

# **The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants**

The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants is a speculative 1922 science fiction work by Eros Urides, presenting a Martian's telepathic messages about life on Mars and spiritual insights intended to guide humanity's evolution.

## **CHAPTER I - The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants**

In the opening chapter of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," the narrator introduces himself as Eros Urides, a former denizen of Mars, intent on sharing insights into Martian life to enlighten and aid humanity. Eros begins by distinguishing Martian society's principle of equality, which transcends social status and material wealth, asserting that all beings who manifest physically from the divine are deemed equal. This foundational belief underpins his experiences and the societal norms he describes.

Eros recounts his life, where after completing his education, he was assigned a vocation suited to his abilities and inclinations, in his case, overseeing a section of a major canal in his birth city, Urid. This canal system, critical for distributing water, highlights the advanced and harmonious integration of Martian technology with natural resources. His narrative is abruptly halted by the recounting of his transition—death on Mars—due to a tragic oversight one cold Martian night.

Beyond sharing personal history, Eros's mission extends to presenting Mars as a model of an ideal society—a society that Earth's inhabitants can strive towards. This goal is firmly rooted in the conviction that spiritual enlightenment and adherence to divine principles are paramount for societal advancement and the realignment with God's intentions. The narrative implies that Earth currently suffers from a spiritual and moral decline, manifested in selfishness and materialism, which Eros contrasts against the spiritual and communal prosperity on Mars.

To communicate his message, Eros avails himself of the assistance of enlightened spirits, both from Mars and Earth, aiming to inspire a renewed faith in humanity's potential for improvement. He underscores the universal applicability of life lessons, emphasizing that material progress is contingent upon spiritual development. This assertion serves as a cornerstone for his revelations about Martian life, suggesting that despite physical similarities between Martians and humans, it is the spiritual and societal advancements on Mars that set them apart and offer a blueprint for Earth's regeneration.

Eros's narrative is both a testament to his life on Mars and an invitation to Earth's inhabitants to embrace a higher spiritual path, shedding light on the possibilities that await when societies align more closely with divine principles of equality, spirituality, and stewardship of the natural world.

## **CHAPTER II - Population Centers, Temperatures and Climate**

In Chapter II of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," Mars is depicted as a world that, despite its smaller size compared to Earth (with a diameter of 4,200 miles), boasts a larger habitable land area, supporting a population of about 13.16 billion people. This contrast with Earth's 1.645 billion is attributed to Mars lacking vast oceans, utilizing nearly its entire surface, save for some swamp areas and polar caps, for habitation and agriculture. The extensive canal network, visible from Earth through telescopes, facilitates an advanced form of intensive farming, surpassing terrestrial techniques.

Martian climate varies substantially from Earth's, despite severe winters with temperatures dropping to 80 degrees below zero, the longer Martian year—687 days—allows for extended periods of mild weather during spring, summer, and autumn. This climate enables Martians to harvest multiple crops within these seasons, ensuring no scarcity of food. Unlike Earth, where irrigation often involves flooding, Martian farming practices are adapted to their planet's conditions, including a lighter atmosphere and rapid evaporation, relying heavily on dewfall rather than extensive flooding.

Mars's atmosphere presents challenges for human habitation due to its low air pressure (8 pounds per square inch versus Earth's 15), necessitating evolved Martian physiology capable of thriving in this environment without unusually developed lungs. This adaptation underscores a central theme of divine providence and efficient resource utilization, highlighting Martian society's affinity for economy where every inch of land is cultivated for maximal yield.

Furthermore, Mars enjoys an equable climate with no extreme windstorms, lightning, or magnetic disturbances, reflecting the peaceful, harmonious existence of its inhabitants. This tranquility extends to the planet's weather, characterized by clear skies, rare rainstorms, and gentle zephyrs. In contrast to Earth's more turbulent environment, Mars represents a serene, bountiful world where intensive farming and a unified societal approach contribute to a stable, abundant life for its people, illustrating both the challenges and innovations of living on the Red Planet.

## **CHAPTER III - Martian Canal System**

The Martian Canal System, as detailed in this chapter of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," presents an intricate and advanced engineering marvel designed to sustain the planet's populace with its most precious resource, water. The genesis of this vast canal network dates back approximately 10,000 years, spurred by Christ's forewarning during His visit, emphasizing the critical need for a sustainable water supply as natural reserves began to dwindle. It wasn't until 3,000 years after His guidance that the commencement of this planetary project took root, evolving continuously over the subsequent millennia to its present state of complexity and efficiency.

