

Lecture by Dr. Alister McGrath Professor of Theology, Ministry & Education and Head of the Centre for Theology, Religion, and Culture at King's College, London Saturday, March 23, 2012, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

ALISTER MCGRATH

Dr. Alister McGrath is a Professor of Theology, Ministry and Education at King's College London, and Head of its Centre for Theology, Religion, and Culture. He is also Senior Research Fellow at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, and President of the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics. Until 2008, he was Professor of Historical Theology at Oxford University.



Dr. McGrath was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1953. He attended Methodist College, Belfast, in 1966 studying pure and applied mathematics, physics and chemistry. McGrath continued his education and eventually earned both a Ph.D. in molecular biophysics and a Doctorate of Divinity from Oxford University. The interactions between these two areas of study— Christian theology and the natural sciences—have been a major theme of his research work.

As a former atheist, McGrath is respectful, yet critical of scientific atheism. He has frequently engaged in debate and dialogue with leading atheists, including Oxford zoologist Richard Dawkins. McGrath has explored Charles Darwin's role in atheist apologetics and other controversial concepts of atheism, such as the "meme" in recent atheist accounts of the origins of belief in God.

McGrath is working on many projects, including his research on the late C. S. Lewis and a major intellectual history of the Swiss Protestant theologian Emil Brunner. His new book to be published in March is entitled *C. S. Lewis – A Life. Reluctant Prophet, Eccentric Genius.* This biography will be supplemented by a collection of eight major academic essays on Lewis, to be published in May 2013. Other forthcoming books are the first in a five-volume series entitled "Christian Belief for Everyone" and a new textbook on Christian History.