

*In a lifelong struggle to balance his faith and love for science, David Brinkman's life would take a dramatic change when his father was taken away. In an attempt to honor his dad, and guided by miraculous events, he would solve history mysteries and find the real truth of life.*

## **Miracles to Yesterday: Science and Faith Come Back Together**

by David Brinkman

**Order the complete book from the publisher  
[Booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com)**

<http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9859.html?s=pdf>

**or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**

# Miracles To Yesterday

Science and Faith Come Back Together



David Brinkman

Copyright © 2018 David Brinkman

ISBN: 978-1-63492-979-0

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without prior written permission from the publisher except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews.

Published by HistorySoft, LLC

Printed on acid-free paper.

Notice: The information in this book is correct and complete to the best of our knowledge. It is provided without a guarantee by the author or HistorySoft. The author and HistorySoft disclaim all liability in connection with the use of this book.

HistorySoft, LLC  
Cayce, SC 29033  
[www.historysoft.com](http://www.historysoft.com)  
2018

First Edition

All Figures in this book (photos and illustrations) are by the David  
Brinkman family unless otherwise noted.

Copyedit by:

Joey Holleman  
Greg Porr  
DC Locke

## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Chapter 1 – Science .....	3
Chapter 2 – Faith.....	7
Chapter 3 – A Father to Many.....	25
Chapter 4 – The History Begins: Attack Transport APA-154 (The USS Lowndes).....	31
Chapter 5 – Researching the Greatest Generation: A Historian is born.....	69
Chapter 6 – A Lot of History on the River.....	95
Chapter 7 – A Story of Broad Crossings.....	101
Chapter 8 – Heaven drops a Survey.....	123
Chapter 9 – The Story of Sherman’s Crossing.....	145
Chapter 10 - The Lourdes of Granby.....	155
Chapter 11 – A Story of Granby.....	165
Chapter 12 – The King is Found.....	217
Chapter 13 – A King’s Match in America.....	229
Chapter 14 – A Fort is Found.....	245
Chapter 15 – A Story of Fort Congaree II.....	261
Chapter 16 – A State House and Tavern are Found .....	273
Chapter 17 – Miracles to Come? Was the Truth and Justice in the Old State House?.....	287
Chapter 18 – A Career Cut Short and the Calling.....	307
Chapter 19 – Miracles or not?.....	317
Chapter 20 – A Final Tribute and Miracle .....	333
APPENDIX A: The History Timeline of Miracles to Yesterday.....	341
APPENDIX B: History Corrected in Miracles to Yesterday .....	347
APPENDIX C: The USS Lowndes Ship and Beach Party .....	349

*Miracles to Yesterday*

APPENDIX D: The people of Sarah Friday's 1810 Granby.....	353
Samuel Johnston home site .....	354
The Cake Shop site.....	356
The Tobacco Inspection and storage facility .....	357
The Town Well site.....	357
Lewis Pou home site.....	358
Abraham Geiger site.....	359
James/John Patton's store site .....	360
Means store site .....	360
Bell's store site .....	361
Granby Courthouse site .....	364
Seibels Burying ground site .....	365
Seibels store site .....	366
Hane home site .....	367
Hane Burying ground site.....	368
Muller's store site .....	370
Henry Muller home site.....	370
Hane Salt house site .....	371
Burk's store site .....	371
Toy store site .....	372
Mill site .....	373
Distillery site .....	374
Peter the Barber site .....	375
Jesse Sharp site.....	375
Friday's Entertainments site.....	375
Mr. Cayce (Fort Granby) site .....	377
Mr. Cayce's store site .....	379
Black Smith site #1.....	379

*Science and Faith Come Back Together*

Black Smith site #2 .....	379
Captain John Hart home .....	380
APPENDIX E: Those that Dig History.....	385
INDEX.....	393

