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Subject: Re: hope none of you are them

Posted by [Nukelt15](#) on Wed, 19 Jul 2006 03:23:03 GMT

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Belief is a very powerful force; no matter what you believe, if you believe in it strongly enough you can accomplish a great many things that would not otherwise be possible. Enduring pain, for example, secure in knowing that death is not the end of life, and that something infinitely better awaits you on the other side. Or overcoming incredible odds to beat a disease that defied all cures through the belief that an otherworldly power was lending you its strength (the curative effects of faith, regardless of which faith, are well known). There are known examples of Buddhist Monks who, through their beliefs, are able to achieve total control of their bodies to the point of being able to halt the beating of their own hearts.

The power of true belief isn't anything new to Christianity. As far back as human history goes, true believers (regardless of what they believe) have always been willing to die for their beliefs. Many wars have been fought using religion as a motivational tool to bolster morale and drive soldiers to make the ultimate sacrifice without fear; the sacking of Troy, for example- both sides in the Trojan War believed that they had the backing of many powerful gods, and that death in battle would bring glory in the afterlife. The Crusades (and Saladin's highly successful campaign against the Crusaders) are another example, and the list goes on.

True belief is power, a power that- like any other power- can be called on to achieve great things or corrupted and abused for personal gain. It is also a power completely independent of any single faith- yet which each and every faith may help a person tap into.

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