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Near-Death Experiences?

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

With the release of the new movie, *Heaven is for Real*, where 4-year-old Colton Burpo has a near-death experience, visits heaven, sees Jesus and angels, and talks with deceased relatives, the significance of these so-called near-death experiences (NDEs) is once again in the spotlight. Are they valid? Can we trust them? What does the Bible say?

It is the firm position of White Horse Media that all human experiences, near-death or otherwise, *must be tested by Scripture*; and if we are faced with a choice where one
what our hearts feel, what our eyes see, what our minds think, or what the numerous traditions of men may say.

Consider these Bible verses: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine ..." (2 Timothy 3:16). "To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20). "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool" (Proverbs 28:26). Thus we should follow Scripture, even above what our hearts feel and think.

Concerning NDE's, especially young Colton Burpo's experience, there is no example anywhere in Scripture of someone visiting heaven and talking to dead relatives. It's nowhere. Got it? Nowhere. Next, the Bible is clear not only that "the dead know nothing" (Ecclesiastes 9:5), but also that, generally speaking -- except for certain exceptions like Enoch and Elijah who were translated without seeing death, and Moses, who was raised from the dead (Jude 9) -- "all that are in their graves," saint or sinner alike, shall someday day "hear His [Jesus Christ's] voice" and "come forth -- those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28,29).

That's what Jesus Christ said, not me.

Until resurrection morning, a near-death experience is just that, a near death experience, not a death experience. Significantly, those who have these NDE's see all kinds of things. Some see heaven, some just a bright light, some see hell, some see Jesus, some see no Jesus, some see dead relatives, some see no relatives, some see Buddha, some Muhammad, some Krishna, etc, etc. Thus people see all kinds of things that often contradict each other. Thus it is not wise to base a doctrine on such visions.

Again, God's Word is our guide.

After my last enews, I received this testimony from someone who was clinically declared dead at a hospital in Arizona. In her case, it wasn't a near death experience, but she was dead. A little later, miraculously, she came back to life. What did she see in between? Read and find out.

I was having a heart procedure at Arizona Heart Hospital, a couple of years ago and the physicians lost me on the table. They worked on me for over an hour trying to bring me to life--with no avail. They then covered me with a sheet and called the morgue. The
family. And getting off the elevator he heard them calling for code blue... not thinking it was one of his patients, he continued on--when over the intercom he heard them calling his name. He immediately ran back up the stairs, and they were calling for clot busters.

To make a long story short, as I looked up at him HE LOOKED AT ME AND SAID, "THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE EVER SEEN A MIRACLE IN MY LIFE!" Right before they started the procedure, I asked the surgeon, "Can you say a LITTLE PRAYER before you start?" He paused for a moment then said, "Are you a Christian?" I said, "Yes, I am." He told me he was a Muslim and did not pray to Jesus Christ. So the nurse said she would. And she did!

Afterwards, in his office he was again commenting on seeing a MIRACLE HAPPEN and I asked him if he would be interested in LEARNING MORE ABOUT MY JESUS, THE MIRACLE DEITY? He wasn't sure, but every time I now see him at his office he calls me THE MIRACLE LADY. PRAISE THE LORD.

LOTS OF PEOPLE ASK ME WHAT I SAW WHEN I WENT TO HEAVEN IN DEATH. I TELL THEM, DEATH IS ONLY A DEEPER SLEEP. I SAW NOTHING AND WOULD NOT HAVE KNOW ABOUT IF I HAD NOT BEEN TOLD BY THE DOCTOR AND MY FAMILY....

PRAISE THE LORD. I BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST AND SATAN HAS NO POWER OVER ME TO SHOW ME HIS DELUSIONS. TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

NORMA FINCH/WOLFORD
AGE: 80 YRS.
LIVES IN: Surprise, Arizona

The Bible says,
"He who trusts in his own heart is a fool. But whoever walks wisely will be delivered"
(Proverbs 28:26)

In these last days of "strong delusion" (2 Thessalonians 2:11), let's follow Scripture first and be wise.

Steve Wohlberg
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