The canal system, essential for conveying water from the melting polar ice caps across the planet, includes double canals set roughly 75 miles apart to ensure reliability and mitigate the impact of any potential disruptions. This foresight has proven invaluable in preserving the agricultural stability of Martian society, especially given the planet's negligible rainfall and the complete dependence on polar water sources for irrigation and sustenance. Remarkably, the population of Mars—eight times that of Earth's—thrives solely on this engineered water supply, a feat made possible by the adaptation of the planet's once robust oceanic reservoirs and the innovative use of electrically operated lock and pump systems for water management and distribution.

Astronomical observations from Earth, particularly by Lowell, misinterpreted the Martian 'Oases' and triangular 'Carets' as natural phenomena rather than components of this sophisticated water redistribution system. The 'Oases,' misconceived as population centers, are actually vast reservoirs supporting surrounding vegetation through dewfall, while the 'Carets' are critical to the canal system's functionality, serving as part impoundment and part pumping mechanism to elevate water to main canals.

Interestingly, the text underscores the feasibility of such grand constructions on Mars, attributed not only to the planet's lower gravity facilitating large-scale excavations but also to the cohesive spirit and unified purpose of Martian society. Contrary to Earth's divisive tendencies across racial, sociological, religious, and political lines, Mars flourishes under the governance of love and communal harmony, casting a reflective critique on Earth's societal and environmental challenges while hailing the pioneering spirit and technological prowess of its own civilization.

## **CHAPTER V - Property and Property Rights**

In Chapter V of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," the author expounds on the Martian philosophy regarding property and wealth, fundamentally different from Earth's perspectives. Martians view all property as belonging to God, meant for the collective comfort and development of His creations rather than for individual ownership. This ethos influences the Martian approach to material possessions, emphasizing that true wealth lies in understanding and closeness to God, rather than in material accumulation.

Martians believe that upon death, only one's character persists, deeming material pursuits ultimately futile. Consequently, they regard material wealth as merely temporary tools for spiritual growth, not as ends. The text critiques Earthly notions of wealth, particularly the accumulation and hoarding of money and property. On Mars, wealth is seen not as tokens of personal success but as resources meant for the collective good.

The chapter further discusses the Earthly misconceptions surrounding wealth, emphasizing the spiritual emptiness of hoarding and the moral obligation to share God's gifts. It critiques Earth's societal structures, like the caste system and economic disparities, as deviations from divine intentions. The narrative suggests that Earth's social injustices stem from misguided beliefs in divine favoritism and the divine right to ownership, which have led to widespread misery and inequality.

Through a didactic tone, the author presents a vision of society where wealth and property are communal, advocating for a system that mirrors Mars' ethos of collective benefit and spiritual wealth over material accumulation. The chapter implies that Earth's progression towards a more equitable society requires a radical realignment of societal values towards selflessness, community welfare, and spiritual enlightenment, dismissing the greed and selfishness that currently dominate.

The narrative contrasts Martian and Earthly values, portraying Mars as a utopian society grounded in spiritual principles that Earth might do well to emulate. It calls for a rejection of materialism and a return to a more communal, spiritually enriched way of living, suggesting that such a transformation could lead to a harmonious existence reminiscent of a bygone golden age of spiritual communion between humanity and the divine.

## **CHAPTER VI - Trade and Barter are Unknown**

In the Martian society, commerce as we know it—marked by barter and trade—is completely non-existent. Instead, Martians embrace a fully cooperative lifestyle, where the production and distribution of goods are managed for the benefit of the commonwealth, rather than for individual gain. This unique system ensures that the necessities of life, such as food and clothing, are produced according to the needs of the community rather than dictated by the motivations of profit.

The organization of Martian industries allows for specialization, much like on Earth. However, it's tailored to the planet's various regions, which, due to differences in climate and other conditions, are more suited to producing certain raw materials or foodstuffs. But distinct from earthly practices, the driving force behind this specialization is not profit. On Mars, the primary motivation is to align with the "Father's will," suggesting a spiritual or philosophical incentive rather than a materialistic one.

Transportation on Mars is highly advanced, utilizing flying ships that operate on principles unknown to Earth—specifically, the manipulation of gravitational forces. This allows for effortless and limitless transport of goods across the planet, as both the vessels and their cargoes are unaffected by gravity. The mention of Cosmic or Universal Energy as another form of propulsion hints at a level of technological advancement far beyond our current understanding. A side note from the author mentions that while this concept might have

seemed futuristic 35 years prior, it is presumably outdated by the narrative's present setting of 1955.

