



DUALISM

PREMISE:

God created two natures:
both what's good and what's evil.

Zoroastrianism

God created both
the Holy Spirit and the Lie,
good and anti-good,
God and Anti-God.

Mainstream Judaism, Christianity and Islam

God created both
man (a potential force for good)
and the devil (the force of anti-good,
i.e., evil).

ALL SHARE ONE CONCLUSION:

There is a "war in the cosmos"
that is reflected here on earth.

Salvation means being on the "side" of good creation
and fighting the descendants of the evil creation.

PRACTICAL OUTCOME:

An "us versus them" mentality, resulting in:
elitism, persecution, and war
are part of being "righteous."

"You have very little trust in me as yet, but it will increase as you turn more and more often to me instead of to your egos for guidance. **The results will convince you** increasingly that your choice in turning to me is the only sane one you can make. No one who has learned from experience that one choice brings peace and joy while another brings chaos and disaster needs much conditioning. The ego cannot withstand the conditioning process, because the process itself **DEMONSTRATES** that there is another way."

ACIM (T-4.VI.3.1-3 in the published version)

NON-DUALISM

PREMISE:

God creates only what's good.

Has 2 Main "Branches" of Thought:

1. **Gnosticism, Platonism, and "A Course in Miracles"**

(when seen as an extension of Plato and/or Freud)

There is both good and evil in the world,
so God could not possibly have created the world.

CONCLUSION:

The world must have been created by a "lesser" god,
ergo it must be entirely evil.

Salvation means the total rejection of the world,
along with everyone in it, as "unreal."
(The good we think we see is just an illusion.)

PRACTICAL OUTCOME:

1. A "nothing is worth anything" mentality, resulting in:
isolationism, fatalism, pacifism in the face of evil
as a denial of the value of all living things.

- OR -

2. An "anything goes" mentality, resulting in:
It's perfectly acceptable to lie, cheat, steal and murder
because nothing's lost and no one's hurt
"really."

2. **Buddhism, Daoism,**

some **Native American Spiritualities,**
Mystical Judaism, Christianity and Islam,
as well as "**A Course in Miracles**"

(when seen as an extension of the message of Jesus of Nazareth)

The evil we see in the world isn't real in the ultimate sense.

CONCLUSION:

There is a war in our minds that, given the power God
gave us in our creation, is reflected as the evil that we see.

It's up to each individual to learn to see
God's creation as He sees it.

Individual salvation leads to the salvation of mankind
and of all living things.

PRACTICAL OUTCOME:

A mentality of personal responsibility, resulting in:
healing, involvement, and compassion,
i.e., miracles.