo malo zanimanja za ovo predskazanje, oni koji su bili u neposrednom kontaktu s Vanom i Amadonom uzeli su ova učenja ozbiljno, te su počeli sprovoditi planove za dolazak i smještaj obećanog Sina.

Van je poučio svoje najbliže suradnike o Materijalnim Sinovima na Jeruzemu, ono što je o njima znao prije dolaska na Urantiju. Dobro je znao da ovi Adamički sinovi uvijek žive u jednostavnim ali dražesnim kućama okruženim vrtom te je predložio, osamdeset i tri godine prije dolaska Adama i Eve, da počnu najavljivati njihov dolazak i raditi na pripremi vrta.

Iz svojih visinskih centara i iz šezdeset i jednog raštrkanog utvrđenja, Van i Amadon su sazvali preko tri tisuće vrijednih dobrovoljaca koji su se u svečanom zboru posvetili misiji pripreme za obećanog -- ili ako ništa drugo očekivanog -- Sina.

Van je podijelio svoje dobrovoljce u stotinu grupa, postavio kapetana na čelo svake i imenovao vezivnog oficira pojedinačnih grupa, dok je Amadon učinio svojim osobnim atašoom. Ove su komisije ozbiljno započele preliminarne radove, dok je u isto vrijeme komisija zadužena za utvrđenje lokacije Vrta krenula u potragu za idealnim mjestom.

Premda su Kaligastija i Daligastija izgubili velik dio svoje zle moći, na svaki su način nastojali osujetiti i poremetiti pripreme za utemeljenje Vrta. Ali njihove su zle mahinacije bile uveliko ublažane odanim radom skoro deset tisuća vjernih međubića neumorno posvećenih unaprijeđenju ovog poduzeća.

## 3. LOKACIJA VRTA

Komisija zadužena za potragu za prikladnim mjestom bila je odsutna skoro tri godine. Konačno je preporučila tri lokacije: prva je bila jedan otok u Perzijskom zaljevu; druga je bila mjesto pored rijeke na kojem je

second garden; the third, a long narrow peninsula -- almost an island -- projecting westward from the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

The committee almost unanimously favored the third selection. This site was chosen, and two years were occupied in transferring the world's cultural headquarters, including the tree of life, to this Mediterranean peninsula. All but a single group of the peninsula dwellers peaceably vacated when Van and his company arrived.

This Mediterranean peninsula had a salubrious climate and an equable temperature; this stabilized weather was due to the encircling mountains and to the fact that this area was virtually an island in an inland sea. While it rained copiously on the surrounding highlands, it seldom rained in Eden proper. But each night, from the extensive network of artificial irrigation channels, a "mist would go up" to refresh the vegetation of the Garden.

The coast line of this land mass was considerably elevated, and the neck connecting with the mainland was only twenty-seven miles wide at the narrowest point. The great river that watered the Garden came down from the higher lands of the peninsula and flowed east through the peninsular neck to the mainland and thence across the lowlands of Mesopotamia to the sea beyond. It was fed by four tributaries which took origin in the coastal hills of the Edenic peninsula, and these are the "four heads" of the river which "went out of Eden," and which later became confused with the branches of the rivers surrounding the second garden.

The mountains surrounding the Garden abounded in precious stones and metals, though these received very little attention. The dominant idea was to be the glorification of horticulture and the exaltation of agriculture.

The site chosen for the Garden was probably the most beautiful spot of its kind in all the world, and the climate was then ideal. Nowhere else was there a location which could have lent itself so perfectly to becoming such a paradise of botanic expression. In this rendezvous the cream of the civilization of Urantia was for gathering. Without and beyond, the world lay in darkness, ignorance, and savagery. Eden was the one bright spot on Urantia; it was naturally a dream of loveliness,

kasnije bio smješten drugi vrt; treća je bila dugi, uski poluotok -- gotovo otok -- koji se pružao prema zapadu s istočnih obala Mediteranskog mora.

Odbor je gotovo jednoglasno odabrao treći prijedlog. Nakon izbora ovog mjesta, proveli su gotovo dvije godine na preseljenju svjetskog kulturnog centra, uključujući drvo života, na ovaj Mediteranski poluotok. Izuzev vrlo male grupe, svi su domaći žitelji mirno napustili poluotok po dolasku Vana i njegove pratnje.

