

OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCE

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There are those who believe that when they are ill or may even be dying, whether at home or in hospital, that they have an out of the body experience. Sometimes they are looking down on their body on the bed. Some claim that they not only see themselves, as if they may be looking into a full length mirror, but that they may also see a tunnel with a bright light at its end and perhaps someone beckoning and welcoming them to enter the tunnel into the after-life.

Such experiences are often called near death experiences, or out of the body experiences or the entrance into the after-life.

There is absolutely no medical or scientific evidence to support this, but there is evidence to refute it.

Those who believe in out of the body experience say that we have not only a physical body but an astral body. The body that is looking down on our physical body lying on the bed is our astral body.

The word body means the human body of flesh, bones and blood complete with all the parts of the body such as the eyes, ears, liver, heart. It is the physical body. It is the entire physical structure of an animal or a human being. We all have one body and it is the physical body. We do not have two bodies. There is no such thing as an astral body.

Astral means of the stars or of the spirit. What is of the spirit is not physical. A spirit does not have a body. It is not physical. A person is someone with a human body. A spirit does not have a physical body. The spirit is the non-physical aspect of a person and does not refer to the physical such as limbs and vital organs, flesh and blood and bones. Therefore, the astral body is a misnomer, an impossibility and an absurd definition.

This is yet another example of the wrong use of words which causes confusion and unnecessary arguments. And the people who misuse words or hijack an existing word and wrongly use it and perpetrate a heresy are troublemakers and irresponsible. A heresy is anything that is contrary to accepted and correct usage or belief.

What can be evidenced is that when people may be close to death they may have vivid dreams about the predicament they are in and in their dream they can look down on their body and dream of a beckoning into death and beyond. It is the same with other stressful matters such as, for example, someone having to face an important interview will often have vivid dreams about that forthcoming interview and some dreams may be pleasant and some very uncomfortable.

Drugs can also engender dreams and hallucinations of a very vivid type, and controlled experiments with willing volunteers have proved this. In a medical experiment of 100 volunteers, at which I and a group of medical staff were present, the volunteers were repeatedly told that they were going to die very soon and then safe drugs were administered to them. They were filmed sleeping and some were in turmoil. On awakening, some of the volunteers said that they saw themselves looking at their own body on the bed and had visions of loved ones who had died much earlier with arms open to receive them into the light.

These were not out of the body experiences but hallucinatory dreams occasioned both by auto suggestion and medication.

It is also known that very strong drugs given to patients who are seriously or terminally ill can produce powerful dreams and hallucinations so much so that they believe implicitly the dream that they have endured to be a reality, and will not countenance any contradiction.

However, many neurologists have witnessed cases of people who were not suffering from an ailment or on

medication, experience something very real in the last moments before death. These were all among Christian believers. They sat up, smiled with radiance, lifted out their arms and said, “Lord, I am coming”, or “Jesus, take me” or some such thing. These were not hallucinations or the effects of drugs but a genuine experience of seeing Christ about to take them through death into eternal life.

I have witnessed this and can confirm it is true.

It has been recorded that a medium in Chicago in the 1840s witnessed such an experience of a Christian dying in the circumstances mentioned above and decided to use in the realms of spiritualism. In other words she hijacked a Christian experience and she was so verbose about this that it was accepted into spiritualism.

Spiritualists and psychics do hijack Bible truths. The seeing a welcome into the after-life or heaven they have clearly stolen from the case of Stephen in Acts.

Many other people have witnessed the same with their loved ones, who were practising Christians, just before the death of that loved one. As I have said, I witnessed the same experience twice with two very dear friends who were devout fundamental Christian. Therefore, I know that is true.

But these were not examples of the astral body looking down on the dying physical body but an experience of the welcome into eternal life from the Saviour who died to make that possible.

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