

F. Jesus' Death and Resurrection Should be Central to any Revelation from God

Acts 9:3-6 “³ And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:⁴ And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?⁵ And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.⁶ And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.”

Four Reasons why this was not a NDE:

- 1.) Paul was very much _____ and nowhere near death when this happened to him.
- 2.) This light was something unlike a typical NDE because it literally blinded him.
- 3.) In telling King Agrippa of his experience, Paul never mentioned anything remotely resembling a NDE.
- 4.) Unlike the Jesus of typical Near-Death Experiences, the Jesus Paul encountered, commissioned him to evangelize exclusively in His Name. Paul said:

1 Corinthians 2:2 “For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”

G. The Bible does not record Near-Death Experiences!

The Real Question?
“Does the Bible Record Any Near Death Experiences?”

The Answer is “NO!”

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 All Scriptures KJV * SAM 06.01.25

A PLACE CALLED HEAVEN

Part 3

“HAVE SOME PEOPLE ALREADY VISITED HEAVEN?”
Hebrews 9:27

Hebrews 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”

Introduction:

—The Story about D. L. Moody and his nephew, Raymond Moody

I. What Are Near-Death Experiences?

**Definition: “a profound psychological event that may occur to a person close to death or, if not near death, in a situation of physical or emotional crisis. It includes transcendental and mystical elements, and is a powerful event of consciousness.”*

II. Why Are Stories About Near-Death Experiences So Popular?

A. Our Natural Curiosity About the _____

B. Our Longing for Heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

Ecclesiastes 3:11 “He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.”

1. God has revealed everything we need to _____
2. The Bible is _____
3. The Bible is _____

1 John 4:1 “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.”

Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

III. Are Near-Death Experiences Biblical?

All NDE's should be examined in light of the Scriptures

- A. Seven Principles for evaluating near-death experiences of those who claim to have already visited heaven

REMEMBER: "*Near-Death*" Is Not _____

—*Nearly dead is not dead!*

Hebrews 9:27 "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"

—*The Question—What about those who died in the Bible and Jesus raised them up? Answer: We call them "Miracles" not "Usuals."*

—*We call those 'exceptions to the rules' and not **the rule**.*

—*In each case, not a one of them came back and told us what they saw and heard*

- B. The Bible Is Sufficient

Remember what Paul said to the Thessalonians in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and John said in Revelation 21:4:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 "¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. ¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. ¹⁵ For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: ¹⁷ Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

Revelation 21:4 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

—*This is what God says to you and your loved ones*

- C. Adding to or Taking Away from the Bible is **CONDEMNED** by God!

Revelation 1:3 "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."

Revelation 22:18-19 "¹⁸ For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹ And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

- D. Question the Identity of Any "Being of Light"

—*Many NDE's claim that "Jesus" told them things contrary to the Word of God. This can not be, because He said in Hebrews 13:8...*

Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

—*That's why we need to pay close attention to what Paul said in 1 Timothy 4:1 and 2 Corinthians 11:14...*

1 Timothy 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils,"

2 Corinthians 11:14 "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."

- E. BEWARE OF THE OCCULT!

1st: It is highly probable that those who have met a '*being of light*' during a NDE have met a *demon impersonating Christ*, leading to an experience with the occult and **not** an experience with God

2nd: Both the occult and NDE share in common outer body experiences and contacts with those on the other side. And both claim psychic powers.

3rd: Occultism and any hint of occultism is a **CLEAR VIOLATION** of Scripture. Avoid it like the plague!