Ovaj je Mediteranski poluotok imao zdravu klimu i ujednačenu temperaturu; vremenske su prilike bile uravnotežene zahvaljujući okolnim planinama i činjenici da je ova oblast praktično bila otok u moru zavičenom u unutrašnjost kopna. Dok je na okolnim planinama obilno kišilo, na području užeg Vrta rijetko je padala kiša. Ali svake noći iz obimne mreže vještačke irigacije, "para se podizala" da osvježi vegetaciju Vrta.

Obalna je linija ovog zemaljskog masiva bila prilično uzvišena, dok je spona s kopnom na najužem dijelu bila široka ništa više nego dvadeset sedam milja. Velika rijeka koja je navodnjavala Vrt silazila je s viših oblasti tekući prema istoku, kroz vrat poluotoka, i odatle preko mezopotamijske nizije do mora na drugoj strani. Rijeku su napajale četiri pritoke koje su primale vodu iz obalnih brda edeničkog poluotoka i ovo su bile "četiri rijeke" koje "tjecaše iz Edena" a koje su kasnije zamijenjene s ograncima rijeka koje su okruživale drugi vrt.

Okolne su planine obilovale dragim kamenjem i metalima, premda je ovome posvećeno vrlo malo pažnje. Osnovna ideja je bila unaprijedjenje vrtlarstva i poljoprivrede.

Moguće da je lokacija koja je izabrana za Vrt predstavljala najljepše mjesto ove vrste na cijelom svijetu koje je štoviše u ovom razdoblju imalo idealne klimatske uvjete. Nije bilo moguće naći drugo mjesto koje bi tako lako postalo rajem botaničkog izražaja. U ovom su se centru okupili najnapredniji predstavnici civilizacije Urantije. Izvan ovih granica, svijet je bio zavijen velom tame, neukosti i divljaštva. Eden je bio svijetla točka Urantije; prirodno je bio san dražesnosti

and it soon became a poem of exquisite and perfected landscape glory.

#### 4. ESTABLISHING THE GARDEN

When Material Sons, the biologic uplifters, begin their sojourn on an evolutionary world, their place of abode is often called the Garden of Eden because it is characterized by the floral beauty and the botanic grandeur of Edentia, the constellation capital. Van well knew of these customs and accordingly provided that the entire peninsula be given over to the Garden. Pasturage and animal husbandry were projected for the adjoining mainland. Of animal life, only the birds and the various domesticated species were to be found in the park. Van's instructions were that Eden was to be a garden, and only a garden. No animals were ever slaughtered within its precincts. All flesh eaten by the Garden workers throughout all the years of construction was brought in from the herds maintained under guard on the mainland.

The first task was the building of the brick wall across the neck of the peninsula. This once completed, the real work of landscape beautification and home building could proceed unhindered.

A zoological garden was created by building a smaller wall just outside the main wall; the intervening space, occupied by all manner of wild beasts, served as an additional defense against hostile attacks. This menagerie was organized in twelve grand divisions, and walled paths led between these groups to the twelve gates of the Garden, the river and its adjacent pastures occupying the central area.

In the preparation of the Garden only volunteer laborers were employed; no hirelings were ever used. They cultivated the Garden and tended their herds for support; contributions of food were also received from near-by believers. And this great enterprise was carried through to completion in spite of the difficulties attendant upon the confused status of the world during these troublous times.

But it was a cause for great disappointment when Van, not knowing how soon the expected Son and Daughter might come, suggested that the younger generation also be trained in the work of carrying on the enterprise in case their arrival should be delayed. This seemed like an admission of lack of faith on Van's part and made considerable

i uskoro je postao pjesmom izvanrednog savršenstva botaničke kulture.

