
SERMON OUTLINE

Athens and the Unknown God

Acts 17:16-34

- I. Finding Opportunity: Paul presents Jesus Christ to the religious and non-religious in Athens (Acts 17:16-21).
 - A. Paul was distressed at all the idols (16).
 - B. Paul reasoned with Jews and anyone (17)
 - C. Paul reasoned with philosophers (18).
 - D. Paul was invited to present his views at the Areopagus [Mars Hill/city council] (19-21).

- II. Reasoning with people ignorant of God: Paul explains God so they can understand Jesus Christ (Acts 17: 22-31).
 - A. Paul introduces himself, saying He will explain their “Unknown God.” (22-23).
 - B. There is one God who created all things (24-25).
 - He doesn’t dwell in temples. He doesn’t need anything and He is the source of life.
 - C. God is in control of all history (26).
 - He made all nations from one man and fixes the boundaries of the nations
 - D. God gave us a desire to find the One who made us and to know Him (27-28)
 - E. All are accountable for sin against God and must repent to worship Him alone (29-30).
 - F. God will judge the world through Jesus Christ who He raised from the dead (31).

- III. Receiving varied reactions: Some Athenians rejected the message, some wanted to know more, and some believed (Acts 17:32-34).