

## “SCIENCE AND RELIGION”

Jay Lockhart

In a recent issue of U.S. News and World Report, there was “A Conversation with Sir John Eccles,” a Nobel laureate in medicine and physiology and a pioneer in brain research. A neurobiologist, Eccles has taught at universities in Great Britain, Australia, and the United States. He is co-author of a book, The Wonder of Being Human: Our Brain and Our Mind. I found the article to be interesting because this noted man of medicine and research said, “We need to discredit the belief held by many scientists that science will ultimately deliver the final truth about everything. *Science doesn't deliver the truth, what it provides are hypotheses in an attempt to get nearer the truth.* But scientists must never claim to know more than that.... Science cannot explain: Who am I? Why am I here? How did I come to be at a certain place and time? What happens after death? These are mysteries that are beyond science.”

Eccles went on to say that science has gone too far in suggesting that man is merely an insignificant animal who has arisen by chance and necessity on an insignificant planet lost in the great cosmic immensity and that science and religion are at odds. He then noted great physicists, including Albert Einstein, who believed in “a God of the cosmos.” As I read the article I was reminded of those foolish folk who would have us believe that science has all the answers, which it doesn't, and that no scientists of stature hold to religious beliefs, which is untrue. I was also reminded of the biblical passages which still

rings through the centuries, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘there is no God’” (Psalm 14:1); and “In the beginning God ...” (Genesis 1:1).