#### 4. RADOVI NA UTEMELJENJU VRTA

Uoči dolaska Materijalnih Sinova, bioloških unaprijeditelja, na evolutivni svijet, njihovo prebivalište obično nosi naziv Vrt Eden, kako samo po sebi predstavlja obilježje hortikulture ljepote i botaničkog veličanstva Edentije, centra zvijezda. Kako je Van bio dobro upoznat s ovim običajima, odlučio je pretvoriti cijeli poluotok u jedan predivni Vrt. Pašnjaci i stočarstvo su bili smješteni na kontinentalnom području koje se nadovezivalo na poluotok. Od životinja u parku su se jedino mogle naći ptice i različite pripitomljene vrste. Van je odredio da Eden bude vrt i jedino vrt. Nije bilo dopušteno zaklati životinju na području vrta. Pri procesu izgradnje, radnici su jeli meso koje je unošeno u Vrt od stada koja su čuvana na kontinentalnom terenu koji se nadovezivao na poluotok.

Prva zadaća je bila izgradnja zidina od opeke koje su odvojile poluotok od kontinenta. Nakon izgradnje zidina, započeo je neometan rad na uljepšanju krajolika i izgradnji kuća.

Zoološki vrt je stvoren podizanjem manjeg zida blizu spoljašnje strane glavnih zidina; tu su smještene različite vrste divljih životinja koje su služile kao zaštita od naprijatelja. Zvjerinjak se sastojao od dvanaest segmenata podjeljenih zidanim stazama koje su vodile do dvanaest kapija Vrta, dok su u centru bili rijeka i priobalni pašnjaci.

Pri izgradnji vrta uposleni su jedino dobrovoljci; nikada nisu korišteni najamni radnici. Dok su radili na Vrtu, čuvali su svoja stada da se prehrane; također su primali priloge u vidu hrane od obližnjih vjernika. I ovo je veliko poduzeće sprovedeno do kraja unatoč teškoćama koje su pratile općesvjetsku pometnju ovog nestabilnog razdoblja.

Međutim, veliko je razočaranje izazvano Vanovim prijedlogom potaknutim neizvjesnošću aktualnog dolaska očekivanog Sina i Kćerke, da se u slučaju odgađanja njihovog dolaska obuču mladi naraštaj da dovrši izgradnju Vrta. Ovo je djelovalo kao priznanje Vanovog pomanjkanja vjere koje je stvorilo

trouble, caused many desertions; but Van went forward with his plan of preparedness, meantime filling the places of the deserters with younger volunteers.

#### 5. THE GARDEN HOME

At the center of the Edenic peninsula was the exquisite stone temple of the Universal Father, the sacred shrine of the Garden. To the north the administrative headquarters was established; to the south were built the homes for the workers and their families; to the west was provided the allotment of ground for the proposed schools of the educational system of the expected Son, while in the "east of Eden" were built the domiciles intended for the promised Son and his immediate offspring. The architectural plans for Eden provided homes and abundant land for one million human beings.

At the time of Adam's arrival, though the Garden was only one-fourth finished, it had thousands of miles of irrigation ditches and more than twelve thousand miles of paved paths and roads. There were a trifle over five thousand brick buildings in the various sectors, and the trees and plants were almost beyond number. Seven was the largest number of houses composing any one cluster in the park. And though the structures of the Garden were simple, they were most artistic. The roads and paths were well built, and the landscaping was exquisite.

The sanitary arrangements of the Garden were far in advance of anything that had been attempted theretofore on Urantia. The drinking water of Eden was kept wholesome by the strict observance of the sanitary regulations designed to conserve its purity. During these early times much trouble came about from neglect of these rules, but Van gradually impressed upon his associates the importance of allowing nothing to fall into the water supply of the Garden.

Before the later establishment of a sewage-disposal system the Edenites practiced the scrupulous burial of all waste or decomposing material. Amadon's inspectors made their rounds each day in search for possible causes of sickness. Urantians did not again awaken to the importance of the prevention of human diseases until the later times of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Before the disruption of the Adamic regime a covered brick-conduit disposal system had been constructed which ran beneath the walls

velike teškoće i potaklo mnoge da dezertiraju; ali Van je nastavio raditi na svom planu pripremnosti, popunjavajući upražnjena mjesta mlađim dobrovoljcima.

