

## **Mars Hill Apologetics**

**1. Paul Affirms What They Already Knew to Be True (22-28).**

**2. The God of the Bible Is the Solution They Need (29).**

**3. Jesus Is Validated as Judge By His Resurrection (30-34).**

CONCLUSION: Paul interacts with the philosophers in Athens differently than we have seen before. He presents Christ as the culmination of all their hopes and dreams that their own philosophical systems could not attain. In many ways this is the same approach as He takes with those in the synagogue. It is just that the philosophers are at a different starting point. No matter whom we are speaking with, Jesus has been shown to be what we truly need through His resurrection from the grave. Let us be faithful in presenting Him as He truly is—the righteous Judge of all the earth!

## Isaiah 30: 18

Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you,  
and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you.  
For the Lord is a God of justice;  
blessed are all those who wait for him.

## Second Peter 3: 8 – 18

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup> Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup> But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. <sup>15</sup> And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, <sup>16</sup> as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. <sup>17</sup> You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. <sup>18</sup> But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

## Habakkuk 2: 2 – 4

And the Lord answered me: “Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.  
*For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie.*  
If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.  
“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,  
but the righteous shall live by his faith.

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

Is Christianity only credible among the ignorant, superstitious, and slow witted? Scripture presents the gospel of Jesus as able to withstand the most rigorous criticism and best academic inquiry in humanity. At the epicenter of intellectualism Paul goes toe-to-toe with the best scholars and makes a compelling case. While some scoff, others believe.

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.*

## Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 17:22-34; Romans 1:18-23; Ephesians 1:15-23**. DISCUSS, How does Paul meet the Athenians where they are? How does he agree with them? How does he challenge their errors? Why does he do each? How well do you know your neighbors' agreements with and objections to Christianity? PRAY "Lord Jesus, You alone are the righteous Judge of all the earth. Teach us to honor You."

## Sunday Evening

**Young Adults Fellowship** at **6:00** pm. *Please come to FCCW's Library!*

## Monday

READ **Acts 17:22-34; Psalm 14:1-7; 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-23**. DISCUSS, Is there anyone who truly does not believe in God? How do we know? So what are atheists doing? Why should we demonstrate humility when talking with them? MEDITATE on **Philippians 2:9-11**. PRAY "Resurrected King, thank You for conquering death. Enable me to live in Your power."

## Tuesday

READ **Acts 17:22-34; Romans 2:1-5**. DISCUSS: Why is God patient with rebels, traitors, and those who deny Him? How should we treat such folks? Do we deserve God's mercy? Then why does He give it? MEDITATE on **Philippians 2:9-11**. PRAY "Lord, forgive us for ways that we presume upon the riches of Your kindness. Teach us instead to repent."

### Wednesday

READ **Acts 17:22-34; Isaiah 30:18; Second Peter 3:8-18**. DISCUSS, How does God lead us to repentance? What evil have you turned from today? Give God the praise He is due. MEDITATE on **Philippians 2:9-11**. PRAY “King Jesus, teach us to trust in You. Work in us so that we live out the reality of Your resurrection every day.

### Thursday

READ **Acts 17:22-34; Habakkuk 2:2-4; Psalm 75:1-10** DISCUSS, Who appoints the times? Who will judge all people? Who is righteous in all His judgments? Why can we trust Him? MEDITATE on **Philippians 2:9-11**. PRAY “Jesus, You are just in judgment. You are righteous in all Your ways. We praise You!”

### Friday

READ **Acts 17:22-34; Romans 1:18-23; Ephesians 1:15-23**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Philippians 2:9-11**. PRAY “Judge of all the earth, we praise Your glorious name. You are right and just in all Your judgments. Teach us to joyfully submit to You.”

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Mark 12:41-44; Luke 16:10-15**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

## Philippians 2: 9 – 11

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.