The Martian infrastructure includes vast warehouses and depots that store the planet's produce. These facilities are strategically placed across Mars to efficiently manage the distribution of goods to the population. Skilled workers oversee these distribution centers, ensuring that any Martian in need of particular items can have their requests fulfilled promptly. Upon making a request at the nearest depot, a Martian receives the desired item without delay, underscoring the efficiency and effectiveness of this cooperative system.

Through this chapter, we gain insight into a society remarkably different from our own, where the collective well-being and fulfillment of communal needs take precedence over individual profit and competition. The Martian model presents a fascinating alternative to Earth's economic systems, emphasizing cooperation, environmental adaptation, and advanced technology.

## **CHAPTER VII - A Great Many Clairvoyant Visions**

In 1920, the compiler of this volume received clairvoyant visions, explaining the details of life and topography on Mars. These visions began unfolding the landscape, the Martian inhabitants, and their ways of life, providing a vivid glimpse into a distant world far beyond the confines of Earthly experience. Here's a consolidated glimpse into these revelations:

**Cityscape and Architecture:** The first vision was of Urid the Beautiful, showcasing a breathtaking city beside a scenic lake, surrounded by mountains and marked by buildings of gleaming white stone. Mars's architecture emphasizes simplicity, functionality, and harmony with the environment. Crowding is avoided, and public buildings serve as centers for communal activities, mirroring aspects of Old Mission and early Grecian styles.

**Canals and Vegetation:** A striking feature of Martian civilization is its canals, acting as main waterways, surrounded by vibrant vegetation, floating dwellings, and meticulous landscapes, demonstrating advanced planetary engineering and a close relationship with nature. The canals, some cutting through mountains with steep, almost perpendicular walls, showcase an impressive infrastructure designed for efficient water management.

**Polar Regions and Environmental Insights:** Visions extended to the North Polar regions, revealing a melting snowscape indicating season changes. It was shown that what were once thought to be dark seas from Earth are in fact, extensive vegetated lands, debunking early misconceptions and providing a clearer understanding of Martian geography.

**Martian Inhabitants:** The Martians, with their transparent skin and serene demeanor, lead a life free from earthly ailments, pointing towards their advanced stage of evolution. Their attire is simple yet elegant, and their demeanor peaceful. Interactions with Martian fauna, including domesticated animals with unique characteristics, indicate a harmonious existence between species.

**Spiritual and Societal Observations:** The societal fabric of Mars is deeply spiritual, with celebrations and gatherings reflecting a profound appreciation for the natural world and its cycles, much like Earth's own cultures yet markedly distinct. The vision of an annual celebration marking the arrival of water from the poles highlights a planetary society that venerates natural resources and planetary harmony.

**Intimate Glimpses and Symbolism:** Personal encounters with Martians, including a musical performance and familial scenes, offer a window into the daily life and values that underpin Martian society. The emphasis on child-like simplicity and spirituality as vehicles for understanding the universe speaks to universal themes of innocence and faith.

Closing these windows into Mars, the visions culminate with a celestial observation of Mars' moons, providing not just an astronomical insight but also a symbolic connection between Mars and the broader cosmos. The vision of the sun, as seen from Mars, challenges previous scientific assumptions about perceptual differences due to distance, suggesting a shared experience of warmth and light across planets.

These clairvoyant visions, while providing a detailed account of Martian life, landscape, and societal norms, underscore a connection between Mars and Earth, highlighting universal themes of environmental harmony, simplicity in living, and the profound spirituality that binds different worlds together.

## **CHAPTER VIII - Knowledge of God Comes from Within**

Chapter VIII of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants" presents Mars as an ideal society devoid of crime, where all property is communal and the concept of selfishness is entirely absent. Mars is depicted as a world teeming with life, its surface covered with dwellings, factories, and storehouses, yet it operates without the need for security forces such as watchmen or police. This harmonious existence is attributed to the universal understanding among Martians that all possessions are gifts from the Father and are to be shared among all inhabitants, leaving no room for theft or envy.

The chapter criticizes the Earth's societal structure, comparing its inhabitants' selfishness to a regressive, primitive state indicative of a departure from divine grace. This condition is described as atavism, a throwback to a more primordial state, highlighting Earth's spiritual downfall. The text suggests that the presence of higher spirit beings on Earth aims to awaken humanity to its degraded condition and guide it towards redemption.