#### 5. PREBIVALIŠTE U VRTU

U centru edeničkog poluotoka izgrađen je predivan kameni hram posvećen Ocu Svih, sveto središte Vrtu. Na sjeveru je podignut administrativni centar; na jugu su izgrađene kuće radnika i njihovih obitelji; na zapadu je ostavljeno mjesto za buduće obrazovne institucije očekivanog Sina, dok je "istočno od Edena" izgrađena kuća obećanog Sina i njegovog neposrednog potomstva. Prema arhitektonskim planovima, obezbijeđene su kuće i obilno tlo da se smjesti milion ljudi.

Premda je uoči Adamovog dolaska Vrt bio samo jednom četvrtinom završen, imao je tisuće milja kanala za navodnjavanje i više od dvanaest tisuća milja popločanih staza i puteva. Izgrađeno je nešto više od pet tisuća ciglanih zgrada u različitim sektorima i gotovo nebrojene sadnice drveća i biljaka. U okviru pojedinih stambenih grupa nije moglo biti više od sedam kuća. Unatoč jednostavnom dizajnu, arhitektura je nosila bogato umjetničko obilježje. Putevi i staze su bili dobro izgrađeni, dok je krajolik bio predivan.

U sanitarnom pogledu Vrt je bio daleko napredniji od svih dotadašnjih poduzeća na Urantiji. Strogim poštivanjem sanitarnih odredbi uspjeli su očuvati čistotu pitke vode. Dok su za ovih ranih vremena velike epidemije znale nastati kao rezultat nepoštivanja sanitarnih pravila, Van je postupno uspio uvjeriti svoje suradnike da je bilo jako bitno spriječiti da bilo što upadne u rezervoar koji je snabdijevao pitku vodu Vrtu.

Prethodno kasnijoj izgradnji kanalizacijskog sustava, žitelji Edena su savjesno spaljivali sav otpadni ili raspadni materijal. Amadonovi inspektori su svaki dan obilazili naselja tragajući za mogućim uzrocima bolesti. Sve do kasnijih vremena devetnaestog i dvadesetog stoljeća, žitelji Urantije nisu spoznali značaj higijenske prevencije bolesti. Prije poremećaja adamičkog sustava izgrađen je natkriveni splet ciglanih cjevovoda ispod glavnih zidina koji se praznio u rijeku Edena gotovo

and emptied into the river of Eden almost a mile beyond the outer or lesser wall of the Garden.

By the time of Adam's arrival most of the plants of that section of the world were growing in Eden. Already had many of the fruits, cereals, and nuts been greatly improved. Many modern vegetables and cereals were first cultivated here, but scores of varieties of food plants were subsequently lost to the world.

About five per cent of the Garden was under high artificial cultivation, fifteen per cent partially cultivated, the remainder being left in a more or less natural state pending the arrival of Adam, it being thought best to finish the park in accordance with his ideas.

And so was the Garden of Eden made ready for the reception of the promised Adam and his consort. And this Garden would have done honor to a world under perfected administration and normal control. Adam and Eve were well pleased with the general plan of Eden, though they made many changes in the furnishings of their own personal dwelling.

Although the work of embellishment was hardly finished at the time of Adam's arrival, the place was already a gem of botanic beauty; and during the early days of his sojourn in Eden the whole Garden took on new form and assumed new proportions of beauty and grandeur. Never before this time nor after has Urantia harbored such a beautiful and replete exhibition of horticulture and agriculture.

## 6. THE TREE OF LIFE

In the center of the Garden temple Van planted the long-guarded tree of life, whose leaves were for the "healing of the nations," and whose fruit had so long sustained him on earth. Van well knew that Adam and Eve would also be dependent on this gift of Edentia for their life maintenance after they once appeared on Urantia in material form.

The Material Sons on the system capitals do not require the tree of life for sustenance. Only in the planetary repersonalization are they dependent on this adjunct to physical immortality.

The "tree of the knowledge of good and evil" may be a figure of speech, a symbolic designation covering a multitude of human experiences, but the "tree of life" was

milju dalje od spoljašnjih ili nižih zidina Vrta.