## Chapter 1 – Science

In 2008, I was invited to attend a meeting of the Greater Piedmont Chapter of the Explorers Club. In their own words: “The Explorers Club is an international multidisciplinary professional society dedicated to the advancement of field research and the ideal that it is vital to preserve the instinct to explore. Since its inception in 1904, the Club has served as a meeting point and unifying force for explorers and scientists worldwide.”<sup>3</sup>

Members of the Club include the first to the North Pole, first to the South Pole, first to the summit of Mount Everest, first to the deepest point in the ocean, and first to the surface of the moon. In fact, Neil Armstrong was a member of the Greater Piedmont Chapter, which is based in Columbia, South Carolina. In more recent times, the Club’s membership has grown dramatically in the professional scientific fields. I was immediately impressed with the members, many of whom were distinguished scientists with the University of South Carolina. I applied for membership and was accepted based on my recent historical discoveries.

Over the years, I met some fascinating and brilliant people in the Club. I was soon selected and served as the two-time chairman of the chapter. It was then that a reality check set in. After the death of a member’s spouse, I sent an email to the members and friends of the chapter asking them to keep the family of this member in their thoughts and prayers. One esteemed Ph.D. friend of the chapter (not an official club member) responded and told me that he was very disappointed in me. He said, “Do you really believe in that crap? Prayers and god? I expected more of you.”

It was at this point that I realized I might have wrongly placed some of these academic people on a pedestal, and I began to take a closer look at the real value these people had given to our society. I even asked the same questions of myself. Fortunately, our members, and most friends of the club, rose above this unhappy individual, but in general I could see the members and friends were dominated by an unambiguous scientific mindset. Brilliant in their own scientific fields, they had difficulty accepting anything that science could not prove. Well, there are many things in the world and the universe that science cannot explain.

---

<sup>3</sup> The Explorers Club: <https://explorers.org/>

The experience reminded me of the last year of the great American scientist Carl Sagan. Sagan, who did not believe in God, had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Reaching for a hope that science could not give him, he attempted to find proof of God. Of course, in the end Sagan could not find it. He documented that he had dedicated his life to the scientific method and would not give up on that.<sup>4</sup>

Ten years before his death, Sagan wrote the novel “Contact,” which was turned into a movie shortly after his death in 1996. The movie’s main character is Ellie (played in the movie by Jodie Foster). Ellie’s father died while she was young, but he managed to inspire her to become a scientist. Years later, while preparing for an experiment that might allow Ellie to remotely communicate with a more advanced alien life-form, she meets her old boyfriend Palmer (played by Matthew McConaughey), who has become an evangelist. When she challenges him with a question similar to “do you really believe in that faith crap,” Palmer’s response was another question: “Did you love your father?” She responds with, “Of course I loved him.” Palmer then asks her to prove it. Of course, Ellie’s science could not prove that.

The alien worm-hole experiment was a success, and Ellie met with an alien higher intelligence that manifested itself, through the use of her memories, in the image of her father. Ironically, the many minutes of her encounter were instantaneous to the scientists observing the experiment on Earth. Without any recorded data, Ellie had no way to prove her encounter, and the project was ruled a failure in the scientific community and in the courtroom. Ellie’s passion for science would continue, but she would never be able to prove her extraterrestrial experience. It would be a truth and faith that only she could hold.

Before his death in October 1996, Sagan said, “I am not an atheist. An atheist is someone who has compelling evidence that there is no God. I am not that wise, but neither do I consider there to be anything approaching adequate evidence for such a god. Why are you in such a hurry to make up your mind? Why not simply wait until there is compelling evidence?”<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> [https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Carl\\_Sagan](https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Carl_Sagan)

<sup>5</sup> Washington Post, July 10, 2014: “Carl Sagan denied being an atheist. So what did he believe?” by Joel Achenbach.

Physicist Stephen Hawking seemed to subscribe to a different science than Sagan. Despite no evidence against the existence of God, Hawking was an outspoken atheist. He firmly believed God does not exist.

