**NDE & Resurrection:**

**Reasonable Considerations**

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**Introduction**

The term “Near Death Experience” (NDE) can mean many things to different people. John Burke, the author of *Imagine Heaven,* defines NDEs – “when people clinically died, were resuscitated, and claim to have gotten a peek into the afterlife.”[[1]](#footnote-1) Accompanying 50% of NDE events are out-of-body experiences (OBEs) defined as a person’s soul/consciousness leaves their body and witnesses sees and hears earthly events they should not have seen in their unconscious state and communicate a message.[[2]](#footnote-2)

The goal of this research paper is to give support to the accuracy of NDEs supporting the resurrection of Jesus Christ. With this goal, there will be a limited critical review of the naturalistic worldview regarding consciousness in the role of human life which includes God in the flesh as Jesus. The critical question needs to be asked. . . what does human consciousness have to do with the resurrection of Jesus Christ and NDErs? The obvious answers to this question are that NDEs witness that human consciousness is not limited to or dependent on the temporal body and in fact survive death. Additionally, NDEs witness an afterlife. One of the visible outcomes of Jesus’ resurrection is that His life did not end, and therefore, an afterlife is a reality as seen by many witnesses to Jesus’s resurrection appearances.

In pursuit of the goals of this paper, I find a review of Norman Geisler’s 12 basic premises to pursue an offensive case for the Christian message advisable.[[3]](#footnote-3)

1. Truth about reality is knowable. 2. Opposites cannot be true. 3. It is true that the theistic God exits. 4. Miracles are possible. 5. Miracles performed in connection with truth claims confirm the truth of God through a messenger of God. 6. The New Testament documents are reliable (textually and historically). 7. As witnessed in the New Testament, Jesus claimed to be God. 8. Jesus’s claim to be God was proven by unique convergence of miracles (e.g., resurrection). 9. Therefore, Jesus was God in human flesh. 10. Whatever Jesus (who is God) affirmed as true, is true. 11. Jesus affirmed that the Bible is the Word of God. 12. Therefore, it is true that the Bible is the Word of God, and whatever is opposed to any biblical truth is false.

All twelve of these basic premises will come to light in this essay in that the truth is perused and knowable versus the truth is not knowable. If truth is not knowable, then nothing can be substantiated as existing. The truth about NDEs has become more knowable due to objective modern medical and scientific publications. Part of an objective science can be the repeatability of an event to determine the outcome. Due to the accurate recording of NDEs, the medical community now has a solid foundation to work from and has verified the same outcomes being reported over many years. The main observation is that NDEs demonstrate consciousness is not dependent on or limited to the brain. This unique ability points to the design of human beings which calls for a designer. . . God.

All of this new understanding and knowledge about NDEs has highlighted the existence of the creator God. NDEs can be received as a miracle because they demonstrate events outside the known parameters of medicine and human biology. The environment NDEs represent is not created by man but by the authority and power that created life. . . God. I have often said that the power and authority behind the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the same power and authority that created life in the first place. The power and authority to create life can incarnate into temporal life and resurrect life. God’s specific revelation reveals this truth in the life of Jesus Christ. NDEs are a window to the unique life God created in His image (Gen. 2:26; New American Standard Bible “unless otherwise noted”).

**Definitions**

Many NDE definitions include the terms “clinically dead” and “biologically dead.” I found that these terms vary in meaning. Summarizing Rabbi Jonathan Bernis, president and CEO of Jewish Voice Ministries International and the author of *A Rabbi Looks at the Afterlife*, clinical death is when a person’s heart stops beating and the blood stops circulating. Biological death takes place four to six minutes later when the brain stops functioning due to a lack of oxygen that had been supplied by a beating heart circulating blood.[[4]](#footnote-4)

Texas Right to Life posted online that biological death occurs upon critical damage to “multiple organ systems, the key being the circulatory, respiratory, and nervous systems”. Biological death occurs when all the organs of the body including the heart and brain cease to function. Once the heart stops, multiple organ systems stop as well.[[5]](#footnote-5)

The Science Direct website published an article *Incident of brain death in the United States* wherein they defined brain death.