U vrijeme Adamovog dolaska u Edenu je rasla većina biljaka koje su se mogle naći u ovom dijelu svijeta. Već tada je bitno unaprijeđeno više vrsta voća, žitarica i orahnjača. Dok je ovdje prvo uzgajano mnogo suvremenih vrsta povrća i žitarica, svijet je kasnije izgubio velik broj jestivih biljaka.

Oko pet posto površine vrta je bilo umjetno obrađivano, petnaest posto djelomično, dok je preostali dio ostavljen u više-manje prirodnom stanju, očekujući Adamov dolazak jer su smatrali da je bilo najbolje završiti park prema njegovim planovima.

I tako je Vrt Eden pripremljen za dolazak obećanog Adama i njegove supruge. U svom ondašnjem obliku, vrt bi poslužio na čast svojim žiteljima i da se svijet nalazio u stadiju usavršene administracije i normalne uprave. Adam i Eva su bili jako zadovoljni općim planom Edena, ali su dosta promijenili dizajn svoje kuće.

Premda uljepšanje Vrta još nije bilo završeno u vrijeme Adamovog dolaska, mjesto je već postalo draguljem botaničke ljepote; i već za prvih dana njegovog boravka u Edenu, cijeli je vrt poprimio još savršenije obličje i stekao nove dimenzije ljepote i grandioznosti. Nikad prije niti ikad poslije, Urantija nije imala priliku vidjela tako lijepu i obimnu izložbu vrtlarstva i poljoprivrede.

## 6. DRVO ŽIVOTA

U centru Edenskog hrama Van je posadio dugo čuvano drvo života, s lišćem za "iscjeljenje nacija" i s plodom koji ga je tako dugo održao u zemaljskom životu. Van je dobro znao da bi Adam i Eva, nakon što dođu na Urantiju u materijalnom obličju, također bili ovisni o ovom daru Edentije radi produženja materijalnog života.

Materijalnim Sinovima na glavnim centrima sustava ne treba drvo života. Jedino u slučaju planetarne repersonifikacije, oni postaju ovisni o ovom suplementu ili nadopunjenju svoje fizičke besmrtnosti.

Dok "drvo od znanja dobra i zla" može biti više slikovi izraz, simbolički naziv koji podrazumijeva mnoštvo različitih ljudskih iskustava, "drvo života" nije mit; ono

not a myth; it was real and for a long time was present on Urantia. When the Most Highs of Edentia approved the commission of Caligastia as Planetary Prince of Urantia and those of the one hundred Jerusem citizens as his administrative staff, they sent to the planet, by the Melchizedeks, a shrub of Edentia, and this plant grew to be the tree of life on Urantia. This form of nonintelligent life is native to the constellation headquarters spheres, being also found on the headquarters worlds of the local and superuniverses as well as on the Havona spheres, but not on the system capitals.

This superplant stored up certain space-energies which were antidotal to the age-producing elements of animal existence. The fruit of the tree of life was like a superchemical storage battery, mysteriously releasing the life-extension force of the universe when eaten. This form of sustenance was wholly useless to the ordinary evolutionary beings on Urantia, but specifically it was serviceable to the one hundred materialized members of Caligastia's staff and to the one hundred modified Andonites who had contributed of their life plasm to the Prince's staff, and who, in return, were made possessors of that complement of life which made it possible for them to utilize the fruit of the tree of life for an indefinite extension of their otherwise mortal existence.

During the days of the Prince's rule the tree was growing from the earth in the central and circular courtyard of the Father's temple. Upon the outbreak of the rebellion it was regrown from the central core by Van and his associates in their temporary camp. This Edentia shrub was subsequently taken to their highland retreat, where it served both Van and Amadon for more than one hundred and fifty thousand years.

When Van and his associates made ready the Garden for Adam and Eve, they transplanted the Edentia tree to the Garden of Eden, where, once again, it grew in a central, circular courtyard of another temple to the Father. And Adam and Eve periodically partook of its fruit for the maintenance of their dual form of physical life.