Addressing spiritual practices, the chapter outlines how Martians engage in worship without the structures of a church or an ecclesiastical hierarchy. Martians are portrayed as monotheists who develop a personal connection with God from a young age, emphasizing individual spirituality over structured religious systems. The text mentions Jesus Christ as a revered figure, acknowledging his historical and spiritual significance while critiquing Earth's sectarian churches for hindering individuals' spiritual growth by fostering dependency rather than encouraging personal spiritual exploration.

This depiction of Mars proposes a society where spirituality and communal living intertwine, contrasting sharply with Earth's fragmented and materialistic culture. The chapter critiques earthly religions and societal structures, advocating for a more spiritually autonomous and communal way of life as exemplified by Martians.

## **CHAPTER IX - Mars has no Political System**

In the realm of Mars, the very concept of a political or administrative system is rendered obsolete by the overarching governance of love and self-guidance among its inhabitants. This notion stands in stark contrast to the Earthly reliance on complex bureaucracies and governmental structures, which many may find surprising or even disappointing. The Martian society thrives without the need for political overseers or regulatory bodies, attributing this notable absence to the elimination of selfishness and the universal inner guidance of each individual. This self-regulation extends beyond just political aspects, encompassing the planet's industrial and economic facets as well.

The economic mechanism on Mars operates through a unique interpretation of the law of supply and demand, devoid of competition, as factories and production are tailored to the needs of the population without the strife found in Earth's competitive markets. This system's success lies in the deep spiritual and communal connectivity of the Martians, underpinned by guidance from individuals recognized for their closer ties to the Invisible World. These spiritual advisors, akin to prophets, offer counsel on matters of personal and

community well-being, drawing parallels to ancient human history where spiritual figures played a similar role. The Martian society, devoid of political or economic competition, exemplifies a civilization built on mutual respect, selflessness, and a profound connection to a higher moral and spiritual order, reflecting a utopian community where the complexities and corruptions of Earthly governance find no foothold.

## **CHAPTER X - Mars is Ruled by Love, their Only Law**

The guiding principle on Mars is love, a law not inscribed on tablets but engraved in the hearts of its inhabitants, shaping their actions and relationships. Unlike Earth, Mars harbors no rulers or hierarchical structures; all individuals stand equal, embodying the essence of goodness and driven by an innate purity of soul. This societal model eliminates the existence of evil, promoting an environment where every task, regardless of its earthly perceived value, holds equal honor and importance. Love, as the core governing force, fosters communal harmony, erasing competition, misery, and suffering from the equation. Martians experience a collective happiness and spiritual progression, living lives deeply intertwined with the Divine Will, guided by the dual principles of "LOVE" and "THY WILL BE DONE, NOT MINE."

This chapter outlines a stark contrast between Martian society and Earth, emphasizing simplicity, faith, and love as foundations for a true and uncomplicated relationship with the Divine. The text critiques the complexities and commercialization of spiritual truth on Earth, advocating for a return to child-like simplicity and faith as the pathway to spiritual enlightenment. A special note is made on the valor of those who, through life's trials and tribulations, maintain their faith and purity, highlighting the importance of perseverance through spiritual darkness.

Martians view death differently from Earthlings; physical death is understood as a transition, while the concept of spiritual death—denoted by a separation from God—a consequence of Earth's fall from grace, is foreign to Mars. The Martian religion, thus, is not an institution but a way of life, an existence permeated by love and fulfillment of the Divine's intent, setting a celestial standard for progress and harmony that transcends physical demise. This chapter serves as both a reflection on Martian societal ideals and a critique of earthly spiritual practices, urging a reevaluation towards simplicity, love, and alignment with the Divine Will.

## **CHAPTER XI - Education and Training of the Individual**

Education on Mars prioritizes spiritual knowledge from an early age, starting within the family. Fundamental lessons revolve around one's relationship with God and the understanding that life is a journey towards spiritual individualization. This foundational spiritual education is pivotal, allowing Martian children to enter institutional learning with a rich inner understanding of existence.

Martian education diverges significantly from Earth's. Rather than direct teaching, it emphasizes uncovering what is already within the soul. This individualized approach respects each student's innate mastery in certain thought or activity areas. Teachers act as guides, aiding in the discovery and alignment with universal laws, like those governing music, astronomy, physics, and notably, the profound understanding of electricity—a field in which Martians believe Earth's knowledge remains superficial.

Martians value the harmony of music and have a keen ability to perceive various vibrations, enriching their spiritual and educational journey. Discipline in schools is unnecessary due to a shared goal of expressing the divine within, fostering a life of abundance. Studies focus on engaging students with the law of God's universe, urging them from cause to effect, in contrast to Earth's methods.

