

Four-Lesson Special
The Holocaust, Anti-Semitism,
and Us—Part 3

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The Existence of Evil – Part 1



THE HOLOCAUST, ANTI-SEMITISM, & US

Jer. 29:11, “ ‘For I know the plans that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.’ ”

Why is it important for us as human beings to study the Holocaust?

Why is it important for *us as Christians* to study and know about the Holocaust?

Why is it important for me as your pastor, as a Christian leader, to take the time to go to Israel, to learn about the Holocaust and to teach about the Holocaust?

The Problem of Evil

The Problem of Evil

How can a good, loving, and all-powerful God allow the pain, suffering, sickness, death, and suffering that plagues so many people to either exist or continue to exist?

The Problem of Evil

How can a good, loving, and all-powerful God allow 6 million of His chosen people, the apple of His eye, to be so brutally tortured and murdered?

The Problem of Evil

The question focuses us on the character of the Judeo-Christian God and the attributes ascribed to Him in the Torah and the New Testament.

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscient

Righteousness

Omnipresent

Justice

Omnipotent

Love

Veracity

Eternal Life

Immutability

ESSENCE OF GOD

Sovereign

Omniscience

~~Righteousness~~

Omnipresent

Justice

~~Omnipotent~~

Love

Righteousness

Eternal

**Goodness/
Omni-benevolence**

Omni-benevolence

Love

Omniscience

Omnipotent

Psa. 40:12, “For evils beyond number have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to see; They are more numerous than the hairs of my head, and my heart has failed me.”

Jer. 15:18, “Why has my pain been perpetual and my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will You indeed be to me like a deceptive stream with water that is unreliable?”

Rom. 8:22, “For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.”

Does Evil Exist?

Yes?

or

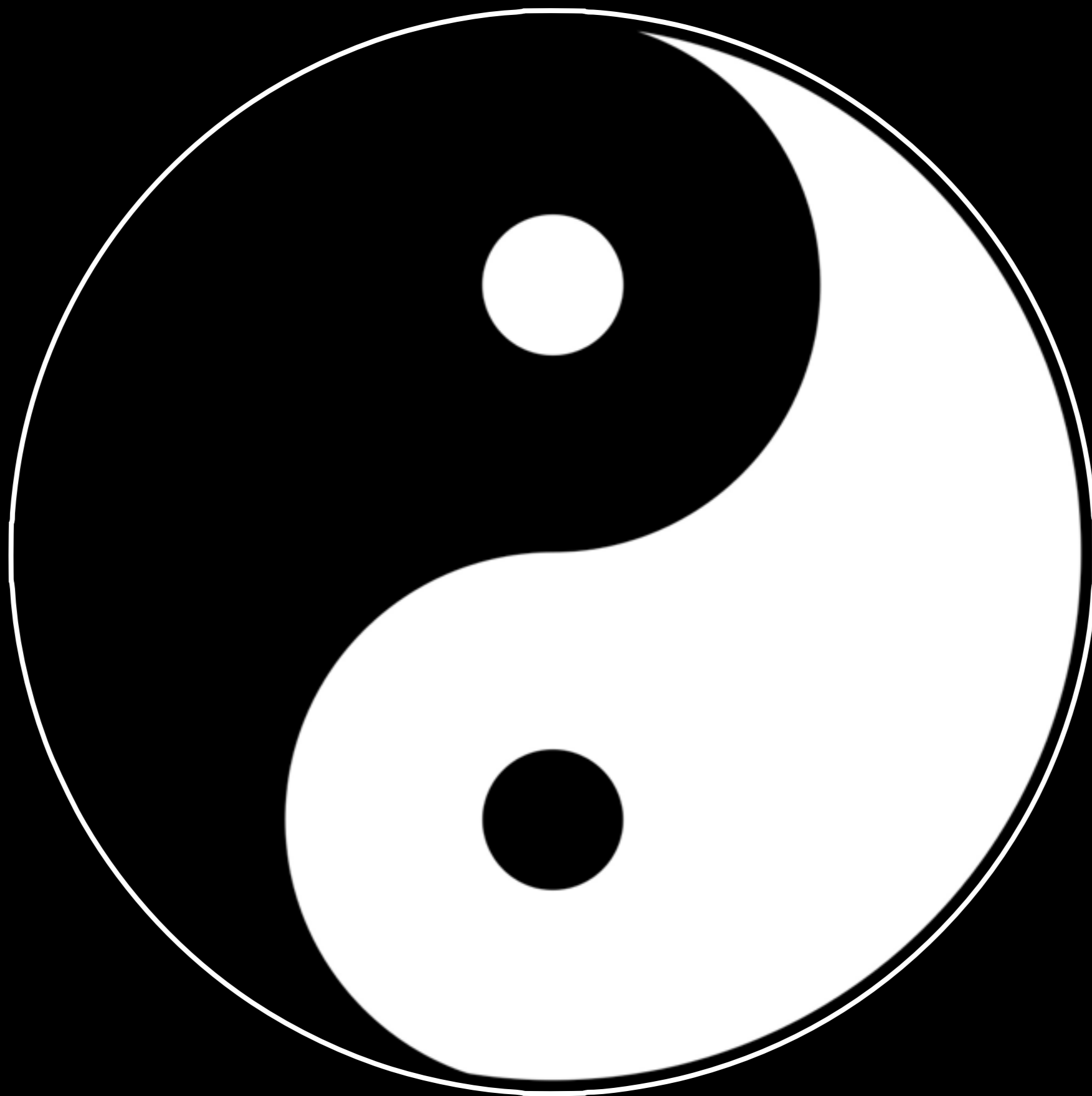
No?

Pantheist Position

god exists and evil doesn't.

“evil is an error of [the] moral mind.”

**~Mary Baker Glover Patterson Eddy,
founder of Christian Science**



**There was a Faith Healer of Deal
Who said “Although pain isn’t real,
If I sit upon a pin,
And it punctures my skin,
I dislike what I fancy I feel!”**

If the answer is No,

Then either there is no distinction between evil and good because these are all artificial social constructs or it is just the natural order (the answer of paganism [ancient and modern] which sees evil as eternal and coexistent with matter).

or

Evil is an illusion (Pantheism, Christian Science)

“Of the Babylonians can be said what Cicero has said with reference to the poets of Greece and Rome: ‘The poets have represented the gods as inflamed by anger and maddened by lust and have displayed to our gaze their wars and battles, their fights and wounds, their hatreds, enmities and quarrels. . . .’ Since all the gods were evil by nature and since man was formed with their blood, man of course inherited their evil nature. . . .Man, consequently, was created evil and was evil from his very beginning. How, then, could he fall? The idea that man fell from a state of moral perfection does not fit into the system or systems of Babylonian speculation.”

~Alexander Heidel, *Enuma Elish*

**Psa. 25:8, “Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore He teaches sinners in the way.”**

**Psa. 34:8, “Oh, taste and see that the
LORD is good; Blessed is the man who
trusts in Him!”**

**Psa. 69:16, “Hear me, O LORD, for Your
lovingkindness is good; Turn to me
according to the multitude of Your tender
mercies.”**