When the plans of the Material Son went astray, Adam and his family were not permitted to carry the core of the tree away from the Garden. When the Nodites invaded Eden, they were told that they would become as "gods if they partook of the fruit of the tree." Much to their surprise they found it

je stvarno postojalo i dugo vremena raslo na Urantiji. Kad su Najviši Edentije odobrili slanje Kaligastije u ulozi Planetarnog Kneza Urantije u pratnji stotinu državljana Jeruzema kao njegovog administrativnog osoblja, poslali su putem Melkizedeka takozvani žbun Edentije, biljku koja je na Urantiji izrasla u drvo života. Ovaj oblik neinteligentnog života vuče porijeklo s planetarnog centra zvijezda, dok također može rasti na planetarnim centrima lokalnih svemira i nadsvemira kao i na planetima Havone, samo ne na centrima sustava.

Ova superiorna biljka sadrži određene prostorne energije i elemente koji sprječavaju oslobađanje elemenata koji izazivaju starenje životinjskog organizma. Plod drveta života djeluje poput nadkemijske baterije i po apsorpciji tajanstveno oslobađa kozmičku silu koja izaziva produženje života. Dok je ova biljka bila potpuno beskorisna običnim evolutivnim bićima Urantije, bila je iznimno korisna stotini materijaliziranih pripadnika Kaligastijinog osoblja i stotini modificiranih Andonita koji su donirali svoju životnu plazmu u cilju materijalizacije kneževog osoblja i na taj način zauzvrat primili ovaj suplement života koji omogućuje aktiviranje ploda drveta života u cilju beskonačnog produženja egzistencije koja bez ovog sastojka ne može prevazići raspon svojih posve smrtničkih proporcija.

U vrijeme Kneževe vlasti, drvo je raslo iz zemlje u centralnom i kružnom dvorištu Očevog hrama. Kad je izbila pobuna, Van je sa svojim suradnicima presadio drvo iz glavne stabljike u svoj privremeni tabor. Ovaj je edenijski žbun zatim prenesen u njihov planinski tabor gdje su ga Van i Amadon nastavili koristiti više od stotinu pedeset tisuća godina.

Dok je Van sa svojim suradnicima radio na pripremi Vrta za dolazak Adama i Eve, presadio je ovo edenijsko drvo u Vrt Eden, gdje je ponovo raslo u centralnom kružnom dvorištu drugog hrama Oca. Adam i Eva su s vremena na vrijeme jeli njegove plodove u cilju održanja dualnog oblika svog fizičkog života.

Prilikom poremećaja planova Materijalnog Sina, Adamu i njegovoj obitelji nije bilo dopušteno ponijeti sadnicu drveta iz Vrta. Kad su Naidi prodrli u Eden, rečeno im je da bi postali kao "bogovi onaj dan kad okuse s drveta." Na svoje iznenađenje, našli su drvo nezaštićenim. Jeli su slobodno s drveta

unguarded. They ate freely of the fruit for years, but it did nothing for them; they were all material mortals of the realm; they lacked that endowment which acted as a complement to the fruit of the tree. They became enraged at their inability to benefit from the tree of life, and in connection with one of their internal wars, the temple and the tree were both destroyed by fire; only the stone wall stood until the Garden was subsequently submerged. This was the second temple of the Father to perish.

And now must all flesh on Urantia take the natural course of life and death. Adam, Eve, their children, and their children's children, together with their associates, all perished in the course of time, thus becoming subject to the ascension scheme of the local universe wherein mansion world resurrection follows material death.

## 7. THE FATE OF EDEN

After the first garden was vacated by Adam, it was occupied variously by the Nodites, Cutites, and the Suntites. It later became the dwelling place of the northern Nodites who opposed co-operation with the Adamites. The peninsula had been overrun by these lower-grade Nodites for almost four thousand years after Adam left the Garden when, in connection with the violent activity of the surrounding volcanoes and the submergence of the Sicilian land bridge to Africa, the eastern floor of the Mediterranean Sea sank, carrying down beneath the waters the whole of the Edenic peninsula. Concomitant with this vast submergence the coast line of the eastern Mediterranean was greatly elevated. And this was the end of the most beautiful natural creation that Urantia has ever harbored. The sinking was not sudden, several hundred years being required completely to submerge the entire peninsula.