In modern intensive care, when the injury is irreversible and/or the therapeutic measures to cure have been exhausted and the ominous result seems unavoidable, it is essential to establish the early diagnosis of brain death (BD) with the aim to distinguish life from death and possibly optimize the conditions and quality of the organs of the potential donor.[[6]](#footnote-6)

The National Library of Medicine published a report titled *Revise the Uniform Determination of Death Act to Align the Law With Practice Through Neurorespiratory Criteri* that addressed a call for a revision of the uniform determination of death that originated from the 1970s. The President's Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavior Research that recommended state legislators adopt the Uniform Determination of Death Act (UDDA) states:

An individual who has sustained either irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions or irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain, including the brainstem, is dead. A determination of death must be made in accordance with accepted medical standards. . . “all functions of the entire brain” (vs some specific set of functions) and “accepted medical standards” (should they be specifically named?) and whether accommodations are needed to address religious or principled objections to determining death by neurologic criteria.”[[7]](#footnote-7)

**Biblical Definitions of Life and Death**

These legal and medical definitions have attempted to legislate the meaning of life and death. It is obvious that there is the presupposition that life ends with temporal death. However, from these publications, we can determine that great debate and consideration have been given to religious and principled objection to the way life and death has been determined in the past. With these reports, we see an ongoing struggle the medical and legal authorities have over the determination of death. This has significant impact on NDEs.

The Biblical response is very clear. Human beings never die. God tells us in the book of Revelation that there is a judgment many theologians call the “Great White Throne Judgment”. ‘Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it,’ (Rev. 20:11). This revelation affirms that the Apostle John saw Him (Jesus Christ) sat upon a great white throne. From His throne, Christ’s judgment is to assign everyone who ever lived an eternal place of existence in what is commonly called heaven or hell. This is determined by a person’s name being recorded in the book of life or in the books of deeds. With these designations, there is the reality that all people will live forever. Geisler’s premise number 2 that ‘opposites cannot be true’ is a reality at the great white throne judgment in that eternal life in heaven or hell is the opposite of annihilationism. Revelation 20 proclaims that God’s word is in opposition of the naturalistic worldview that life ends at temporal death. Regarding Giesler’s twelve premises, all of them apply to NDEs and the resurrection of Jesus. NDEs witness the miracle of life God created and Jesus witnessed during His incarnation years. Jesus’ claim to be God was proven by a unique convergence of miracles (e.g., resurrection). Therefore, the Bible is true as Jesus taught.[[8]](#footnote-8)

The Christian faith recognizes that regardless of how governments or medical communities define temporal death, life goes on and NDEs are evidence for that conclusion. From this statement, our attention can be directed to a review of the biblical origins of life and human consciousness that directly relate to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This opens the question about God creating life and not limiting life to a temporal state of being. People’s beings encompass a physical body but are endowed with components that transcend death which the temporal body does not. Jesus’ resurrection demonstrated that life is more than physical components and is intended to live forever. NDEs witness God’s eternal design in people that is not limited to the death of temporal life.

**NDE Research Definition**

Burke provides twelve NDE core elements that were published by Dr. Jeffrey Long, a radiation oncologist, of 1,300 NDEs worldwide study.

1. Out-of-body experience: separation of consciousness from the physical body (75.4%)
2. Heightened sense said more consciousness and alert than normal (74.4%)
3. Intense generally positive emotions or feelings (76.2% “incredible peace”)
4. Passing into or through a tunnel (33.8%)
5. Encountering a mystical or brilliant light (64.6%)
6. Encountering other beings, mystical, deceased relatives or friends (57.3%)
7. A sense of alteration of time or space (60.5%)
8. Life review (22.2%)
9. Encountering unworldly (“heavenly”) realms (52.2%)
10. Encountering or learning special knowledge (56%)
11. Encountering a boundary or barrier (31%)
12. A return to the body (58.5% were aware oof a decision to return)

