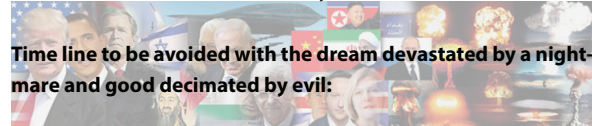


whole are incompatible, let us see how they have more in common for peace than irreconcilable differences for war.

We must visualize a new way to stop a dreary chain of causality without bad things needed to push us forward. Unfortunately this hasn't been the case in the 20th century. The League of Nations could only come into being after the slaughter of World War I. The U.N. was created only after experiencing the nightmare of World War II. The Jewish people only got their homeland back after surviving the holocaust. Civil Rights in America were attained alongside the murder of Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and many other activists.

We've all heard history repeats itself, but perhaps it's possible that a digital grass roots movement towards the good, true and beautiful can be the game changer in the 21st century. Maybe it's possible to work towards heaven without first needing to experience hell. We must make a valiant effort by rising to the challenge and preventing the secular and religious / liberal and conservative's greatest fears from leading to an apocalyptic showdown between East and West before humanity can be free at last.



**Time line to be avoided with the dream devastated by a nightmare and good decimated by evil:**

Israel's aggression increases towards Palestine with invasion of Gaza and West Bank • The US fails to pull out its forces from Afghanistan as they eventually return to Iraq • Israel launches preemptive strikes on Iran • Islamic fundamentalists overthrow Pakistan's government to seize control of nuclear weapons • Saudi Arabia experiences a revolution leading to spikes in oil prices and triggers the world economy to collapse in another great depression • An Arab coalition forms against the US and Israel • Religious fanatics rise to power in America, Russia, Europe and Israel as violence escalates into nuclear terrorism and a clash of civilizations • After millions die in a nuclear exchange, Western forces seize control of the Middle East • A fascist dictator rises to power in the West and begins an era of religious persecution • Tensions rise with the East as more violence escalates • World War III erupts as millions more die • The rebellion of the East finally defeats the Empire and unites humankind • Victory is short lived with much of the world in ruin • Devastating impacts caused by elevated sea level begin to reverse into the extreme of nuclear winter • What is left of humanity is haunted by the fact they didn't try enough to prevent the nightmare when the opportunity was there.

May a domino like succession of enlightenment sweep over humanity in time so we can unite peacefully towards a global country before evil is given the opportunity to move us forward with ends justifying bloody means. Now is the time to imagine and work towards a new time line where we attain what is good without evil:



**NEXT 10 YEARS FROM NOW** • World Citizens rise up in every nation to refuse WW3 and inspire their governments to execute a new blueprint for building a United States of Earth through means preexistent in the ends. • America ceases military misadventures and withdraws the last of its forces from the Middle East. Forces also exit Afghanistan to regroup, heal and devise a new plan of action for peace • Drone strikes end. • NATO and the US pull away from the brink of war with Russia. Peace resumes with China as they facilitate peace talks between N. and S. Korea. • The Military Industrial Complex begins the process of retooling their weapons factories for the much more rewarding work of bringing humankind together in pursuit of space exploration. • The first manned mission is sent to Mars for flyby of the red planet and return home. • Democratic restructuring of the United Nations Security Council to reflect the balance and ideals of true Democracy. Or a new global movement is created, capable of rising to the daunting challenges at hand. • Freed up resources from the wars are now available for greater science and technology education and advancement. New solar cell technology is developed that allows for the creation of solar powered automobiles with the strength of gas powered engines. • The Solar Age commences • Assembly begins on a starship in Earth orbit only slightly smaller than the USS Enterprise. Scientists from all nations join together on this international collaboration. • Israelis and Palestinians sign a peace deal and tear down the walls as the two states merge into one as first state and cornerstone for a future United States of Earth. • Religious fanatics prophesying Biblical and Quranic apocalypse are denied. • The Star Trek timeline of WW3 starting in 2026 becomes fiction. • Every man and woman on the planet is equipped with a solar powered hand held quantum computer connected to an A.I. super intelligence on a global internet as universal translator and passport to world citizenship • Billions of jobs created for the transition from the oil to solar age.

**15 - 20 YEARS FROM NOW** • Nuclear disarmament. • Vatican City is the last state to join the newly established United States of Earth. • Environmental destruction and global warming begin to reverse as millions of gas powered vehicles are recycled. • Earth's first planetary starship is completed and embarks on its first mission to the moon with a crew of a thousand people. At the start of 2035, this ship will be sent on humanity's first three month manned mission to Mars. **FORWARD** • Humanity is now free to explore the universe without danger of self-destructing.



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## Good without Evil

Many of us grew up in the 80's loving Star Wars. Its creativity and special effects rocked the world of countless kids and inspired their search for truth. Because of these movies, many reached outside their religious background in ways that would not have been possible if the dogma force fed them had effectively taken hold. Star Wars led to curiosity of Eastern thought; Buddhism, Taoism and Hinduism, which countless Americans found not to be evil as they had been taught. Studying these wisdom traditions can lead to the development of a self reflective awareness that questions the very programming we are all born with as humans. Ironically, this same questioning can also lead us full circle; to analyze the reason behind our natural attraction to stories like Star Wars that revolve around epic battles between good and evil. Does this attraction play a part in the dramas we create for ourselves in the world?



