

<u>Faith and Reason</u>	<u>Good vs Evil</u>	<u>Existential Crisis</u>	<u>Happiness</u>
<p>Augustine believed that faith and reason did not contradict. Through reason he managed to reach the Truth but needed faith to obtain it (the Truth). So faith has to eventually come in.</p>	<p>Augustine believed that humans were created to do good. Evil was the negation of such good and went against the purpose of human existence.</p>	<p>Augustine had a massive existential crisis as he wanted to justify his actions by seeking the Truth. He wanted to convert to absolve himself of sin but was torn due to his desires. He converted in the garden incident.</p>	<p>Augustine realised that happiness lay with God as his natural lustful love only left him unhappy. <i>To be happy was to love God who was eternal and not to love others, which was good, but temporary.</i></p>
<p>Al-Ghazali also believed that faith and reason did not contradict but reason could only go so far. To obtain certainty (the Truth) al-Ghali had to have faith which he obtained through mysticism.</p>	<p>Al-Ghazali agreed with Augustine that God is Good. He acknowledges that evil arises from the decisions of humans. Al-Ghazali is however more concerned with the effects of evil.</p>	<p>Al-Ghazali wanted certainty (which he would due by obtaining the Truth). He realized all his knowledge was ignorance as he did not have certainty (did not have the Truth).He was torn between leaving and his comfortable lifestyle. He eventually left after becoming ill.</p>	<p>Al-Ghazali obtained happiness by obtaining certainty. He believed that you could be happy without uncertainty but it would be temporary. In order to be truly happy one had to seek certainty (the Truth).</p>
<p>Thomas Aquinas believed that faith and reason did not contradict as he used reason to prove the existence of God. He also believed that faith was necessary as there were certain Truths beyond reason. He explicitly stated that faith and reason could not contradict and any false arguments were based on incorrect derivations from first principles.</p>	<p>Thomas Aquinas believed that humans had an a built in awareness for what is good. As such he believed that humans should do good and avoid evil.Such as not taking advantage of friends and others.</p>		<p>Thomas Aquinas agreed with Augustine that. happiness lay with God. In order to be happy one had to have faith in God as happiness was not temporary.</p>
<p>Dante also believed that faith and reason did not contradict as Virgil (Reason) acted as Dante's guide up until Paradise. Dante showed that faith was necessary as reason alone could not explain everything (this was made explicit when Virgil [Reason] disappeared at Paradise).</p>	<p>Dante showed the distinction between good and evil. In Inferno the evil were ruthlessly punished for their crimes whereas in Paradise the good lived freely. In a way doing good was the only way to be close to God (the Truth) and doing evil was the negation of this as one become further from the Truth by doing evil. <i><u>Links back to Augustine's purpose of existence.</u></i></p>	<p>Dante did not undergo a physical crisis but his work shows him evolving into a better being as he moves from the dark forest of lust and sin to paradise.</p>	<p>Dante shows that happiness lies in salvation which is achieved by doing good. As you move from Inferno to Purgatory to Paradise people become happier as a result of their deeds. So Dante also believes that happiness lies with God as if one follows God's will to do good the happier one becomes.</p>