

# Review of: "God's characteristics as reported by near-death experiencers"

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Thank you for trusting me to review this article.

This article, referring to Long & Perry (2016) about God through Near-Death Experiences (NDEs) that occur in someone who is not life-threatening. In essence, a comparison of the characteristics of true near-death and near-death-like experiences has revealed no differences (Charland-Verville et al., 2014) (see second and last paragraph in the introduction). Based on the abstract, the characteristics of God are mental states in spiritual/mystical experience that provide an excellent resource for scientific inquiry into the nature of God. In my view, the existence of God with this spiritual/mystical experience, although there is no definite answer, cannot be denied. It is the soul and is very dependent on the experience in question.

That is summarized in the author's analysis: ID 3119: "The light is so bright and pervasive, I think it is power. Then I realized that it was Love. There is no judgment of any kind, there is only unbelievable Love," Then, ID 688: "As I enter the Light, to merge with the Light." This describes the perfect experience of people who believe in God or Jesus Himself. This condition is also summarized in the results: 84.5% found God, 14.8% found Jesus, and 0.07% were not sure whether Jesus or God. That situation is parallel to Table 1 and Figure 1. In essence, this situation is parallel to the denial of God and Jesus. That means that God is not necessarily Jesus or vice versa.

In my opinion, this situation is common nowadays, especially in developed countries where economic life is getting better, supported by the latest technology and research. As a consequence, even though they are not sure that God is Jesus, people believe in God's existence. This parallels Long (2022) where 93.8% (782/834) believed that the PHM they experienced was really real. I realize that this study does not dare to truly confirm whether the existence of God is Jesus or not.

As the author admits, this study contributes to whether God exists and what his characteristics are and obtains responses that are usually available in textbooks, official and unofficial texts in all religions and spiritual traditions. I agree with this statement, however, as an academic study, the author should boldly lay out the position of this study, not just review it.

My final comment is, is this study actually to position spiritual traditions or divine religion? In my opinion, they are both different!

