

# CHRISTIAN ADVOCATES OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

Advocate	Contribution
Grosseteste, Robert (ca. 1175–1253)	First proposed the inductive, experimental method
Bacon, Roger (1214–94)	Argued all things must be verified by observation
William of Occam (1285–1347)	Introduced the principle of parsimony (Occam's Razor)
Buridan, Jean (1300–1358)	Introduced the theory of probability
Nicholas of Oresme (ca. 1320–82)	Introduced the mean-speed theorem
Copernicus, Nicolaus (1473–1543)	Wrote <i>De revolutionibus orbium coelestium</i> (Revolution of the Heavenly Bodies), 1543; proposed the heliostatic theory
Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)	Contributed to human anatomy, optics, physics, etc.
Paracelsus (1493–1541)	Argued that external agents caused diseases
Pare, Ambroise (ca. 1509–90)	Tied off arteries to prevent hemorrhaging; improved amputations
Vesalius, Andreas (1514–64)	Wrote <i>The Fabric of the Human Body</i> ; called "father of modern anatomy"
Brahe, Tycho (1546–1601)	Wrote <i>Concerning the New Star</i> ; discovered a new comet
Kepler, Johann (1571–1630)	Wrote a number of scientific treatises; discovered elliptical movement of planets; developed and confirmed three astronomical laws; first defined weight as the mutual attraction between two bodies; established the heliocentric theory
Galileo (1564–1642)	First to use the telescope to study the skies; saw lunar mountains; discovered phases of Venus
Harvey, William (1578–1657)	Discovered the circulation of blood
Pascal, Blaise (1623–62)	Discovered the law that liquid in a container exerts equal pressure in all directions; found barometric pressures varying with different altitudes; constructed first adding machine

Boyle, Robert (1627-91)	Discovered Boyle's law: the volume of gas varies inversely with its pressure
Newton, Isaac (1642-1727)	Discovered the law of gravity; also credited with inventing calculus independently of Leibniz
Leibniz, Gottfried (1646-1716)	Invented calculus independently of Newton; proposed theory of monads
Priestley, Joseph (1733-1804)	Discovered oxygen
Lavoisier, Antoine (1743-94)	Found that oxygen is needed for combustion
Volta, Alessandro (1745-1827)	Discovered current electricity; isolated methane gas
Dalton, John (1766-1844)	Developed the atomic theory; diagnosed color blindness
Ampere, Andre (1775-1836)	Discovered that electric currents produce magnetic fields
Ohm, Georg (1787-1854)	Formulated Ohm's law: the intensity of an electric current equals the magnetic force driving it, divided by the resistance of the conductor (wire)
Faraday, Michael (1791-1867)	Discovered electromagnetic induction
Simpson, James (1811-70)	First to use chloroform and ether medically
Pasteur, Louis (1822-95)	Founded microbiology; discovered bacteria and nullified spontaneous generation
Mendel, Gregor (1822-84)	Laid the foundation for modern genetics
Kelvin, William (1824-1907)	Discovered that molecular motion stops at minus 273 degrees centigrade (absolute zero)
Lister, Joseph (1827-1912)	Found that antiseptics reduce infection, a finding that revolutionized surgery
Carver, George Washington (ca. 1864-1943)	Developed numerous by-products from peanuts and sweet potatoes