

Interview: 11/13/08 Melvin Morse, M.D.

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**Dr. Morse,**

**You have researched the near death experience for how many years?**

25 years

**You initially saved a young girl who had drowned from dying. What about that experience, led you to begin the near death experience research (NDE)?**

I was working as a resident pediatric neurologist. A young girl described her own resuscitation: she heard nurses talk about their cat; she said, "You talked to my parents and told them I would die." I was astonished by this, because it conflicted with what I'd been taught—that coma wipes clean the slate of consciousness.

**How many more children who have experienced NDEs have you spoken with over the years?**

Hundreds

For the formal study we spoke with 26 children and we documented those who had survived cardiac arrest. We asked them what they remembered. One in particular stands out in my memory. We had to put a needle in a girl's heart to resuscitate her and she saw her grandmother sitting near her. Another child recalls traveling through a noodle with lights (a tunnel). It's not uncommon for children to say, "That was weird, you just sucked me back into my body."

We learn from studying the near death experience that consciousness comes before the brain, and can exist without a functioning brain. (at least 12 doctors have published this evidence in medical journals).

### **Do they all see Jesus or visit Heaven?**

They have a variety of experiences. They often see Jesus and visit heaven, but also see their pets. Most commonly they see a loving light. (that "has a lot of good things in it).

I feel so fortunate to have heard these experiences told to me directly by these children often the first time they have ever discussed the experiences.

## **Why do some children return to life here on Earth, and others do not?**

It's not really a choice. Only American children report this choice. In Japan and Africa, we did not hear about this choice.

I have often wondered if the children really have a choice at all, or if that isn't just another way of understanding the experience. For example, the other day my little daughter was playing outside, and I asked her if she wanted to come in, and she said, "No I don't." Of course, I just went out and picked her up, carrying her inside. I gave her a "choice" but it really wasn't one at all. On my website [spiritualscientific.com](http://spiritualscientific.com), I have an article under downloads, on "Why all the children don't "choose" to return from heaven.

This is a very painful and poignant issue, as of course many many grieving parents, on hearing that children choose to return to their families will wonder why their own child didn't make such a "choice", which can make grieving all that much more complicated.

The experience needs to be understood from a cultural and personal viewpoint. We learn things when we die. It's a learning experience. There are so many cultural variants.

Choice is an important issue to Americans. And it's a part of the fabric of living or dying.

**Your book, *Parting Visions*, explains that our right temporal lobe is the part of our brain which experiences "God." I have read that we normally do not use this part of our brain, but epileptics, autistics, and some with Asperger's have utilized their right temporal lobes. What can you tell me about this?**

The key to new therapies for autism could arise out of research from the NDE/right temporal lobe. What I specifically mean is that patients with the autism spectrum disorder often have unusual talents such as the ability to instantly recognize large prime numbers, or extraordinary mathematical calculations. Our conventional knowledge of brain science cannot explain how they can access this information. Perhaps (a speculation) if they are using their right temporal lobes to an excess, and can access a universal source of information, this is interfering with their ability to use their entire brain in a functional way, and may contribute to autism.

We are learning more and more about how the right side of the brain can access information, and we can use that knowledge for new therapies. For example, one of the best documented treatments for post traumatic stress syndrome is EMDR, a therapy which involves using eye movements to access

information in the right side of the brain, and transferring it to the left side of the brain so it can be better processed.

As we learn more and more about our underused right side of the brain, especially the right temporal lobe, I am convinced that disorders such as autism will be better understood.

Remember, autism, at its core, is a disorder of language processing, which implies an underdeveloped left temporal lobe and (my speculation) an overdeveloped right temporal lobe.

### **What else is our right temporal lobe capable of?**

In fact, the out of body experience can be practiced and utilized. Did you know that our military has developed a technique called remote viewing? It is a means to “see” what is happening without actually being in the location or even using a camera. Humans “see” the situation with their minds.

The right temporal lobe is clearly capable of allowing us to access and use an enormous amount of information from the world at large, information not accessible by the ordinary senses.

