

Neurons and beliefs

Born to Believe, Andrew Newberg MD and Mark Robert Waldman, Free Press, New York, 2006 page 67 states

That each hemisphere of the human brain perceives and senses reality in different ways. Each hemisphere has its own reality.

The right senses reality through feelings.

The left interprets this so that it can be communicated to others.

The two have separate consciousnesses - one is "functioning independently of the other". Experiments have verified this.

The book gives the example of how we can be so caring towards others when we are calm and then as soon as we get angry we will change and become very selfish. So we can believe one thing one minute and something else the next.

The book claims that on the microscopic level, each neuron takes in information and data and drops what it sees as unimportant or useless and adds in what is considered useful. A stressed cell rewrites the genes that make it suffer stress according to Bruce H Lipton Ph.D.

I see then that the tendency to develop false memories and alter accurate memories so that things are remembered in a way in which they did not happen is built into us.

We cannot know how much of this is built into our perception that there is a God. Perhaps we are naturally agnostic and the programming interferes jolting us to believe in God? If so then God is an idol and believers need more humility.