**Accurate Remote Viewing Ability and NDEs**

Accuracy in NDEs considers the timing of the report, specific details, who is making the report, credible eyewitness or third-hand, medical circumstances. Is the person reporting the NDE have a history truthful? Does the testimony of a NDE person from one location correspond to actual events at another location that was witnessed by others? To this last question, do human beings have remote out of body viewing ability without experiencing an NDE? This last question points to God’s original designed ability in humans. Are there government reports on remote viewing concerning human ability before physical death in the respect of seeing accurately remote locations events or statements similar to an OBE? Has the scientific community or anyone ever conducted a study to determine if human beings possess psychic ability to “determine whether certain individuals, under conditions of perceptual isolation, could access information about places, buildings, photographs, etc., from a distance using *putative psi* (psychic ability) rather than conventional sensory channels?” Remote viewing (RV) is when a person with special abilities can see or visualize what is happening at another location. America’s spy agency the CIA was most interested in people who claimed they had this ability.[[9]](#footnote-9)

Imagine if a person with remote viewing skills could report what is being said in the Kremlin. From 1972, the U.S. government conducted studies to determine if RV was possible. The government report was inconclusive.[[10]](#footnote-10) However, there was additional research conducted and published by the National Library of Medicine, National Center for Biotechnology Information “Follow-up on the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency’s (CIA) viewing experiments, May 3, 2023.” This report stated that “analysis applied to the second group produced significant RV‐related effects corresponding to the positive influence of emotional intelligence (EI) (i.e., hits in the RV experiments were 19.5% predicted from EI) with small to moderate effect sizes (between 0. 457 and 0.853).”[[11]](#footnote-11) These government studies lend substantial support to what NDE/OBE patients report while their physical bodies are in one location and their consciousness is reporting events and statements at a remote location.

**Accuracy of NDE Timing**

In Burke’s book, *Imagine Heaven,* the NDE account of Mary Neal is chronicled.[[12]](#footnote-12) Neal was an orthopedic spine surgeon who suffered a kayaking accident. Neal was stuck between two underwater rocks and underwater for fourteen minutes. Neal reported that she could feel her bones breaking and ligaments tearing, but she stated that she did not experience panic or fear and she felt more alive than she had before.

Assuming Neal’s good physical condition she might have had enough oxygen in her blood system to last of up to five minutes. Water athletes have been known to hold their breath for a long time. But Neal was in an accident and fighting for her life with broken bones. The point being, the standard medical community teaches that the brain stops functioning and dies after four to six minutes. Neal was outside that window of life being underwater for fourteen minutes. This is why the accuracy in timing is critical in determining when a person’s brain shuts off (dies) and their living consciousness continues. While in the dead brain state, Neal reported an out-of-body experience in that she was greeted by and interacted with spiritual beings. She reported being able to view her own body and saw friends around her temporal body calling out to her to breathe. Neal stated she felt immense pressure to return to her friends and she did.

The accurate reporting of Neal’s NDE-OBE supports the resurrection of Jesus and the transformation of bodies. Jesus suffered mortal wounds including a sword stabbing but was seen during the resurrection appearances walking and moving normally. From Neal’s DNE report, we observe that she felt no pain or panic even though her bones broke. This leads to the question of how fast our temporal bodies transform at death (1 Cor. 15:42-55), when our brain dies, when our consciousness is no longer dependent on our temporal body. . . do the mental and physical stresses of life leave us that quickly? The timing of the transformation appears to be immediate. Paul writes about a mystery change taking place in the twinkling of an eye (1 Cor. 15:52). Jesus appears bodily at the empty tomb. The mortal sword wound and beatings, He suffered, did not affect His movement then or during the forty-day resurrection time. Psalm 22 prophetically reports Jesus’ crucifixion “I am poured out like water, And all my bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It is melted within me” (Ps. 22:14).

**Accuracy of NDE Reported Event**

Moody reports in *Proof of Life After Life* that a surgeon in Italy was performing an elective procedure on a young man when his heart went into cardiac arrest. As the doctor tried to revive his patient, he thought to himself, “Oh my God, how did this happen? And what am I going to say to the family?” At that moment, the man’s wife rushed into the operating room saying, “Don’t let my husband die! My husband is not dead.” The wife explained that her husband came to her in the waiting area and told her that the doctor thinks he is dead and for her to go tell the doctor that he is not dead. After the man was resuscitated and in the recovery room, he told the doctor, “I was above above my body looking down at you, and I could tell that you thought I was dead. I kept trying to say to you, I’m not dead, I’m not dead,’ but you wouldn’t listen to me. So, I went into the waiting room and told my wife to come in here and let you know I am not dead.”[[13]](#footnote-13)

The patient accurately reported that he knew the doctor thought he was dead. In fact, the doctor reported that was what he thought. The patient was unconscious due to cardiac arrest but maintained a conscious awareness with a bodily presentation and an accurate report to his wife in another room. His wife then acted upon the information her OBE husband communicated to her.

