

Author's Preface

THIS BOOK was first published in 1967. It dealt with what I recognized to be a mixed question that could not be satisfactorily answered by philosophical thought alone, or by the empirical sciences. Philosophy posed the question about the specific nature of man and the place of *Homo sapiens* in the order of nature. Do human beings differ from the higher mammals only in degree or in kind; and if in kind, is the difference radical or only superficial?

The scientific research done in the laboratory and the research done in the field of artificial intelligence affirm a difference in degree or only a superficial difference in kind; but when all this research is examined philosophically, clear reasons are found for the opposite answer: man differs radically in kind by virtue of an intellectual power possessed by no other animal and not seated in the human brain.

In 1990, more than thirty years later, I wrote another book, *Intellect: Mind Over Matter*, that improved on my earlier argument that the human intellect was an immaterial power. The later book did not replace the many chapters in this book that review the scientific evidence and correct the misinterpretation of it.

I wish to call attention to Chapters 7 to 14 in this book, and especially to the lengthy notes attached to those chapters. Nothing can replace the treatment of, and the commentary on, the scientific and philosophical literature to be found in these chapters and the appended notes. That is why I am so glad that Fordham University Press is republishing this book.

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