## FURTURE FLIGHT

By Brooks A. Harris, O.D. 02/20/2021

Ever since I was a child, I have had occasional dreams where I was able to fly. My earliest remembrance of flyingdreams are when I was probably about ten years old. My dad had built wooden stilts, for my sister and I, out of a triangular piece of 2"x4" screwed into a 6 foot long 2"x2" square pole. With two of these stilts, we would take turns trying to walk with them. We would prop the stilts up against our swing set, right outside the kitchen window, so our parents could watch us as we made many attempts. We had to grip the poles tightly so they would not twist around making us fall. Then we had to lean forward, and as we started to fall forward, we had to quickly lean to the left side a bit, and pick up the right stilt by lifting the right foot (without losing contact with the triangular platform) and pulling the pole up with the right hand. Then we had to move the bottom tip of the stilt to about one foot in front of us, while trying to maintain our balance so we would not fall forward, backward or sideways. Within time, we were able to walk across the gravel driveway and all over the back yard. With the triangular foot platforms about two feet off the ground, we felt like we were gliding over the ground as we walked with them.

During this stilt-walking period of my life, I began to dream about my stilt-walking. But in my dreams, I could effortlessly walk and even run with my stilts. This is when my dreams took me to a whole new level of amazement and pleasure. Once I had picked up enough speed – running with my stilts, I would let go of them and start flying. I flew pretty well, high above the trees, until I would look straight down. This often caused me to sort of stumble in my flight and I'd fall faster and faster toward earth. I always woke up before I hit the ground. As I got older and dreamed about flying, I no longer needed my stilts to take off and no longer fell from the sky. As an adult, I still occasionally have dreams of flying, but they are usually more subtle, as just gliding down a long set of stairs without really touching the steps, or like last night when I floated straight up from the ground floor to a balcony-like area, then glided back down in a circling angle.

Now, there are other occurrences in people's lives where they experience flying or hovering over the ground. Although I have only had a few people actually share their personal experience of this with me, I have read of many such experiences. In the book <u>Imagine Heaven</u> by John Burke, he documents many such occurrences from all over the world. These experiences are called Near-Death Experiences (NDE's) and usually occur when someone is "clinically dead", when their heart stops pumping for a period of time. These usually occur during surgeries or after a bad accident.

Many people who have had NDE's, report rising above the surgical table or above the accident scene, to see their life-less body and see other people around their body. One of my patients even reported to me that while he was being operated on, he recalls rising above the table and seeing his body and seeing the doctor and nurses working on him and recalls exactly what they were saying. Then he drifted through a wall into the hallway where he saw people he knew. Then he drifted into a waiting room which he had never seen before. Later when he was awake and recovering, he was able to report in amazingly accurate detail to several people what he had seen and conversations he had heard from the hallway and waiting room. (To see an article about this, go to my website <u>www.BiblicalReliability.com</u> and Select "Article Topics" > What Our Near Future & Eternal Life May Be Like > *Life In The Future* > "Life Soon After Death".)

Occurrences like this are quite common and have provided proof to me that we have a spirit which leaves our body when we die. And apparently since our spirit has no bodily mass, it is able to float, glide and even fly. Amazingly too though, it is able to see, hear and remember even without any physical eyes, ears or brain (just like the Holy Spirit, I presume).

So, this brings me to a question I have always had about our eternal heavenly existence: "Will we be able to Fly?". I can't be sure, but I look forward to finding out. I believe that as long as we are in spirit form, we will probably have the ability to hover, glide or even fly in heaven. And with what I have learned about heaven (from the Bible and hearing from those who have had NDE's), I really look forward to my eternal future and possible future flight.