This NDE-OBE is similar to the disciples seeing Jesus in His resurrected body and receiving information (teaching) verbally from Him. Highly motivated from seeing Jesus in a resurrected state, the disciples then acted upon the information they received from a person who they thought was dead but appeared to them. Their action was to fulfill the Great Commission.

**Accuracy of NDEs Coupled with OBEs**

Moody reports a 2007 study by Dr. Jan Holden a researcher and educator (University of North Texas), who gathered all OBEs that took place with NDEs and reported that the accuracy of resuscitation events is 92% when NDEs are accompanied with an OBE.[[14]](#footnote-14) Holden reported that eighty-nine NDE-OBE patients reported they saw everyday earthly events.

Moody published some of the results of Dr. Jeffery Long’s 2014 research, who founded the Near Death Experience Research Foundation (NDERF), in his book *Proof of Life after Life*.

Long reported that of the 617 NDEs, 287 included OBEs. Within the 287 OBEs, 280 reported describing ongoing earthly events. Long found that sixty-five of the 280 NDE-OBE patients personally investigated the events they observed while having their OBE and none of them found any inaccuracies. Long reported that a woman, he called Kate, went under general anesthesia and was in an unconscious state. Kate then had an OBE which placed her above the operating table and saw her doctor throw an instrument on the floor due to being given the wrong one. After the surgery, the doctor told Kate that she died on the table. Kate told the doctor that she saw him throw the instrument on the floor. Kate’s NDE-OBE reported an accurate detail of the doctor’s actions.[[15]](#footnote-15)

Moody cited Long’s research statement. Long said that the soul is “a nonphysical essence that continues to exist at bodily death.” Long includes in the definition of the soul to “consists of our memories, personality, and personhood.” In addition, Long stated “a piece of us” is “connected to spiritual wisdom, a universal library of spiritual information that can only be accessed through certain types of experiences, one of which is the NDE”.

Moody supports Long’s statements, and in summation, Moody opined that it takes a triggering event (fear, heart attack, accident) to access or make a connection to universal wisdom. When NDEs and OBEs occur is when “consciousness seems to leave the body and roam free in real time.”[[16]](#footnote-16)

**Summary of the Accuracy of NDEs-ONBEs**

With the abundance of tenured doctors from within the practicing medical community, there is a preponderance of evidence that supports the reality, beyond a reasonable doubt, that there is life after death or as Moody publishes, *Life After Life*. There is no other reasonable explanation that can come from the NDE-OBE researched evidence. . . that life, consciousness continues beyond a person being brain dead or biologically dead.

**Dr. Lommel: Nonlocal Consciousness and Naturalism**

Dr. Pim van Lommel is a respected cardiologist expert on NDEs. Lommel worked for more that twenty-five years as a cardiologist in the Netherlands. Lommel studied patients who survived cardiac arrests and published his findings in ‘*The Lancet’* a respected British medical journal. Lommel’s book *Consciousness Beyond Life: The Science of the Near-Death Experience* received good reviews.[[17]](#footnote-17) [[18]](#footnote-18)

In summation of Lommel’s book Introduction, he acknowledges that naturalistic scientists define consciousness as being a product of the human brain. With this definition, the brain is a machine controlled by classical physics and chemistry. Therefore, there is no free will with feelings and subjective thoughts being produced by a machine brain. He concludes that this definition has enormous implications for moral responsibility and personal freedom.[[19]](#footnote-19)

It is my opinion that Lommel’s introductory statements are groundbreaking. Despite Lommel’s naturalistic training, he states that he strongly believes “that consciousness cannot be located in a particular time and place”. He calls this observation nonlocality.[[20]](#footnote-20) This statement from a leading respected cardiologist lends great reasonability to life after death. Lommel states that he believes that life is directly tied to consciousness. I found more of Lommel’s medical observation to be applicable to Jesus’ resurrection and God’s design regarding the origin of human life He created. Here is a summary list of questions and statements Lommel writes in the Introduction section of his book.