Advanced studies involve astronomy, where the clarity of Mars' atmosphere offers superior celestial observations, aiding in learning about the cosmos's immutable laws. Mars boasts unique moons and planets that provide exceptional educational opportunities not available on Earth.

Physics on Mars explores the release of interatomic energy, a concept only theoretical on Earth and tied to the sun's undiminishing energy. Martians caution that such power requires a high moral understanding before safe utilization. They hint at a future where Earth will discover more elements, including one that negates gravity, which has revolutionized Martian travel through buoyant, non-gravitational transportation methods.

This holistic and spiritually grounded educational system emphasizes understanding and harmony with the universal laws, preparing Martians for advanced technological and scientific achievements while ensuring these advancements serve a greater good.

## **CHAPTER XI - Scientific Sophistry**

In Chapter XI of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," titled "Scientific Sophistry," the narrative criticizes the contemporary approach to science on Earth, asserting that it has strayed from its noble aim of dispelling ignorance and approximating the Ultimate Truth. The chapter suggests that while science was originally intended to combat superstition and foster enlightenment, it has instead become a form of orthodox dogmatism, equivalent to the misconceptions it aimed to eradicate. This dogmatic approach, characterized by its reliance on observation, theory formation, and demonstration, is said to have both liberated and simultaneously blinded humanity, especially in perceiving spiritual truths.

The text goes on to argue that the modern scientific method, with its emphasis on materialism and observable, quantifiable phenomena, has led humanity away from genuine enlightenment and trapped it in a cycle of materialistic reductionism. This approach is depicted as particularly deficient in explaining human existence, leading to the creation of fields such as psychology, in an attempt to account for complex mental processes in purely material terms. The chapter posits that such efforts, while seemingly successful, merely replace deeper understanding with a sophisticated form of word-juggling.

Despite this critique, the chapter acknowledges the existence of sincere and inspired seekers of truth within the scientific community, suggesting there is hope for a redirection towards more meaningful exploration. It highlights the transient nature of scientific postulates, which must be continuously revised in light of new observations, suggesting a perpetual, yet ultimately fruitless search for truth under the current paradigm.

The chapter concludes with a call for a shift in focus towards spiritual enlightenment, implying that the reception of new ideas, such as those presented in the book, typically faces skepticism and opposition. It ends on a hopeful note, asserting that ultimate truth will eventually prevail, ushering in a new era of understanding and enlightenment. This narrative challenges readers to consider the limitations of contemporary scientific practices and to remain open to alternative perspectives that integrate spiritual insights.

## **CHAPTER XII - Education and Training of the Individual**

In Chapter XII of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," education on Mars is portrayed as a holistic system that emphasizes spiritual development alongside vocational training and scientific learning. Education extends until the age of 16 Martian years, equivalent to 32 Earth years, given Mars's longer year duration. The curriculum originates from home education and transitions into specialized university instruction focusing on developing spiritual gifts alongside intellectual knowledge. This approach ensures that each individual is well-prepared for their chosen vocation, determined through a scientific process that ensures the well-being of both the individual and the community.

The Martian education system fosters an environment where no task is deemed menial, promoting unity and harmony across their industrial system. Workdays last six hours, with the remaining time dedicated to recreational activities that further spiritual and personal growth. The Martians believe in the significance of spiritual development for both life on Mars and preparation for the afterlife, emphasizing the importance of coming into harmony with God to inherit his kingdom perpetually.

Marriage and the rearing of children are treated with special care, pushing for spiritual compatibility to ensure lifelong partnerships devoid of domestic turmoil, contrasting with Earth's approach to marriage which is criticized for its focus on material and physical satisfaction. The Martians have a comprehensive educational system that includes domestic science and the study of matter and energy, highlighting differences in food preparation due to Mars's lower atmospheric pressure. The Martian emphasis on limited consumption and efficient use of resources reflects their respect for physical and spiritual sustenance.

Martians harness cosmic energy directly, utilizing advanced technology that far surpasses Earth's methods in both efficiency and environmental impact. This energy, drawn from an infinite cosmic reservoir, underscores their understanding of the universe's divine essence. Their society prioritizes intuition and personal skill over reliance on machinery, warning against the potential for degeneration seen on other planets and positing as a cautionary tale for Earth.

This chapter reveals a civilization where education, vocational training, and spiritual development are interwoven, crafting individuals who are not only skilled in their professions but are also spiritually enlightened beings, deeply connected with the divine energy that sustains their society and the universe at large.