We cannot regard this disappearance of the Garden as being in any way a result of the miscarriage of the divine plans or as a result of the mistakes of Adam and Eve. We do not regard the submergence of Eden as anything but a natural occurrence, but it does seem to us that the sinking of the Garden was timed to occur at just about the date of the accumulation of the reserves of the violet race for undertaking the work of rehabilitating the world peoples.

godinama, ali im ništa nije pomoglo; ovo je slučaj zbog toga što su bili materijalni smrtnici svijeta; nisu imali obdarenje u svom fizičkom sustavu koje bi djelovalo kao komplement plodu drveta života. Razbjesnili su se uvidjevši svoju nesposobnost da izvuku korist od ovog drveta, te su prilikom jednog od svojih međusobnih ratova spalili i hram i drvo; ostao je jedino kameni zid koji je kasnije potopljen. Tako je uništen drugi hram Oca.

Od ovog je časa svako biće Urantije moralo proći prirodnim tijekom života i smrti. Adam, Eva, njihova djeca i unučad kao i njihovi supruzi su s vremenom svi podliježli smrti i postali dijelom uzlaznog programa lokalnog kozmosa, gdje nakon materijalne smrti slijedi prelazak na "svijetove mnogih stanova."

## 7. SUDBINA EDENA

Nakon što je Adam napustio prvi vrt, naselili su ga Naidi, Kutidi i Suntidi. Kasnije je postao prebivalištem sjevernih Naida koji su se protivili suradnji s Adamitima. Kroz gotovo četiri tisuće godina nakon što je Adam otišao iz Vrta, u njemu su živjeli ovi Naidi, pripadnici niže rase, nakon čega je kao posljedica žestoke aktivnosti okolnih vulkana i potapanja siciliske kopnene veze s Afrikom potonulo istočno tlo Mediteranskog mora koje je za sobom povuklo cijeli edenski poluotok. Istovremeno s ovim velikim potopom, značajno je uzvišena obalna linija istočnog Mediterana. I bio je to kraj najljepše prirodne tvorevine koja je ikad postojala na Urantiji. Potapanje nije bilo iznenadno; prošlo je više stotina godina do potpunog potopa cijelog poluotoka.

Ovaj se nestanak Vrta ne može na bilo koji način protumačiti kao rezultat pobačaja božanskih planova ili rezultat grešaka Adama i Eve. Dok smatramo da edenski potop nije ništa drugo nego posve prirodna pojava, djeluje nam da se ovaj potop trebao poklopiti s razdobljem kad su trebale biti nakupljene dovoljne rezerve ljubičaste krvi koje su po dostignuću ovog zacrtanog broja trebale napustiti Vrt i posvetiti se radu na rehabilitaciji svjetskih naroda.

The Melchizedeks counseled Adam not to initiate the program of racial uplift and blending until his own family had numbered one-half million. It was never intended that the Garden should be the permanent home of the Adamites. They were to become emissaries of a new life to all the world; they were to mobilize for unselfish bestowal upon the needy races of earth.

The instructions given Adam by the Melchizedeks implied that he was to establish racial, continental, and divisional headquarters to be in the charge of his immediate sons and daughters, while he and Eve were to divide their time between these various world capitals as advisers and co-ordinators of the world-wide ministry of biologic uplift, intellectual advancement, and moral rehabilitation.

[Presented by Solonia, the seraphic "voice in the Garden."]

Melkizeci su savjetovali Adamu da ne počinje s programom unaprijeđenja i miješanja rasa dok njegova obitelj ne dostigne pola milijuna pripadnika. Vrt nikad nije trebao biti prebivalište Adamida. Oni su trebali postati emisari novog života cijelom svijetu; trebali su biti mobilizirani u cilju nesebičnog podarenja nove krvi svjetskim rasama kojima je ovaj dar očajnički trebao.

Uputstva koja su Melkizedeci dali Adamu podrazumijevala su utemeljenje rasnih, kontinentalnih i odjeljenskih centara pod nadzorom njegovih neposrednih sinova i kćeri, dok su on i Eva trebali raditi kao savjetnici ovih brojnih svjetskih centara i koordinatori projekta biološkog i intelektualnog unaprijeđenja i moralne rehabilitacije.

[Predočio Solonije, serafski "glas Edena."]