



LIFE·PAC®

Bible



Alpha Omega Publications®

# BIBLE 506

## PROVING WHAT WE BELIEVE

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## PROVING WHAT WE BELIEVE

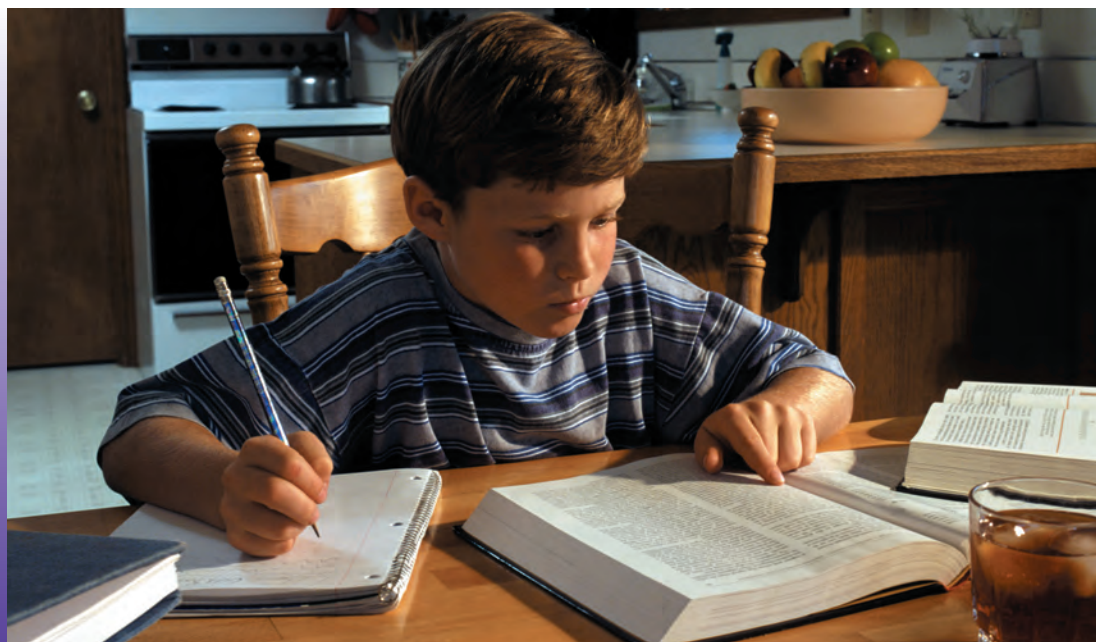
As Christians, we are sometimes asked what we believe. Some people are curious and want to know more. For such people, our ability to explain our beliefs may help them to become committed to Christ or more committed as Christians. Unfortunately, others are sometimes **hostile**. When these people ask what we believe, they are trying to show that our beliefs are **outdated** or foolish. In these cases, we may have to defend our faith. For either of these groups of people, it is important that we *know* what we believe and are able to *prove* what we believe. At times, we may have to prove that what we believe is true and reasonable.

The apostle Peter encouraged Christians to always be ready to explain our faith to others. He also told us how to do this. He wrote, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15). For Christians, our hope is in Jesus Christ. God, speaking through Peter, tells us that we always need to be prepared to make a defense of our faith in the Lord and in what we believe about Him. We believe that God has revealed Himself

and His plan for our lives through Jesus Christ. God wants us to always be ready to share and prove our beliefs with others.

God also tells us that we share our faith with others in a spirit of gentleness and reverence. God does not want us to witness to others about our faith in anger or in a “pushy” manner. We are to respect others as people made in the image of God and having human dignity. We can, of course, be *bold* and **zealous** in our sharing of the Gospel, but we should always defend our beliefs confidently and politely.

In this LIFEPAK®, you will examine three beliefs of our Christian faith that are being particularly challenged today: (1) the Bible as God’s Word; (2) God’s creation of the world; and (3) the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. These doctrines have been challenged in ages past, and they still are under attack today. You will learn a great deal about the evidence we have for our Christian beliefs in these three doctrines. By knowing the doctrines well and the evidence for our beliefs in them, you will be able to “prove” what you believe to others.



WE MUST KNOW WHAT WE BELIEVE AND BE ABLE TO PROVE IT.

## OBJECTIVES

**Read these objectives.** The objectives tell you what you should be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAAC.