## **CHAPTER XIII - Music is an Expression of the Father**

In Chapter XIII of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants", the focus shifts to music and its profound significance not only on Mars but as a universal expression of divine harmony. The narrative begins by explaining that every material manifestation, from the simplest element to the most complex organism, is fundamentally vibratory. This vibratory nature reflects the shift from a Divine Cause to a material Effect, embodying the universe as a material expression of God's harmony. It contrasts this harmonious essence with discord, which it attributes to human creation.

The text underscores that among all expressions that connect deeply with the soul, music is paramount. It suggests that humanity's fall has led to a loss of sensitivity to the nuanced tones and colors that constitute the universe's vibratory makeup, contrasting earthly limitations with the advanced musical sensibility on Mars. Martians prioritize musical education, understanding harmony as a law of the cosmos. They possess incredibly delicate instruments, capable of detecting tones imperceptible to human ears, and engage in musical practices that would seem ethereal to Earth's inhabitants.

Martian music, incorporating ethereal electric vibrations, offers a multi-sensory experience akin to seeing and hearing a rainbow simultaneously. This advanced form of music creation isn't just about the technicality of sounds but is deeply connected to the spiritual development of individuals. Music on Mars serves as a unifying and purifying force, stimulating love and collective inspiration through singing and ensemble work. These practices underscore the spiritual elevation and communal harmony of Martian society.

In drawing parallels between Martians' musical experiences and the potential for spiritual awakening in humans, the chapter conveys a message about the universal power of harmony. It implies that as humans progress spiritually, they too can become receptive to the more sublime vibrations of the universe, hinting at music's role in the broader cosmic order. Through the Martian example, the narrative makes a compelling case for the importance of music as both an expression of divine harmony and a catalyst for spiritual and communal upliftment.



## **CHAPTER XIV - Aeronautics, Inhabited Planets, Sectarianism**

In Chapter XIV of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," the focus shifts to the advancements and aspirations of aeronautics on Earth, as observed on April 25, 1920. The Martian narrator reflects on the excitement generated by an Aeronautical Show in the city, recognizing Earth's fascination with flight. However, the narrator points out the significant limitations of contemporary aircraft, describing them as cumbersome, inefficient, and noisy compared to the advanced, silent, and harmonious airships of Mars. These Martian airships are likened to seagulls gliding effortlessly above the water, embodying a stark contrast to the mechanical efforts on Earth.

The chapter emphasizes the idea that Earth is on the cusp of significant aeronautical breakthroughs, asserting that humanity has yet to unlock the secrets of cosmic power, which would enable the creation of superior flying machines. Furthermore, there is hope for future communication between Earth and Mars, suggesting that within a decade, Earth's technology will be refined enough to receive transmissions from Mars, highlighting an ongoing pursuit of interplanetary dialogue.

The belief that Mars, and potentially other planets, are inhabited is acknowledged with approval. This belief marks a significant stride towards broader cosmic understanding, yet it is noted that humanity is still far from the full truth of these matters. The chapter conveys optimism for future awakenings and discoveries, crediting scientists who brave criticism to explore and share their findings with the world.

Throughout, the narrative contrasts Earth's current technological state with the more advanced, peaceful, and environmentally integrated technologies of Mars. It calls for a pursuit of harmony between technology and nature, mirroring the Martian model, and encourages openness to the vast, yet-to-be-tapped potential of universal knowledge and cosmic interconnectivity. This chapter is a call to ambition for humanity, urging a break away from the confines of current understanding and technology, towards a future where Earth's inventions align more closely with the cosmic and serene ethos of Martian society.

## **CHAPTER XV - Life is an Attribute of the Entire Universe**

Chapter XV of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants" casts an expansive view on the universe and the divine principle that life—spanning from the simplicity of a single-celled organism to complex solar systems—is an intrinsic attribute of every part of the cosmos. This chapter delves into the philosophical and theological contemplations on the vastness of space, emphasizing the humility that humanity should embody when considering our place within the grand cosmic framework. It critiques human conceit in valuing Earth as the universe's core, reminding readers that countless planets and life forms exist, each at different stages of evolutionary progress and decay.

The narrative then shifts its focus towards Jupiter, described as a nascent world still in the early throes of life, primarily hosting unicellular life forms amidst its dense, humid atmosphere and extreme temperatures. The planet's unique conditions, including its vast size, low density, and enveloping cloud cover, are depicted in vivid detail, setting the stage for an eventual evolution into a world hospitable to more complex life forms and intelligent beings. The chapter further explores Jupiter's geological transformations and the slow but inevitable progression towards a diversified ecosystem, hinting at the adaptability of life forms to the planet's substantial gravitational pull.