1. Medical school taught him that cardiac arrest means there is no palpable pulse or blood pressure and the patient is unconscious. Being unconscious means being unaware.[[21]](#footnote-21)
2. According to current medical knowledge it is impossible to experience consciousness when the heart has stopped beathing.[[22]](#footnote-22)
3. During cardiac arrest patients are clinically dead.[[23]](#footnote-23)
4. Seldom received satisfactory answers from a reductionist and materialistic training.[[24]](#footnote-24)
5. In 2005, the journal *Science* published a report on 125 unanswered scientific questions. One question was, what is the biological basis of consciousness?[[25]](#footnote-25)
6. What is the relationship between brain function and consciousness? Can consciousness be experienced after brain is clinically confirmed death[[26]](#footnote-26)
7. Throughout life, 500,000 cells die every second, 30 million every minute, 50 billion every day. These cells are replaced on a daily basis.[[27]](#footnote-27)
8. Who designed the building blocks of cells?[[28]](#footnote-28)
9. NDEs prompted the concept of nonlocal, and endless consciousness, allowing us to understand special states of consciousness, such as mystical and religious experiences, deathbed visions, and postmortem experiences (nonlocal communication, information exchange, perception).[[29]](#footnote-29)
10. Ultimately, we cannot avoid the conclusion that endless consciousness has always been and always will be, independent of the body.[[30]](#footnote-30)

**Lommel’s Empathic NDEs**

Lommel also categorized NDEs. In one of the categories, he uses the word “empathetic” as a title due to a person’s spouse or a close relation dies and the surviving person would report experiences identical to the classic NDE experience.[[31]](#footnote-31) Following is a summary of Lommel’s report about a woman, Anne, who had been killed in an automobile accident. Five days later, her seven-year-old son, who was a passenger in the car, also died. The surviving boyfriend was at the hospital when the son died and witnessed his mother, Anne, in bodily form come to her son in the room. The boyfriend reported that part of him left his body and walked with Anne and her son to a light. At some point, he had to return, and he fell back.

This empathetic NDE raises the question about the ability of human consciousness to project or manifest itself in the flesh after temporal death. This projection is a real body in the flesh that is witnessed by others. The followers of Jesus reported the appearance of Jesus in His resurrected body still bearing the marks of crucifixion (John 20:24-28). There are two points to be considered in Lommel’s report: the ability for a deceased person to appear physically and the ability for a surviving person to see them. Jesus often talked about eyes and ears that were open to the truth could see and hear (Matt. 13:16) His teaching.

Lommel NDE research publicized the idea of nonlocal and endless consciousness which he states opens the door to a wider range of special states of consciousness.[[32]](#footnote-32) The reporting of empathetic NDEs ultimately supports his conclusion that nonlocal and endless consciousness has always been and always will be, independent of the body.[[33]](#footnote-33) By this statement, we are led to focus on God’s creation of man in the beginning with a physical body and a spiritual consciousness that would survive this temporal life to be transitioned to an eternal life. The resurrection of Jesus and NDEs are a witness to God’s eternal life plan. +

**Dr. Nelson: Naturalist’s View of Consciousness**

Neuroloigist Kevin Nelson authored*The Spiritual Doorway in The Brain* who presented a naturalistic worldview to his study and publication.*[[34]](#footnote-34)*

The brainstem’s compactness belies its highly complex anatomy and physiology. It began developing early on in evolution, about 300 million years ago, and it has changed very little from species to species since that time. From rat to human, the brainstem of *all* mammals is curiously similar. The reason for this is that the brainstem’s function is so critical- to get it wrong in even the slightest way is usually incompatible with life itself.[[35]](#footnote-35)

Nelson is a representation of the naturalists’ worldview medicine. However, Nelson still makes statements that lend to Lommel’s observations. The 2005 journal *Science* reported there were 125 unanswered scientific questions. One question was, what is the biological basis of consciousness? Nelson did not give a satisfactory clinical neurology meaning to consciousness. Nelson reports that consciousness is an “awareness of oneself and one’s surroundings and it engages certain brain systems in a certain order. That said, much about how it functions in the physical brain is a mystery and of dizzying complexity.”[[36]](#footnote-36) In addition, Nelson’s grasps for clarity and attempts to explain consciousness by comparing it to dark matter or energy in the universe. He summarizes that consciousness will never be fully understood.[[37]](#footnote-37)