If we can use our minds, as the military does, to see and prevent hostage situations throughout the world, just think what other purposes we could use our minds for.

We could, for example, use this same military technology to “remote view” or see tiny cancers or tumors within our bodies, or access information about our genetic code.

This is already being done by commercial remote viewers who are being paid tens of thousands of dollars for their services. For example, they will remote view microchips and “see” what is wrong with them, or problem solve design flaws, saving companies millions of dollars in research and development costs.

The right temporal lobe is capable of accessing our universal memory records or the universal memory bank. It gives scientific credibility to the concept that we could, for example, access information about people who have died (déjà vu experiences). After all, their lives are information, and we apparently have the ability to use our right temporal lobe to tap into a source of unlimited information.

I realize this is new information for many of those reading this interview. Please go to my website [spiritualscientific.com](http://spiritualscientific.com) where I have post two entire remote viewing sessions I

personally did, that were both direct hits. You can see for yourself that it is a process that anyone can learn to do.

**Not long ago my husband's uncle had a severe stroke. I asked my husband's cousin about his father's health. How was his father? I was told that he was recovering, but the uncle was behaving strangely. He was holding out his hand regularly to his sister. However, I knew his sister, and she was dead. I cried a few tears (knowing the reason for the uncle's behavior) and told the cousin to go visit his father soon. Not long after it was discovered that our uncle had brain cancer. Dr. Morse, Why do so many of the dying see those who have passed on before.**

When we die, we helped by "something" throughout the experience. We do not die alone. Some sort of a helper or greeter comes to us, and stays with us throughout the experience.

For many, it is someone they loved, who previously died. We don't know, of course, if it really is that actual person, or if the helper simply takes a form we are comfortable with.

Children often see pets, stuffed animals, and even living teachers and friends.

One of my favorite stories is that of a young girl who told me that a nurse held her hand throughout her near death and successful resuscitation. “She was just so nice, and made me feel so good” she told me. However, I was present at that resuscitation, and no such “real” nurse was present.

It was this same “greeter” or “helper” in a form this child could understand.

### **Dr. Morse, what are you doing now in your work?**

I have two main focuses to my current research and work.

1. I want to continue to learn myself and share with others what are the real lessons of the light, from those who have nearly died and returned to life. What can we learn about living from those who have nearly died? How can we apply these lessons of love to our own lives and transform ourselves?
2. I want to continue to research if the near death experience is “real”. I want to continue to document and publish in mainstream medical and scientific journals information about the science of spirituality, consciousness, and god. Yes, we now have an established “science of god”, although probably only a dozen mainstream scientists are actively researching this. That



is why I founded “spiritualscientific” as it is an academic institution without walls. We routinely interact with scientists from China to Brazil to Europe on these issues.

### **What can we still learn about death from the dying?**

1. The process of dying is a spiritual experience. People who've had a near death experience do not fear death any longer.
2. I have a video on site by a physician who was almost murdered. He was embraced by sea of love when he experienced his near death experience. He works to help those who have lost a loved one to murder.
3. Death is a transition—this awareness helps us to live better lives.

### **On average, how many people will undergo a NDE?**

All of us, when we die, it's the dying experience. Studies show that 5-7% of adults have had an NDE.

### **What is the light?**

I don't know, but children call it God.

## **What causes precognitive dreams?**

Precognitive dreams (dreams of the future that come true) are a normal phenomena mediated by our right temporal lobe. All of these experiences (near death experiences, premonitions of the future, déjà vu experiences, past life memories, vivid or lucid dreams, visions of angels and spiritual experiences and intuition) are mediated by this same source. We're constantly accessing this information from a timeless reality.

It is important to learn how these experiences may present themselves very differently in different people person. Just as one person is a visual thinker, and another an auditory learner, we process spiritual visions in distinct and different ways. We did a study of mothers whose children had died from SIDS. Many of them had had premonitions—sometimes as dreams, sometimes as a vision, a voice, or they felt physically sick. So, if you wanting to understand your own spiritual experiences, remember you might not see an angel. A feeling of dread may be your experience instead.