Furthermore, the discussion extends to the broader universe, including a mention of Vesta, an asteroid inhabited by diminutive life forms, to underscore the diversity and relativity of size and complexity in the cosmos. This segment serves to bridge the spiritual and scientific, asserting that the visible material world is merely an echo of a higher, spiritual reality. The chapter weaves together threads of astronomy, philosophy,

and spirituality to propose a holistic understanding of the cosmos, emphasizing harmony and divine law as fundamental forces orchestrating the celestial dance.

In its conclusion, the chapter heralds a forthcoming epoch marked by interplanetary communication, beginning with a message from Mars, anticipated to dissolve earthly narrow-mindedness and herald a new spiritual awakening. This revelation is positioned as a critical step towards embracing a more expansive understanding of the universe, characterized by unity, divine harmony, and a deeper appreciation for the mysterious, interconnected web of life spanning the cosmos.

## **CHAPTER XVI - The Risen Christ**

On Easter Sunday, April 4, 1920, as Earth celebrates the Resurrection with personal indulgence, the Martians observe no such event, for they never rejected Christ's teachings. Rather than commemorating a crucifixion, Mars has embraced the Truths Christ imparted, living in a continual belief that enables them, unlike Earth's inhabitants, to perform miracles akin to those of Christ and His disciples. Mars critiques Earth's shallow observance of religious occasions, emphasizing that their spiritual leaders embody Christlike virtues, capable of miraculous deeds through unwavering faith.

The Martians view Earth's spiritual state as dire, clouded by darkness and misunderstanding of Christ's lessons. They see Christ as merely an ideological figure rather than a living presence in the hearts of people on Earth. The preoccupation with superficial appearances and the empty rituals performed under the guise of religious observance, especially during Lent, are criticized as hollow and devoid of genuine spiritual connection.

Martians live a Christ-centered life, contrasting sharply with Earth's continued metaphorical crucifixion of Christ through denial and distortion of His teachings for selfish ends. Mars shares a unique position in the universe, its inhabitants having experienced life on other planets but pointing out Earth's spiritual immaturity which excludes it from this broader cosmic community. Nevertheless, there is a message of hope for Earth: the imminent opportunity for spiritual progression. Martians foresee a time when Earth will rise to a higher spiritual plane, facilitated by communication through mediums, indicating a pivotal moment for Earth to embark on a path of enlightenment and join the interplanetary spiritual progression.

This Martian perspective offers a mirror for Earth to reflect on its spiritual failings and potential, urging a closer alignment with Christ's teachings to achieve a higher consciousness. As Mars has achieved this elevated state, there lies hope for Earth to transcend its current limitations and embrace a more profound, interconnected cosmic destiny.

## **CHAPTER XVII - Physical Environment**

Chapter XVII of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants" delves into the profound connection between the spiritual realm and physical environment, emphasizing the primacy of Divine Mentality or Mind in the creation and modulation of our surroundings. The chapter asserts that all physical reality, which we perceive and live within, essentially boils down to an illusion, underpinned by the metaphysical nature of existence. This perspective isn't novel but is a cornerstone of various philosophical systems that have spanned human history.

The tranquility and favorable climate of Mars, as compared to Earth, is attributed not to chance or mere geological differences but to the spiritual evolution of its inhabitants. The text suggests a universe governed by a causal relationship between the spiritual maturity of beings and the environmental conditions of their planet. This idea is posited as a truth, albeit challenging to grasp initially, especially from an Earth-centric

viewpoint.

The chapter discusses the concept of living on a material plane, emphasizing that material phenomena are merely the effects of deeper, spiritual causes. It further explores how the turbulence in weather and natural disturbances are manifestations of collective mentalities driven by conflict and negative pursuits. A marked improvement in these physical adversities is observed when a civilization aligns more closely with spiritual ideals and vibrational harmony.

In summary, Chapter XVII articulates a vision of the universe where spiritual progress directly influences the physical conditions of existence. This linkage between spiritual causes and physical effects serves as a reminder of the power of collective mentality and spiritual alignment in shaping our world. The tranquility of Mars is presented as exemplary of what becomes possible when beings harmonize with higher, divine laws and work towards the advancement of universal brotherhood.

## **CHAPTER XVIII - Material Life is a Lesson**

In Chapter XVIII of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants," the emphasis is placed on the pivotal role material life plays in the spiritual and character development of individuals. The chapter conveys a profound truth that material existence is not an end in itself but a means to unfold the inherent divine essence within humans. This process of unfolding is manifested through experiences of work, joy, and sorrow, all of which are imbued with lessons of love. Understanding and embodying this love is presented as a fundamental step towards becoming full participants in the Kingdom of God, as underscored by the teachings of Christ.

