Is there life after death?

Week 6...

XI: Let's compare other NDE commonalities to what the bible says...

NDE; Bible:

1...Forgiving John 3:16, 1st John 1:9, Psalm 32:5

2...A better body 1st Corinthians 15:35, 40 & Luke 9:29-30

3...We see ourselves as we really are Ephesians 2:8,10

4...No more pain Psalm 56:8, Isa 63:9 & Rev 21:3-5

5...Most beautiful place imaginable Rev 7:9, 17 21:10 22:1-2 & Isa 65:17-25

6...Welcome home party w/people Gen 25:8, 2nd Sam 12:23 & Luke 16:9

7...Exhilarating, not boring Rev 2:26, 28 & Psalm 16:11

8...Earth is a shadow of heaven Hebrews 8:5 & 9:24

9...A life review Matt 12:36-37, 1st Chron 28:9, Eccel 12:13-14

10...Books in heaven Mal 3:16, Phil 4:3, Rev 13:8 & 20:12, 15 & 21:27

Rev 22:18, 19, Psalm 69:28, 56:8 & 139:16

11...Angels Hebrews 1:14

12...Fallen angels (demons) Ezekiel 28:14-17, Rev 12: 3-7, Isaiah 14: 12-17

2nd Corinthians 11:14-15

13...Rewards & Judgements Rev 2:9-10 & 11:15,18 & 20:11-12, James 1:12

Matt 12:36-37 & 16:27 and 2nd Corinthians 5:10

No other religion has this many direct comparisons with NDE's.

XII: Are there physical explanations for these NDE's?

Yes, there are. Things like oxygen deficiency, CO2 overload, reaction or electrical activity in the brain, hallucinations, etc.

After 30 years of research looking at alternative explanations, oncologist Dr. Jeffery Long concludes that with a flat EEG, that electrical activity in the lower parts of the brain cannot account for the kind of highly lucid and ordered experiences described by NDE-ers. These NDE's are not dreams, hallucinations or any other cause of impaired brain functionings. Dr. Long has collected over 3,000 testimonies on his website.

XIII: Conclusion...

Those who have NDE's may truly be seeing Jesus but that does not guarantee that they will be with Him in heaven. Judas was chosen by Jesus, saw His miracles, felt His love and yet he rejected Him. Seeing is NOT believing. Seeing Him and feeling His love does not mean that a person will accept Him into their lives.

Well-known atheist, A.J. Ayer, had an NDE. He believed that he saw Jesus, yet he recoiled at His light. He turned away from Jesus. Revelation 1:7 says that "Every eye will see Him – even those who pierced Him." It would be a very bad assumption to presume that people

who have seen Jesus in an NDE will automatically accept Him into their lives to forgive their sins. They may talk of seeing God and of all the love that they experienced but if they don't go one step further and receive Him into their lives, the NDE just isn't enough. I cannot imagine how anyone would have an NDE and not want more of Jesus, but it has happened.

Many researchers say that no judgement is mentioned in an NDE, but they mis-understand when judgement occurs. It happens at the end of time. One judgement determines where we will spend eternity (Daniel 12:2). The other judgement, the bema seat of Christ, determines the rewards believers will receive in heaven for our faithful service to Jesus while on Earth (2nd Corinthians 5:10)

When we witness to people, do we always tell them all aspects of Christianity at one time? An NDE seems to be a glimpse of heaven, not a course in theology.

With all the other physical phenomena not able to explain an NDE, it definitely seems that they are valid experiences. The two questions are how will people interpret them and what will they do with their experience? Many people have turned their life over to Jesus but some have not. Those that have, have experienced a new life that has given them meaning and purpose. He has changed the course of their life. But then, that's what He is all about.

1st John 5:11, 13 says "...God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son...I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life." Revelation 21:6 says, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life." Revelation 22:17 says, "The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!". And let the one who hears say "Come!". Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life".

References:

Books;

"Imagine Heaven" by John Burke

"What's after Life" by John Burke, this is a shortened version of "Imagine Heaven"

"90 minutes in Heaven" by Don Piper

"Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo

Websites;

Near Death Experiences - Think Biblically - Biola University (podcast)

'Brilliant Man of Light': What 1,000 Near Death Experiences Can Teach Us About Life After Death | CBN News Near death experiences (cmf.org.uk)

https://www.impact360institute.org/podcasts/how-should-christians-think-about-near-death-experiences-with-gary-habermas/