

Introducing the ‘Unknown’ God

Acts 17:16-34

PART TWO

Introduction

In Lystra: Acts 14:15-17

It is simply common sense and wise strategy in our evangelism to find areas of connection – points of truth embedded in false religions.

- I. ATHENS – The Place (vv16-18);
- II. AREOPAGUS – The Platform (vv19-21);
- III. ADDRESS – The Presentation of the ‘Unknown God’ (vv22-23);
- IV. ARGUMENT – The Powerful Creator God (vv24-25);
- V. APPLICATION – The Purposes of God (vv26-34)
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v26

“And he made from one man every nation”

Malachi 2:10

Genesis 3:20

Genesis 9:18-19

All mankind are equal in God’s eyes since He has made all people descendants from common parentage. This truth, of course, eliminates *all* racism.

“having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,”

Deuteronomy 32:8

Isaiah 10:12-14

v27

Why did God create all human beings and place them where He wanted them on the earth?

“that they should seek God”

If God exists and He loves us, wants to dwell with us, why is this necessary?

Because, though we know our Creator exists, sin has caused us to turn away from Him.

Psalms 14:2-3

All living trees and plants reach toward the light provided by the Son, except mankind. He turns away.

Isaiah 59:1-2

Psalm 27:8

“feel their way toward him”

The Consequences of Sin: Isaiah 59:8-10

People are groping in the dark. This is what spiritually blind people must do. They must “feel” their way.

Therefore, we must extricate what truths remain trapped inside the lies that keep them in bondage to sin.

Hosea 5:15

Jeremiah 29:12-14

“Yet he is actually not far from each one of us”

The Imminency – nearness – of God

Deuteronomy 4:7

John 3:19-20

The unseen God uses His Word to pierce the hearts of sinners that they might ‘see’ Him and be reconciled.

Hebrews 4:12-13

Isaiah 55:6-7

Isaiah 58:9

Lamentations 3:25

Hebrews 10:22

Once we recognize that the terrifying presence of God is an act of His benevolent grace, we embrace it and thank Him for it; we don’t resist it and resent Him for it.

Psalm 73:28 NASU

“The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.” Psalm 145:18