The narrative further contrasts the Earthly conception of the Kingdom with that of Mars, suggesting that while material possessions and achievements are transient and ephemeral, the Martian society represents a step towards a higher, more harmonious existence in alignment with divine will. However, the text advises against idolizing Mars or the Martians, as even their advanced society is just a single step in the broader cosmic progression towards the ultimate perfection envisioned by the Father's Kingdom.

Martians are portrayed as beings who, through prolonged efforts, have managed to control their base instincts and have directed their energies towards self-improvement and the overcoming of subtle and complex challenges. This, however, is not to say their journey is devoid of difficulties; rather, their challenges are of a different nature than those faced by humans. By highlighting the continuous struggle of Martians with their own unique sets of problems, the chapter serves as a reminder that every level of existence has its trials, which are crucial for spiritual growth and advancement.

Lastly, the text makes a case for the valor and merit of individuals who manage to transcend their challenging circumstances and find their way to the divine, arguing that overcoming adverse conditions to discover spirituality and connect with the Father's Kingdom is a greater achievement than mere birth into favorable circumstances. This chapter underscores the universal journey towards understanding and embodying love as the core of spiritual evolution, regardless of one's starting point or the nature of their challenges.

## **CHAPTER XIX - A Martian Home**

In the heart of Urid the Beautiful, a Martian home stands as a testament to the Red Planet's architectural grace and the profound influence these structures have on character development. The Martian abode, imbued with sunlight filtered through translucent glass, banishes any harsh glare, bestowing upon each commodious room a gentle luminescence. This particular home, free from the inconvenience of stairs, adopts a rectangular layout encircling a verdant courtyard. At its center, a fountain murmurs, complemented by the vibrant hues of flourishing flowers and the melodies of brightly feathered birds.

Inside, life unfolds in scenes of domestic tranquility and artistic endeavor. A mother, engaged with a sewing machine far superior to any terrestrial counterpart, crafts garments imbued with the aesthetic originality characteristic of her people. This act of creation is punctuated by moments of tender attention directed towards a toddler, ensconced on a luxurious carpet with a plushness any Earthly magnate would envy. The child, immersed in the universal language of play, engages with toys amidst this soft expanse.

The arrival of a young girl, clothed in the simplicity and elegance of white, marks a transition in the household's daily rhythm. She, returning from her educational pursuits, discards the trappings of her day to share stories of learning and discovery. This scene, emblematic of Martian living, underscores the planetary ethos of beauty, familial harmony, and the seamless integration of artistry into the fabric of daily life.

Thus, through the lens of a single home in Urid, we glimpse the broader Martian ethos: a civilization where the design of living spaces reflects and reinforces a societal commitment to nurturing character, creativity, and community bonds. This Martian abode, in its serene beauty and functional harmony, stands as a pillar of the values that shape individual destinies on the Red Planet.

## **CHAPTER XX - ART**

Chapter XX of "The Planet Mars and Its Inhabitants" delves into the profound significance of art on Mars, underscoring it as an essential expression of the individual's rhythm and harmony with the universe. Art, in Martian society, is not merely an aesthetic pleasure but a reflection of the soul's development and its harmony with divine laws. The chapter emphasizes that every being possesses an innate artistic impulse, yet only a fraction can materialize these inner visions due to variations in spiritual growth and physical limitations.

The narrative contrasts the primitive artistic attempts of early man with the advanced state of Martian art, suggesting a direct correlation between spiritual evolution and artistic expression. This progression is mirrored in human history, where art has flourished among the spiritually inclined, such as in monastic communities during the Middle Ages. However, the text critiques contemporary human society, particularly in the Western world, for its materialistic pursuits that overshadow appreciation for art and nature.

Highlighting the stark differences in values, the chapter points out that on Mars, every individual is a developed artist, and every creation, whether from loom or forge, is an artistic endeavor reflecting the creator's soul. This universal artistic impulse is rooted in the joy of creation, aligning with divine work and contributing to a society where industrial activity transcends mere utility, becoming an expression of spiritual and material progress.

Furthermore, the chapter reveals how Martian art serves not only as a chronicle of the planet's history and achievements but also as a spiritual testament, capturing scenes from significant events, including the visit of Christ to Mars 10,000 years ago. Through these artistic expressions, whether tapestry, sculpture, or painting, the deep spirituality and the rich cultural heritage of the Martian people are vividly portrayed, offering insights into their values, beliefs, and way of life.