How to College-Proof Your Faith

By: Jay Seegert
I would like to personally thank you for watching the Origins program. Origins was a special program, near to the heart of my late husband, Russell Bixler.

I trust that the information in this presentation will be helpful in your study of creation science. Thank you for your prayerful and financial support of Origins... you’re making the television production of this program possible.

Norma Bixler
50 to 75% of Christian students will set aside their faith by the time they leave college.
I'm Not Anti-College
My Background
My Background

John Brown University

Engineering

University of Wisconsin Whitewater

Physics
Part 1
Practical Advice
Part 2
Apologetics
2 OPTIONS

1. Memorize answers to everything
2. Learn some general principles
Real-Life Examples

“How many of you would consider yourself to be a Christian?”

“Would you please get up and sit at the back of the class!”
“How many of you believe in God & the Bible?”

“Well you won’t by the end of the semester!”
Real-Life Examples

Dr. Richard Rorty (Philosopher - University of Virginia)
Real-Life Examples

Dr. Richard Rorty (Philosopher - University of Virginia)

“Secular professors in the universities ought to arrange things so that students who enter as bigoted, homophobic religious fundamentalists will leave college with views more like our own. Students are fortunate to find themselves under the [benevolence] of people like me, and to have escaped the grip of their frightening, vicious, dangerous parents.”

...continued
Real-Life Examples

Dr. Richard Rorty (Philosopher - University of Virginia)

“We are going to go right on trying to discredit you [parents] in the eyes of your children, trying to strip your fundamentalist religious community of dignity, trying to make your views seem silly rather than discussable.”

Scriptural Command

Romans 12:2

...be ye transformed by the removal of your mind...
Romans 12:2

...be ye transformed by the renewal of your mind
Part 1
Practical
Scripture

Holy Bible

READ ME!
“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword”  
(Heb 4:12)

“It [God’s Word] will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”  
(Isa 55:11)
Pray
Stay Out of the Weeds
Two Important Points

“There’s no evidence for creation!”
Two Important Points

“What would you accept as scientific evidence?”
Two Important Points

“Science is the only way of determining truth!”
"How did you determine that?"
Approaching Professors

Outside of class (in office)
Part 2

APologetics

“Always be prepared to give an answer…”
1 Peter 3:15
APologetics

- God exists
- He created life & the universe
- The Bible is the Word of God
Challenge to Evolution

He created life & the universe

140K "letters"

3 Billion "letters"
The Bible is the Word of God
GOD

3 OPTIONS
GOD

1. Has no standards
2. Has standards... didn’t tell us
3. Has standards... told us
Apologetics

How do you know the Bible is from God?

Four Basic Tests:
- Internal Consistency
- Historical Accuracy
- Prophetic Accuracy
- Scientific Accuracy
Evidence of Inspiration

General Health Practices

“Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians...”

Acts 7:22
Evidence of Inspiration

Sample Egyptian Health Practice

Ebers Papyrus (1550 BC)
Over 800 magical formulas and remedies

Remedy for a splinter...
Worm blood and donkey dung
(which is full of tetanus spores)
Numbers 19:11-12

“Whoever touches the dead body of anyone will be unclean for seven days. He must purify himself with the water [of purification] on the third day and on the seventh day; then he will be clean.”
Evidence of Inspiration

Sample Egyptian Health Practice

Touching a dead body
Sample Biblical Health Practice

The Water of Purification
(Numbers 19:6)

“The priest is to take some cedar wood, hyssop and scarlet wool and throw them onto the burning heifer [cow].”
Evidence of Inspiration

Saul and his companions went up to the high place and sat down on the seats of the priests. The Lord said to him in his heart, “The men of Kiriath Jearim have taken the ark of God, they are going to bring it back to you.”

The Weight of the Testimony (Numbers 16:1-5)

“The Lord said to Moses, ‘Get Aaron and his sons with the Levites, and put Aaron in his sacred vestments and his sons in their vests, and gather together the congregation of the Lord to come into the tabernacle of assembly, and bring the ark of the testimony to be set at the foot of the altar of burnt offering.”

The touchstone of inspiration is the ability to discern the presence of God in the lives of others.
Evidence of Inspiration

Sample Biblical Health Practice

The Water of Purification

Heifer ashes + Cedar wood = lye (caustic soda)

Hyssop → Thymol (isopropyl – kills bacteria)

Scarlet wool → forms gritty substance

Days 3 & 7 → time to dry and re-app.

(Bacteria thrive in damp environments)
Evidence of Inspiration

Four Basic Tests:

- Internal Consistency
- Historical Accuracy
- Prophetic Accuracy
- Scientific Accuracy
Gonna Take Some Hits

“...the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”

James 1:3
It’s OK to have questions, even doubts...

- Case for Christianity is strong, even though your current understanding might not be.
- It’s not about knowing all the answers... it’s about knowing that they exist and where to find them.
Equip Yourself
How to College-Proof Your Faith

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