

Paul's Experience

2 Corinthians 12:2-4 NLT

2 I was caught up to the third heaven fourteen years ago.

Whether I was in my body or out of my body, I don't know—only God knows.

3 Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body.

But I do know 4 that I was caught up to paradise and heard things so astounding that they cannot be expressed in words, things no human is allowed to tell.

Stoned to death?

Acts 14:19-20 NKJV

19 Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead.
20 However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city.
And the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

Definition of Dead

- ✓ Flat heart rate. / Flat brain waves.
- ✓ No measurable / viable signs.
- ✓ Naturalists definition of death: Biological death.

Things to know about Near Death Experiences

- ✓ NDE does not prove your worldview.
- ✓ Most NDE's are impressive but without evidential data.
- **✓** NDE is **not** crossing over to eternity.
- ✓ About $\frac{25}{8}$ % of all Near Death Experiences are hellish.
- ✓ Many people are allowed to see heaven…but not all can $\frac{\text{stay}}{\text{c}}$.

Matthew 22:11-14 NLT

11 "But when the king came in to meet the guests,

he noticed a man who wasn't wearing the proper clothes for a wedding.

12 'Friend,' he asked, 'how is it that you are here without wedding clothes?'

But the man had no reply. 13 Then the king said to his aides, 'Bind his hands and feet and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

14 For many are called but few are chosen.

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You Asked For It!

Near Death Experience

Going beyond the Near Death Experience

1. Always <u>filter</u> the experience through the Word of God.

2 Peter 1:16-21 ESV

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain. 19 And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2. <u>Discern</u> commonalities of NDE's that align with Bible.

- ✓ Feel More Alive Mark 12:27
- ✓ We Are Still Ourselves 1 Thessalonians 5:23
- **✓** Pure Communication 1 Corinthians 2:16
- ✓ Complete Knowledge 1 Corinthians 13:16
- ✓ Welcome Committee Luke 16:9; Psalm 23:4
- ✓ Life Review Matthew 22:37-39
- ✓ The City of God Revelation 21:10-14
- ✓ Seeing the Lord Jesus John 1:9; Revelation 1:14

3. Trust Jesus is the only way to experience a good afterlife.

John 14:6 NKJV

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through Me.

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