But let us look at who the multitudes believe are the five smartest physicists ever to live:<sup>6</sup>

1. Galileo Galilei: Devout Christian. "God is known by nature in his works, and by doctrine in his revealed word."
2. Isaac Newton: Devout Christian. Newton spent more time on religion than on science, writing over 1.3 million words on topics of the Bible. He especially had an interest in miracles. "He who thinks half-heartedly will not believe in God; but he who really thinks has to believe in God."
3. Albert Einstein: Believed in the pantheistic God of Baruch Spinoza but sometimes described himself as agnostic. Einstein often used "God" in describing how his theories worked.
4. James Clerk Maxwell: Devout Christian. "Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever."
5. Michael Faraday: Devout Christian. "Nature is our kindest friend and best critic in experimental science if we only allow her intimations to fall unbiased on our minds."

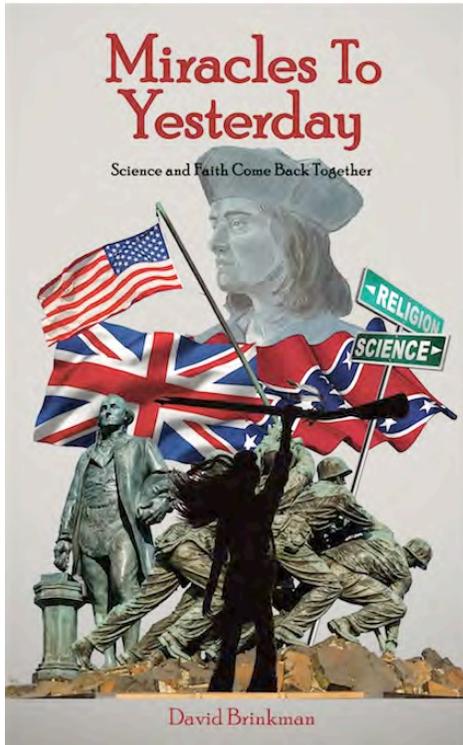
As you can see, there are no modern-day physicists in this list, but there are scientists today who believe science may be on a path to finding God. The American theoretical physicist Michio Kaku is a founding pioneer of String Field Theory. He theorizes that mathematics and String Theory show that there are dimensions yet to be discovered, and he describes them as the domain of God. "The mind of God we believe is cosmic music, the music of strings resonating through 11-dimensional hyperspace," Kaku said. "That is the mind of God."<sup>7</sup>

If so, God would not be confined to our time and space and could be able to see and know everything happening. God could be interactive with every living thing in the universe at the same time. This creation could be an ongoing work of art where God's paintbrush strokes change through what we see as miracles.

---

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/culture/gallery/2013/may/12/the-10-best-physicists>

<sup>7</sup> [https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Michio\\_Kaku](https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Michio_Kaku)



*In a lifelong struggle to balance his faith and love for science, David Brinkman's life would take a dramatic change when his father was taken away. In an attempt to honor his dad, and guided by miraculous events, he would solve history mysteries and find the real truth of life.*

## **Miracles to Yesterday: Science and Faith Come Back Together**

by David Brinkman

**Order the complete book from the publisher  
[Booklocker.com](http://www.booklocker.com)**

<http://www.booklocker.com/p/books/9859.html?s=pdf>

**or from your favorite neighborhood  
or online bookstore.**

*Miracles to Yesterday*

So, a miracle or not? We can't ultimately depend on science to answer this question today, but fortunately the question can be answered by basic common sense if we have an open mind.

I remember many years ago, after watching a television program about UFOs, my father posed the following situation: A flying saucer lands in the backyard, and you observe little green men moving about. They leave after a few minutes, and no evidence is left behind. No one else saw what you saw. Would you tell the authorities or go to the news media? Would you risk being labeled a nut? I thought about it but could not, then nor now, really answer the question. But this flying saucer sighting is far different from the miracle glue that ties this book together. The many amazing things I call miracles all came together in a way that led to highly unlikely scientific discoveries.

Depending on your ability to see things beyond simple scientific tests, you may see the miracles or maybe you won't. Quite frankly, I'm no longer young, and documenting the experience and the resulting evidence is far more important than the risk of being called a nut.