When you have finished this LIFEPAAC, you should be able to:

1. Know three doctrines of the Christian faith that are being particularly challenged today.
2. Name at least three passages from the Bible that show that the Bible is God's Word.
3. Give three examples from history that show that the Bible is God's Word.
4. Explain how Christian experience shows that the Bible is God's Word.
5. Name at least three statements about the natural universe in the Bible that have been proven by science.
6. Identify four false assumptions in the theory of evolution.
7. Explain how the Bible promotes healthy living.
8. Identify passages in the Old Testament that predict the Resurrection of Jesus.
9. Locate passages in the Bible in which Jesus predicts His Resurrection.
10. Name five eyewitnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus.
11. Describe the effect of Jesus' Resurrection on His disciples.
12. Explain how Christian experience is important evidence of the Resurrection of Christ.

## VOCABULARY

**Study these new words.** Learning the meanings of these words is a good study habit and will improve your understanding of this LIFEPAAC.

**ample** (am' pul). Generously sufficient to satisfy a requirement or need.

**Ascension** (u sen' shun). The event of Jesus being taken up into heaven.

**atmosphere** (at' mus fir) The gases surrounding the earth; the air.

**carbon 14 dating** (kar' bun 14 dā' ting). Scientific method and theory pertaining to the measurement of the age of objects that once lived.

**centrifugal force** (sen trif' u gul fōrs). The tendency of an object turning around a center to move away from the center.

**challenge** (chal' unj). To call on a person to answer, explain, or do something.

**characteristics** (kār' ik tu ris' tiks). Distinguishing traits, qualities, or properties.

**circulate** (sēr' kyü lāt). To go around; to pass from place to place.

**communicable** (ku myü' nu ku bul). That which can be transferred from one person to another.

**contaminate** (kun tam' u nāt). To make impure through contact or mixture; defile.

**continuity** (kon' tun nu' u tē). A continuous or connected whole.

**contradiction** (kon tru dik' shun). A statement or event that does not agree with another. A denial or inconsistency between what is said or done.

**cosmic radiation** (koz' mik rā dē ā' shun). Rays of very great penetrating power that come to earth from the universe beyond the earth's atmosphere.

**demon possession** (dē' mun pu zesh' un). The state of being controlled by demons or Satan.

**evolution** (ev u lü' shun). A gradual process of formation or growth. In science, a theory that all existing plants and animals developed from one simple life-form.

**fulfill** (ful fil'). To bring to completion; to happen as predicted.

**harmony** (har' mu nē). Working well together.

**historical** (hi stōr' u kul). Having happened in the past; known to be real or true in history.

**hostile** (hos' tul). Unfriendly or overly opposing; of or relating to an enemy.

**imperishable** (im' pār ish u bul). Not subject to decay; enduring permanently.

**inerrant** (in' ār unt). Free from error.

**influence** (in' flü uns). The effect a person or object has on others.

**inspiration** (in spu rā' shun). The direct influence of God on the writers of the Bible.

**investigate** (in ves' tu gāt). Look into thoroughly. Examine closely.

**natural revelation** (nach' ér ul rev u lā' shun). God's disclosure of Himself and His will through His creation.

**organism** (ôr' gu niz um). An independent living body made up of parts which work together to carry on various processes of physical life.

**outdated** (out' dāt ud). Not being in style; no longer acceptable or usable.

**popularity** (pop yū lār' u tē). Fact or condition of being popular or well-liked by many people.

**prediction** (pri dik' shun). A statement telling about an event to happen in the future.

**quarantine** (kwôr' un tēn). To keep a person (or animal) away from others to prevent the spread or transfer of an infectious disease.

**reservoir** (rez' èr vwär). A place where something is stored or from which you can draw something.

**Resurrection** (rez' u rek' shun). The raising of Jesus' body from the dead.

**revolved** (ri volvd'). Having moved in a circle around a central point.

**sanitation** (san u tā' shun). The usage of practical sanitary measures such as the disposal of sewage to reduce growth of disease-causing organisms.

**structure** (struk' chér). The way parts of a body or an object like a building are put together.

**superiority** (su pir ē ôr' u tē). The quality or condition of being better or superior.

**theistic evolution** (thē is' tik ev u lü' shun). The theory that God used evolutionary laws in advancing life on earth.

**theological** (thē u loj' u kul). Dealing with the subject of God.

**transformed** (trans fôrnd'). To be changed from one nature or character of life to another; a spiritual rebirth.

**translate** (trans lāt'). To change from one language to another.

**unconscious** (un kon' shus). Not in a conscious state.

**unique** (yü nēk'). Singularly different; one of a kind.

**verified** (vār' u fid). Confirmed or established the truth, accuracy, or reality of.

**witness** (wit' nis). A person who tells about what they saw or experienced.

**zealous** (zel' us). Filled with eagerness and ardent interest in pursuit of something.

**Note:** All vocabulary words in this LIFE PAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

**Pronunciation Key:** hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ôrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /TH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.