In Nelson’s epilogue, he writes that human spirituality “arises from arousal, limbic system, and reward systems that evolved long before structure made the brain capable of language and reasoning”. Additionally, Nelson states that “we may not be the only primate with spiritual feelings”. He concludes – “why the brain is spiritual will remain for many of us our most treasured mystery. There is room in the brain for faith.” Then he says, “We have one certain fact at hand: we can be conscious. This is a great miracle no matter how it happens.”[[38]](#footnote-38) With this statement, Nelson confines the origin of faith to be in the brain.

My review of Nelson and other naturalists is that they will acknowledge what they do not understand and do intellectual gymnastics like comparing human consciousness to black matter to avoid attributing faith or consciousness to a designer or creator. Nelson is in contrast to Lommel’s view of consciousness as nonlocal and not tied to time and space. Lommel’s view supports, in part, God in the flesh as the resurrected Jesus, whose spiritual consciousness was not dependent on His crucified body to survive as exhibited in NDEs.

**Dr. Eben Alexander**

Dr. Eben Alexander, is the well-known author of *Proof of Heaven*. Alexander’s NDE is well publicized since November 16, 2008, the date he woke up from a weeklong coma caused by *E. coli* bacterial meningoencephalitis.[[39]](#footnote-39) Alexander starts the account of his afterlife experience with a description of his NDE “consciousness, but consciousness without memory or identity”.[[40]](#footnote-40)

In summation, Alexander reported “I didn’t have a body.”[[41]](#footnote-41) The highlights of Alexander’s NDE include that he experienced a place with no time, witnessing all types of animals and environments in a dark place but then he emerged into the opposite of what he had seen. Alexander then describes a light he was drawn to but then he went through the light into a beautiful world like a dream but not a dream.[[42]](#footnote-42)

I will not report the rest of Alexander’s NDE but focus on his own medical observations that witness specifically that consciousness operates outside and is not dependent on the brain. In Appendix B, *Neuroscientific Hypotheses I Considered to Explain My Experience,* Alexander refutes naturalistic explanations for his experience. In summary, Alexander refutes that the brain’s primitive brainstem program and lateral amygdala did not explain the robust, richly interactive nature of the recollections. He also rejects that anesthetic drugs could account for his experience. Alexander wrote that since his auditory and visual neocortex was off the brain’s natural dump of N,N-dimethyltryptamine had no place in the brain to act. He goes on to report that his brainstem was severely damaged and that none of the brain structures could work because the neocortex region was not intact. Since all of the brain’s functions were off during his coma, nothing could account for his experience.[[43]](#footnote-43) I believe all the medical explanations given by Alexander accurately support Lommel’s position that consciousness is nonlocal, timeless, spaceless and operates outside the brain.

**In Review of Doctor’s Research and God’s Eternal Life**

We learn from NDE-OBE accounts like Mary Neal’s that life is created with a consciousness survivability factor. All of the reports highlight human consciousness survivability that exceeds what known in science and medical communities. I see that the key to NDEs and the full design abilities of human beings is to understand eternal life that God created in the beginning. What abilities did God’s created life possess?

The Genesis account of creation reveals that God created people with the intent to live forever with eternal attributes. God created people with physical bodies that could expire, and, at the same time, He created people with the eternal gifts of spirit and a spiritual conscious with awareness to choose Him. Adam and Eve, representing all humanity, rebelled against God’s plan (Gen. 3) and ushered in the expiration era of the human body’s physical death (Gen 2:17). But God did not place an expiration date on their eternal consciousness/spirit. Due to their rebellion, God removed them from the Garden so that they would not eat from tree of life and live forever (Gen. 3:22) in a fallen state separated from Him. This account illustrates God’s intent for people to live forever in a loving relationship with Him. . . not separated from Him.