## **I have read that you believe our memories may be stored outside of our bodies.**

It is not really a belief, but more of a scientific speculation. I am not alone in this, a recent review of memory in the medical

literature concluded that the concept that memories are stored in the brain is an established scientific myth that has no evidence to back it up.

We have no idea how long term memory is stored in the brain—absolutely none. There’s no modern theory. Bruce Greyson (Professor Emeritus Psychiatry at the University of Virginia) also concluded that memory in the brain is a scientific myth, in his book *The Irreducible Mind* (2008). Right now, memory work is being explored in Boston, using computer models. We’re inching toward being able to download memory from the brain! If we can download memory from the brain, then it is respectable to suppose we can “upload” memory to the “Universal memory banks”. Remember the Universe is the ultimate binary system in that all matter is entangled “particles or waveforms”.

Here’s another unique viewpoint with which problems with memory could be solved:

Currently, we believe (it’s not factual) in upward causation (everything flows from the bottom to the top). Upward Causation, states that, for example, atoms are building blocks of molecules, which build up to become cells. These cells are the building blocks of larger organisms. We as humans are built of these smaller units, and the brain creates consciousness or spirit and links with our God and leaves our body (spirit).

This viewpoint has resulted in enormous tension between the scientific community, which believes that the brain then creates consciousness and our spiritual beliefs; and those who believe in a god or a soul which could function independent of the body.

However, theoretical physicists have known for 75 years, that a timeless, space less universe exists called Quantum Non-Locality. Many theoretical physicists see the basis of reality actually consisting of a web of possibilities where all information aspects of reality are happening all at once. What we think of as “matter”, is actually curved space that consists of particles of light and energy which can also express themselves as solid matter!

For these physicists, we can look at “reality in an entirely different way. Instead of starting with tiny particles and building the universe from them, instead, they start with this “non-local universe” in which consciousness, energy, time, space, and particles of matter are all “entangled”.

They call this “Downward Causation”. This universe of possibility and consciousness is then expressed through a brain. The brain then needs a “local” reality to interact with, and that local reality is made of the various building blocks of reality we are all so familiar with, cells, molecules, and atoms. In this view of reality, the subatomic particles come last! Protons and

electrons are the flowers of a reality that began with the seeds of consciousness expressed through the brain.

For those who call God all knowing, this is the same as Quantum Non-Locality.

### **Dr. Morse, why aren't these topics taught in school?**

Currently, we live in a world that pits science against spirit. And molecular biologists and theoretical physicists still need to get together and find a way to explain Downward Causation/Quantum Non-Locality to the public.

We are in the middle of a Paradigm Shift, in which people are discarding old ideas of reality—materialistic ideas—that we are made only of atoms and not connected (Darwinian ideas). Modern biologists no longer believe in Darwin. They follow Downward Causation. Rupert Sheldrake is a cutting edge evolutionary biologist who is developing this. Another well known researcher is Amit Goswami from the University of Oregon.

### **Will the brain grow with this shift.**

The brain in this form hasn't really changed. For the first 140,000 years, our brain was right-based. People felt directly connected to God and Quantum Non-Locality. Then 3000 to 4000 thousand years before Christ, written language was

invented. Communication developed as did the left brain. Ideas that people knew changed. It also changed our consciousness. Now brain integration—right and left functioning together is happening which is the speeding up of intellectual consciousness.

**Dr. Morse, what is the cause of this integration?**

No one really knows.

However, we see a constant evolution not only in the specific Darwinian sense of the evolution of the species, but also in a greater sense, of the evolution of ideas, and ethics, and the spirituality of man. Scientific American recently had an entire edition devoted to evolution, in which they pointed out that society and ideas also evolve.

The only constant in life is change, and that change seems to be towards a greater sense of spirituality and consciousness, towards greater complexity and integration of community and consciousness.

Thank you for this wonderful interview.

Please visit me at [spiritualscientific.com](http://spiritualscientific.com) or [melvinmorse.com](http://melvinmorse.com)