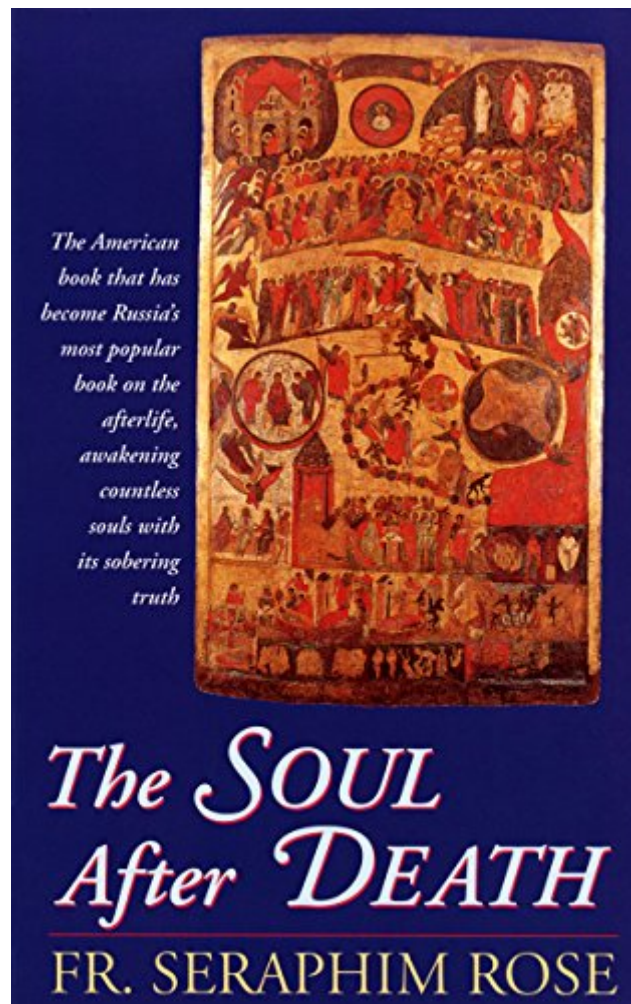


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# The Soul After Death



## Synopsis

The spiritual realm after death defies observation, yet mankind persists in its desire to peer beyond this threshold—a threshold through which we all must pass. “You will not die. Your body will die, but you will go over into a different world, being alive, remembering yourself and recognizing the whole world that surrounds you.” St. Theophan the Recluse, 19th Century

THE SOUL AFTER DEATH is a comprehensive presentation of the 2,000-year-old experience of Orthodox Christianity regarding the existence of the other world, addressing contemporary “after-death” and “out-of-body” experiences, the teachings of traditional Oriental religions and those of more recent occult societies. Although the mystery of what lies beyond the veil of death is not fully visible to us in this life, nonetheless, writings and teachings of ancient Christianity dating from the first century have proven timeless and straightforward, yielding sound insights into the spiritual world beyond death. From the firm foundation of Orthodox patristic teaching, Fr. Seraphim Rose offers an interpretation of the meaning of the contemporary experiences which have been publicized by Drs. Kubler-Ross, Moody, Osis and Haraldsson, and other researchers. “He who has the memory of death as his constant companion, painfully seeks to learn what awaits him after departure from this life.” St. Symeon the New Theologian, 11th Century

Principal teachings of Orthodox Christianity concerning the properties of the soul after death are presented in a clear concise manner, as taught by Church fathers and teachers of the early centuries. THE SOUL AFTER DEATH offers an undiluted draught of pristine, mystical Christianity as it has existed since the time of Christ.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Fr. Seraphim Rose's *The Soul After Death* is a significant work on eschatology. It addresses the eternally important question of what happens to us when we die. Fr. Seraphim (a Russian Orthodox monk) wrote this book in the late 1970s originally as a series in his periodical *The Orthodox Word* in response to a wave popular books and research that was published on "after death" and "out of body" experiences. He makes frequent reference to the cases catalogued and examined in Dr. Kubler-Ross' work, *On Death and Dying* (1969). These incidents were of particular interest to Fr. Seraphim who sought to interpret them in terms of traditional Eastern Orthodox theology. Many patients in hospitals have reported seeing beautiful fields and "paradises" while they are either unconscious or "clinically dead" before they are resuscitated. These visions are often accompanied by experiences of beautiful light and a being that approaches them with "love." In contrast, Some reports on this "other world" are sinister, which may indicate a foretaste of hell. Other visions include individuals "floating" above their own bodies while they are unconscious and seeing doctors and loved ones around them. Some even experience talking to "angelic beings" of different sorts and visiting physical proximities familiar to themselves while they were still alive. In spite of all of the speculations about this mysterious realm, Fr. Seraphim affirms that it lies in a sphere of existence between the physical earth and heaven and hell inhabited by the demons/fallen angels. He notes how mystical occult adepts have been able to travel in this realm, as evident in the writings of Emmanuel Swedenborg (a seventeenth century Swede) and the 19th century Theosophists and spiritists.

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