

# 2022 Epicurus vs Buddhism Compare and Contrast Thread

**Post by “Matt” of January 28, 2022 at 12:56 PM**

Yeah the Buddhist anatta doctrine throws me pretty hard and it makes it even less believable as purely an article of faith situation where you need to conceptualize this very unobservable principle without having “something” for continuity. No atman... there is no karmic scent to pass onto another being. If I have no memory of my past lives and will have no memory of my future lives, then how can I be worried or even be remotely sure this is correct or even remotely true? Just faith.

Karma and original or inherited sin might as well be synonymous with each other, because though previous iterations of myself may have done bad things, I may not have done them “now” in this life, therefore what would be the difference between inherited sin that I’m guilty for that would send me to hell without atonement and karmic sins of a previous life that effect my “eternal” place in the universe of suffering? Nothing, I see nothing different. Two sides of the same coin.

And further there is no universal arbiter to make a petition to get full warranty on this...just the word of someone who says “this will happen...trust me”, much like the word of a person who says the resurrection will happen.

When placed side by side with even monotheistic traditions, Buddhism is every bit as metaphysical and irrational. Even though we know many leave one tradition for the other believing it’s an escape.

I can imagine the horror of a western atheist fleeing to a Tibetan monastery to learn that the Buddhist’s have hells, heavens, ghosts and deities all wrapped up in a soteriological package that requires faith in the word of a man.