



# The Soul: How We Know It's Real and Why It Matters

*By J. P. Moreland*

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**The Soul: How We Know It's Real and Why It Matters** By J. P. Moreland

In a culture in which science is believed to hold the answers to every question, spiritual realities like the soul are often ignored or ridiculed. We are told that neuroscience holds the key to explaining every aspect of human behavior. Yet Christian philosopher J. P. Moreland argues that Scripture, sound philosophical reasoning, and everyday experience all point to the reality of an immaterial soul. Countering the arguments of both naturalists and Christian scholars who embrace a material-only view of humanity, Moreland demonstrates why it is both biblical and reasonable to believe humans are essentially spiritual beings. He also describes the various components of the soul and how Christians can nurture their souls as disciples of Christ. Moreland shows that neuroscience and the soul are not competing explanations of human activity, but that both coexist and influence one another.

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### **Editorial Review**

Review

**Rating:** 5 out of 5 stars

J.P Moreland delves into the subject of our soul and Spiritual growth in this book...We are reminded that the Soul Is Crucial for Self Understanding and maturing in the ways of Jesus. Although I cannot say that I agree with everything said in this book, I like the fact that JP Moreland offers a pretty in depth study of the Soul and the importance of understanding it during our Christian walk...

Though relatively short in the number of pages this book is definitely not one for Casual reading, it is a pretty intense study book on The Soul..

A review by Michelle Kidwell on NetGalley, March 28, 2014

This book was deep. Wow! Most of the book, i needed someone to break it down for me, but overall, it made me realize how important it is to feed the soul. As a teacher, it made me embrace how vital it is to teach this to our disciples. We are hit hard everyday about what we should look like from the culture, but very little is poured into what we should be doing for our soul. This book is definitely a wake-up call for us in the arena of our souls. I know personally I am going to be a lot more focused on feeding my soul spiritually. Thank you for this reading.

Review by JT Thomason on Netgalley, March 13 2014

The Soul 'We Know It's Real & Why It Matters by JP Moreland addresses the topic of the human soul. The author attempts to answer the question of whether "the soul" is real. The topic is approached from both a scientific and Bible based viewpoint. The author uses the topics of dualism and physicalism, as an introductory chapter, in small amount of space these only serve to make the topic even more difficult to understand.

The intended audience for this text is unclear. The terms and manner in which the topic is explained do seem to point to this book being for a student of theology. I do believe students of religion or science would find this book both interesting and thought provoking. The average reader may feel bogged down with the vocabulary that the author uses.

Review by Janet Forney on Netgalley, February 10, 2014

From the Back Cover

**As we look to science for answers, spiritual realities are often dismissed.**

Can science explain *everything*? Christian philosopher J. P. Moreland argues that Scripture, sound philosophical reasoning, and everyday experience all point to the reality of an immaterial soul.

Countering the arguments of both naturalists and scholars who embrace a material-only view of humanity, Moreland shows how neuroscience and the soul need not compete. Rather, they coexist and influence each other.

By demonstrating why it is both biblical and scientifically sound to regard humans as essentially spiritual beings, this penetrating volume illustrates the importance and means of nurturing one's soul as a disciple of Christ.

About the Author

**J.P. MORELAND** (B.S. University of Missouri, Th.M. Dallas Theological Seminary, M. A. University of California-Riverside, and Ph.D. University of Southern California) is the Professor of Philosophy at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University in La Mirada, California. He has co-planted three churches and he and his wife Hope attend Vineyard Anaheim church and are deeply committed to the body of believers there.

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#### Corinna Edwards:

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#### Kathryn Hebert:

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