

Malcolm Jeeves is a leading experimental psychologist who has held Foundation Chairs of Psychology at Adelaide University, Australia and at St. Andrew's, Scotland, where he was also Vice-Principal. He has served as Chairman of the International Neuropsychological Symposium and as Editor-in-Chief of the inter-national science journal Neuropsychologia. His CBE was awarded for his services to psychology.



PROFESSOR MALCOLM JEEVES CBE, PRSE

MYSTERIES OF THE MIND

My specialised research area of neuropsychology is one of the most exciting and fastest growing parts of contemporary science. Neuropsychology holds out promise of bringing greater understanding of such distressing conditions as Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia.

Every fresh advance in our scientific understanding seems to tighten the links between mind and brain. Such evidence naturally prompts me to reflect on what my Christian faith teaches about human nature, and what I understand about terms in the Bible such as mind, body, spirit, heart, soul and so on.

As a neuropsychologist, my predominant picture is of the human being as a psycho-physical unity, unbelievably complex and calling to be investigated simultaneously from several different perspectives. What I find exciting and encouraging is that for a century now Biblical scholars have also been telling us that we are essentially a unity. But the language of the Bible, so profound and at times poetic, tells us things about our nature that we can so easily miss if we try to turn it into a scientific textbook of psychology—things that we need to know as we strive to be faithful disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In every generation there are fresh challenges to integrate our basic Christian beliefs with new evidence coming from the scientific enterprise. As I do so I return again and again to a fresh awareness of the amazing fact that the God who created and keeps in being all that there is, humbled himself so that in the Lord Jesus Christ I can meet him daily as my Lord, Saviour and Friend.

- President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (Scotland's premier learned society)
- Honorary Research Professor, School of Psychology, St. Andrew's University

'Research in neuropsychology holds out promise of bringing fresh understanding of Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia.'