God created people to possess His eternal love. 1 John 4:8 proclaims, “God is love”, and Genesis 1:26 proclaims that people are created in the “image of God.” Therefore, people are designed with the ability to contain love and all the spiritual gifts (Gal. 5:22) that are part of God’s love-nature. “Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away (1 Cor. 13:8). Romans 8:36 proclaims that nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God. Therefore, God’s eternal gift of love remains with people through temporal death which includes a conscious awareness to worship Him. Revelation 4:10 reveals believer’s conscious awareness to worship God in the afterlife. Dr. Long reports that NDE patients experience an intense generally positive emotions or feelings (76.2% “incredible peace”). The pure peace Long described is brought about by the presence of love which is God. Mary Neal reported she felt a “pure love” when she saw the spiritual beings.[[44]](#footnote-44) Mary Neal was never separated from God’s love.

People who experience NDEs are experiencing a view to the eternal love God created for human beings. The “Life After Death” or NDEs reports are a witness (preview) into our lives beyond our temporal life that God had planned from the beginning of creation. Jesus’ resurrection and appearances are the best witness for our afterlife. . . our eternal lives. For the Christian, the end of temporal life does not have the sting of death (1 Cor. 15-54-55).

**Transformation to Eternal Life**

NDEs-OBEs are a witness that our mortal bodies will be transformed for an eternal life, a resurrected life? In reading the biblical texts, we find that the transition from this temporal life to our eternal life requires our current temporal bodies to be transformed due to their corrupted state (1 Cor. 15:42ff). Before the fall (Gen. 3), Adam and Eve, had an uncorrupted consciousness that God created in them with no awareness of evil. When God instructed Adam not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen 2:17) he had a free-will-choice to make. Obviously, Adam and Eve made the wrong choice and chose to have the knowledge, conscious awareness, of good and evil enter their being. Adam and Eve became consciously aware of sin and their personal knowledge became corrupted. Therefore, there became a spiritual need to be transformed back to a condition acceptable to God. The Apostle Paul writes to the church in Philippi: “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself” (Phil. 3:20-21).

Let us go back to the beginning to understand what God created in people. God created physical human life and “breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a human being” (Gen. 2:7). So, God formed man first but only a form, without life. God willfully breathed life into the form He created. God’s breath of life is the eternal element that transcends temporal death. God’s breath of life is the spiritual conscious component that is implanted in every person and that is the live component in a person that experiences NDEs and OBEs.

**Jesus Witnesses Eternal Consciousness in the Resurrection**

From the biblical account, God incarnated himself in the flesh to be fully human and lived with us (John 1:14). Jesus took on the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. (Phil, 2:7). Therefore, the resurrection demonstrated the eternal life with which God created all humanity when He breathed His breath of life, (God’s eternal spiritual consciousness) into the biological form He created. The resurrection of Jesus, represents eternal life as the embodiment of God’s initial creation of human life. NDEs/OBEs are a direct witness and window into eternal life that was created by God in the beginning. All things were created by Jesus (John 1:1-4) in the beginning because He is God. Therefore, the resurrection is not a one-time event but the living example of eternal life (spiritual consciousness) that is not tied to temporal space and time.

**Conclusion**

The goals of this paper have been reached in that a critical but limited review of the published work of Moody, Lommel, Nelson and Alexander and others cited highlighted the accuracy of NDEs-OBEs. I did not find that these doctors specifically wrote their NDE books to be specifically in support of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. However, unintended, I do find that their reported study and experiences support the eternal spiritual consciousness of human beings God created. Based upon scripture cited in this report, I view life that God created possesses an eternal component of spiritual consciousness that He breathed into people in the beginning (Gen. 2:7). God in the flesh as Jesus demonstrated His retention of eternal life qualities that survived His crucifixion that only come from Him. After Jesus was pronounced dead and removed to the tomb, there were reports by Peter (1 Pet. 3:19) that He visited the rebellious spirits from the days of Noah. In addition, the resurrection appearance reported in the Gospels, life for Jesus is not restrained by a physical body. In Peter’s account, Jesus’ conscious awareness was demonstrated outside of His resurrection appearances just as NDEs-OBEs demonstrate.

The goal of this research paper was to give support that NDEs support the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through scripture, it was cited that God created life by the power of His Spirit to be part of human beings for an eternity. Life is the Spirit of God that makes people have a consciousness, a spiritual consciousness that is aware of events in this life and the next. Jesus’ resurrection and appearances demonstrated His eternal spiritual conscious awareness as to NDEs.

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