Science and Religion in Quest of Truth

JOHN POLKINGHORNE

Yale university press

New Haven and London

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, Anglicized Edition, copyright ⊚ 1989, 1995, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2011 by Yale University.

All rights reserved.

This book may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, including illustrations, in any form (beyond that copying permitted by Sections 107 and 108 of the U.S. Copyright Law and except by reviewers for the public press), without written permission from the publishers.

Yale University Press books may be purchased in quantity for educational, business, or promotional use. For information, please e-mail sales.press@yale .edu (U.S. office).

Set in Janson type by Tseng Information Systems, Inc. Printed in the United States of America.

A catalogue record of this book is available from the Library of Congress.

ISBN: 978-0-300-17478-6 (cloth)

This paper meets the requirements of ANSI/NISO Z39.48-1992 (Permanence of Paper).

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Contents

Abbreviations for Selected Writings	
of John Polkinghorne	ix
Introduction	xi
ONE. Truth and Understanding	т
Two. Some Lessons from History	26
THREE. Insights from Science	
	33
FOUR. Theology and Science in Interactive Context	69
FIVE. Motivated Christian Belief	116
Postscript: Other Faiths	131
T. 1	
Index	135