

**Review: Phillip J. Stewart, *The Edge of Death: Have Some People Been There and Back?*, IVP, Downers Grove, IL, 1978**

Pages: 96

**The Edge of Safe Doctrine**

This surveys the leading names of NDE and OBE research, revealing some common threads: a light being; feeling of timelessness; no judgment (i.e. Hell); and teaching a new age secular religion.

The facts reported by experiencers do defy materialistic thinking, refuting Atheism. However, when looked at Biblically, it is hard to see many as anything other than occult visits from devils in disguise.

The safest course is admitting their reality while rejecting their revelations as anything to compete with Biblical revelation.

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**I) The Inviting Darkness: Introduction (pp. 1-12)**

**II) The Near-Death Experience: Raymond A. Moody, Jr. (pp. 13-23)**

Hearing is often the last sense to be lost before death.

OBEs feel like they are suspended in time.

Communication with a being of light is reported as occurring via thought transfer, by which there is no possibility of misunderstanding or lying.

The being often gives a thought, “Are you prepared to die” ... What have you done with your life that is sufficient?”

“In most cases, the reward-punishment model of the afterlife is abandoned and disavowed.”

Moody denied a hell.

Physicians were amazed patients with no medical training could describe procedures while dead or in a coma.

Moody did not perform a scientific study.

### **III) Beyond Death and Dying: Elisabeth Kubler-Ross (pp. 24-31)**

Ross: “I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that there is life after death.”

Russians have experienced with Krillian photography claiming to record the aura of people.

She claims to have experienced “cosmic consciousness”.

In 1976, Ross was visited by her spirit guide Sales and his two companions, Anka and Willie, at 3am. She described the experience as tender and loving.

### **IV) Journeys Out of the Body: Robert A. Monroe (pp. 32-40)**

Monroe visited “Locale II” where he encountered intelligent forces far beyond humans, which was impersonal and cold.

In one OBE, he pinched a lady who later said she felt it.

M-5000 teaches people how to achieve OBEs. He is connected to Ross via this group.

### **V) Testing the Spirits: An Evaluation (pp. 41-71)**

Moody’s four death definitions are: vital sign absence; brain wave absence; impossibility of physical resuscitation; and separation of mind from body.

Experiencers describe the Light Being as one who is totally trustworthy, who only responds with understanding at often humour.

“I felt myself die. Suddenly I knew I was in heaven. Heaven was green in colour.”

## **VI) A Starting Point: Some Conclusions (pp. 72-96)**

Moody ignores the possibility of Satanic deception.

Archie Matson in *Afterlife*, “Hell is a temporary state, lasting until we have had enough and are ready to change.”