

Out of Body Experiences

by Fred DeRuvo - Study-Grow-Know Ministries

In the book of Revelation, either the apostle John saw what appeared to be complete visions of the future in his mind, or God literally took him to heaven to see it firsthand. If the former, then it is clear that the vision itself was extremely realistic. If the latter, then God protected his body from corruption and destruction when taken out of these three dimensions while he saw what God was going to do in the future. There are many times when John states he was "*taken in spirit*" out of the body or to the throne of God, etc., in the book of Revelation.

We know from Satan's track record in Scripture that he wants more than anything for as many people as possible to attempt to circumvent God's prescribed will for their life. He does not want people to become authentically saved. That's the last thing he wants and to that end, he has created a lie that is so vast and so multi-layered that the lie itself appears to be absolutely real. Because of that, distinction for most cannot be made between the falsehoods he has created and reality that exists.

Satan knows all too well that people cannot leave our three dimensions for any others. We are at present not built that way. However, that does not stop him from his attempts to replicate those dimensions with as much reality as possible *in a person's mind*. While I am aware that some people have had items implanted in their bodies, those things are easily done by Satan as well.

Think of how easily Satan created a tornado that took the lives of Job's children (cf. Job 1). Consider how Satan was able to gather troops to rise against Job's servants and to take what belonged to Job. Here is a being that has retained much of his original power with only his loyalty simply change sides from God to himself. We have no true understanding of what Satan is capable of doing, but it would appear from the glimpses we are given in Scripture that he has *tremendous* power and ability.

Could he use this power to create a reality for people that, while that reality may actually exist in one form or another, does not involve taking people *into* that reality? Could he not simply recreate that reality, or even create a powerful *lie* that appears to be real, in someone's brain? I believe he can easily do so and the more people who seek after this type of experience, the better he is able to create it because he now has their *cooperation*, whether they recognize that or not.

In Job 7, Job briefly describes the hallucinations he experienced at the hand of Satan. As he cried out to God, he said, "*Then thou scarest me with dreams, and terrifiest me through*

visions: So that my soul chooseth strangling, and death rather than my life” (Job 7:14-15). If Job became so afraid that he wanted death rather than life, the dreams and visions that terrified him must have been traumatic to say the least! What he saw we do not know, but it was realistic.

I firmly believe that many of the horror movies that have been produced have originated not in people’s brains, but with Satan’s ideas; ideas he then *planted* in the brains of people who could make them happen. Think of some of the movies that have been produced within the past few years. Many of these movies blur the line completely between good and evil and often promote evil as good. Beyond this, the amount of gore and fright has exponentially increased over time, leaving little to nothing to the imagination. With the rise of digital special effects, nearly anything that can be imagined can be created for the screen.

Years ago, a “jump” scene was when someone or something jumped out from nowhere, scaring the audience with a jump. That’s passe now and nothing short of gore-filled scenes will satisfy anymore.

More movies being made today deal with the supernatural, zombies, the devil himself, fallen angels, good angels, demons, and the like. People are getting so used to seeing these images on the screen that it would probably surprise very few if they ran into the actual beings on the street some day.

Where exactly do these filmmakers obtain their images for the beings and entities they bring to life on the screen? Where else could they possibly come from except from the beings themselves who exist in other dimensions? Whether they look like that or not is really not the point. The point is that these beings know how to scare human beings.

A number of years ago, a movie called *The Devil’s Advocate* was produced, starring Al Pacino. The film portrayed Pacino as Satan, who turns out to be the father of Keanu Reeve’s character, Kevin Lomax. I watched it because I wanted to see exactly how the supernatural would be portrayed. I knew people in the special effects industry in Hollywood and was also able to learn how some of those effects were done.

There were a few scenes that stuck out in my mind from the movie. One of them was when one of the women in the movie was trying on dresses with a friend. The first woman was either possessed or demonized. While she was talking to the friend, invisible hands started moving all over her body and the indentations those hands made on her skin became obvious.

In one other scene, a man in the law firm (the entire movie revolved around a particular law firm) had outlived his usefulness and while jogging through Central Park one

afternoon, he was attacked by two indigent men. During the attack, their faces changed from human-looking to absolutely demonic. The effect was seamless, and I learned later it was done largely with remote-control masks the actors wore during the scene. From watching the movie, no one would have guessed that this is how it was accomplished. It simply appeared that the true identity of beings that motivated the homeless men snuck through into our reality or dimension for just a moment.

Science tells us that we only use roughly ten percent of our brain at most. If this is true, then what about the other ninety percent that is *not* being used? Does Satan have access to it directly or indirectly? Can he send images into parts of our brain that will appear to be extremely real, that people react to as if they *are* real?

I recently marveled at the quality of animation with the movie *Tangled*. When I was a kid animation was good because there were enough still image frames per second to create what appeared to be smooth action on the screen. As time progressed, cartoons and animation in general became much more jerky in movement in style. This was done to save money (using fewer frames) and for no other reason.

Enter the age of digital filmmaking. Movies like *Star Wars* and others broke ground with startling special effects. This made it possible to do things inside a computer that cost far less than to have a master modelmaker build a miniature set. While miniatures still needed to be built and used for filming, digital effects made it possible to achieve quality film sequences without spending a ton of money and also made it far safer for actors and stunt people.

However, even those early effects compared to what is now able to be produced pale in comparison. Early on, it was difficult at best to create realistic-looking water or fire sequences, for instance. That is now a thing of the past, as can be clearly seen in any number of recent animated movies. The quality and realism is nothing less than breathtaking.

We'll continue on with this subject next time. Until we meet again, I pray that God will open your eyes to show you how blessed you are in Him!