"Axis of Evil"

In the original and new trilogy, we witnessed the non stop war that always rages between unintegrated opposing forces, expressed in a manner Star Wars fans find thrilling; Jedi versus Sith. This drama is presented in a way that resonates with many religious people in the West who believe a real battle between good and evil will play out in the near future. The depiction of the Sith pulling strings behind the scenes to destabilize the republic and facilitate their take over is an example of how Star Wars presents evil. But does this kind of evil really exist in our world? Conspiracy theorists will always say yes while others may use similar perspectives to justify why some nations don't deserve nuclear weapons. They argue that if Iran had nukes like us, this kind of power

would lead them to seek the West's destruction and the establishment of an Islamic empire.

In our real world of many shades of gray, is there something similar to the black and white battle between Jedi and Sith? The destruction and tragedy of 9-11 may immediately come to mind for many people. Any time one side of a polarity sees their opposite as evil, it has the potential to create the kind of warfare emulated in Star Wars. And as already mentioned about conspiracy theorists, most are convinced there is something akin to Sith in our world, plotting their revenge and final take over. When Bush was president, many of

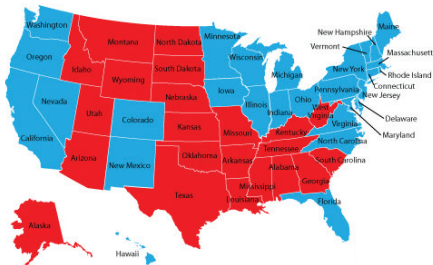


them believed he was something like a Sith Lord. And when Obama was president, the Anti-Christ was associated with him. The only way in which such a take over by real life Sith could be possible is if our society continues to become more polarized, much like it was in Nazi Germany. In this kind of hypothetical, one side must be seen as irredeemably corrupt and thus become the object of hate by those on the opposite or same side.

As in Star Wars where the Sith come from the Jedi, the myth of God and Satan in the Bible plays out the same way. We are told Lucifer was gifted by God with many divine qualities, but chose to use them against who he was once a part of. In Christian prophecy, a scenario of good needing evil unfolds at the end of the world. The Earth approaches catastrophe and the Anti-Christ must take over to push the Earth in the direction of a false global country before the authentic Christ can return to finish the job with true world unification.

With all the polarized political infighting we see in our nation along with looming environmental crisis, some religious people don't think it's a stretch to imagine a scenario like Star Wars where a Sith like leader finds favorable circumstances for rising to power. Visions from both sides of the polar extremes can see persecution of themselves at the hands of their opposite. For the atheists and humanists, it begins with a fear that a theocratic presidential candidate could be elected to

Red State



Blue State

power and literally believe the Rapture is immanent while shaping their foreign policy on this expectation. They would be ten times more extreme in their politics than any past president, leading separation between church and state to be dismantled while sanctioning the persecution of progressives. Such a leader could push us towards a clash of civilizations in a war against Islam and then trigger a nuclear catastrophe.

After this scenario plays out, the Christian's expected prophecy could then be realized with conditions favorable for a backlash, paving the way for an anti-religious dictator to come into power in place of the failed two party system. They would then have all the justification and backing needed to bring a populous atheism into the mainstream while using their power to outlaw religion and persecute Jews, Muslims and Christians. Like Hitler, this kind of imagined Sith might not at first appear completely evil. Perhaps they would even have some progressive ideals and a grand vision for a global Utopia whose ends in their mind are justified by bloody means.

An exercise in vigilance as a wisdom hero seeking to transcend good and evil, is imagining something better than this scenario and moving towards it. With a large percentage of our population following a religious script in which a great evil must rise up before the greatest good can set things straight, there has to be a way to rewrite this so as to prevent us from continuing to pave the way for worst case scenarios to unfold. But how do we rewrite a script imbedded in the psyche of so many humans?

Perhaps the only way to proceed is to integrate the best of Jedi and Sith qualities into a polar unity; left and right joined together in perfect union. But is this possible? Imagine the best of the Jedi (wisdom and compassion) without their weaknesses (arrogance and blindness), integrated with the best of the Sith (insatiable passion and machine-like fearlessness) dedicated to building a

global country through peaceful means. Seeking integration and balance of opposing sides is a worthy goal if it means advancing the dream without a nightmare.

If we are to prevent evil and put warfare in its rightful place; on the big screen, we must see the potential of nonviolence, which means letting go of fear itself. Mace Windu tells Anakin, upon learning the chancellor is a Sith Lord, "Then our worst fears have been realized." It is his worst fears leading him to conclude that violence is the only way to end its consumption. But it is violence that works against him. Good in his eyes becomes evil to another and Anakin interprets Mace's perceived defense as preemption.



Nonviolence was used effectively in the civil rights movement to counter the racist's charge that African Americans were sub-human or evil. Even the cultural baggage of the English language ran in favor of white power; in the American dictionary, black was defined as evil and white as good. But when whites were the ones attacking and using the ugliness of violence against blacks who were refusing to fight back or even hate their enemies, a paradigm shift was in order. It was the dark side that was actually good and the light side who were acting evil.



We must now utilize this power of nonviolence to end the demonization between the left and the right, liberals and conservatives, red states and blue states. Rather than play into a self defeating paradigm where two sides of the same