



# The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

[www.faraday-institute.org](http://www.faraday-institute.org)

- PRESS RELEASE -

## No Conflict Between Science and Faith in Leeds

Science and faith are often represented as being at war. But are they really in conflict? Despite the claims of Richard Dawkins and others, many eminent scientists think not. Molecular Biologist Professor John Bryant is one, and he will aim to bring clarity to the debate during a talk at Leeds University Business School on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 5.30pm. The talk will be followed by a question and answer session, and excerpts from the award-winning documentary, *Test of FAITH*.

“Whatever Richard Dawkins tries to say, the selflessness of many humans, the virtue of pure altruism goes well beyond the genetic altruism that Dawkins talks about. And I say, moral reasoning and the ability to figure out that something is right or wrong, all these mark us out very strongly in behavioural terms from our nearest neighbours the chimpanzees and the other great apes.”

*Professor John Bryant, in Test of FAITH, Part 3*

**John Bryant** is Professor Emeritus at Exeter University, previously holding the chair in Cell and Molecular Biology. He is a past President of the Society for Experimental Biology and introduced one of the first bioethics courses for biology students in a UK university. He has written and spoken widely in the science-religion debate, was Chair of Christians in Science until 2007 and elected to membership of the International Society for Science and Religion in 2005.

**Test of FAITH** is a specially commissioned documentary, with extensive additional study resources, which provides a thoughtful and visually compelling exploration of how scientific knowledge and faith might be fruitfully integrated. It features top scientists in fields ranging from astronomy to neuroscience, and seeks to open up complex issues in accessible ways. It challenges assumptions and dispels many popular myths. Atheist philosopher Michael Ruse has endorsed the film, describing it as “a fine, balanced presentation by thoughtful scientists on why there is no genuine conflict between their work and their religious faith.”

Test of FAITH won the “Best Use of New Media in a Christian Project” award in the Premier Radio 2010 Christian New Media Awards, and came second for Best Documentary in the 2009 International Visual Communications Association Awards.

Event	Test of FAITH UK Tour
Date	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2010
Time	5:30pm
Venue	Leeds University Business School, Maurice Keyworth Building, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, <a href="http://business.leeds.ac.uk/">http://business.leeds.ac.uk/</a>
Details	Free entry, no ticket required

This event will also be taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> October 8pm at South Parade Baptist Church, Headingley, Leeds.

Further details of the Test of Faith church, schools and youth resources can be found at [www.testoffaith.com](http://www.testoffaith.com)

Enquiries: John Lockwood (event organiser), 0113 2667748