

The Three Sources

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This article is a discussion of the natural, divine and demonic elements in human experience. Many people have had unusual experiences which they might describe as psychic or supernatural :

At the time of her mother's death, a Christian heard her mother calling in the middle of the night, although they were several thousand miles apart.¹

A mother whose son was suffering from polio prayed fervently to Sai Baba. Holy ash appeared and a voice told her to give it to the boy. He soon recovered, and the mother now believes in Sai Baba as an *avatar* of God.²

Sadhu Sundar Singh prayed a desperate prayer to God, after which he saw a vision of Christ and became "the apostle of the bleeding feet".

People who believe there is nothing beyond the natural world insist that these experiences are delusions or have some other natural explanation. Others go to the opposite extreme and believe that all supernatural experiences put us in touch with God. A third group holds that besides the natural and the divine realms there is also a kingdom of Satan, the father of lies and deception (John 8:44).

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