



Acts.



Context

Text

Life



Context → **Text** → **Life**

Context → Text → Life

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SETTING:

Paul in Athens

PRIMARY AUDIENCE:

Philosophical Elite

PRIMARY SPEAKER:

Paul

INFLUENCE:

**Epicureanism
and Stoicism**

CULTURE:

**Polytheism, Idolatry,
Philosophy, Societal Pride**

LOCATION:

Areopagus

Context → Text → Life

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Context → Text → Life



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Context → Text → Life



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Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols.¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.¹⁸ Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him.

ACTS 17:16-18A ESV

Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.¹⁹ And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?”

ACTS 17:18-19 ESV

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ACTS 17:18-19 ESV

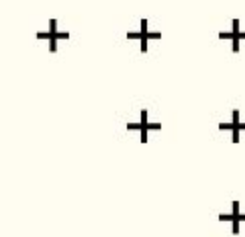


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ACTS 17:18-19 ESV

Context → Text → Life



“For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

ACTS 17:20-21 ESV

Paul's Address:

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.”

ACTS 17:22-23 ESV

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ACTS 17:22-23 ESV

Paul's Address:

“The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.”

ACTS 17:24-25 ESV

Paul's Address:

+ God created.

“The **God who made the world** and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, **does not live in temples** made by man, ²⁵ **nor is he served by human hands,** as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.”

ACTS 17:24-25 ESV

Paul's Address:

- + God created.
- + God gives life.

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ACTS 17:24-25 ESV

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“And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us...”

ACTS 17:26-27 ESV

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- + God gives life.

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ACTS 17:26-27 ESV

Seek
Feel
Find

Paul's Address:

- + God created.
- + God gives life.
- + God is near.

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ACTS 17:26-27 ESV

Paul's Address:

- + God created.
- + God gives life.
- + God is near.
- + God is not an object.

“for “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we are indeed his offspring.’²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.”

ACTS 17:28-29 ESV

Paul's Address:

- + God created.
- + God gives life.
- + God is near.
- + God is not an object.
- + God will judge.

“The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

ACTS 17:30-31 ESV

Paul's Address:

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- + God gives life.
- + God is near.
- + God is not an object.
- + God will judge.

“The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,³¹ because he has fixed a day on which **he will judge the world in righteousness** by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

ACTS 17:30-31 ESV



**Jesus is the knowable God
you do not know.**

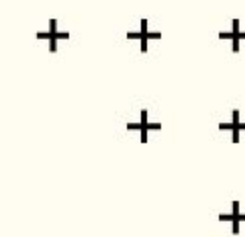
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Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.”³³ So Paul went out from their midst.³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

ACTS 17:32-34 ESV

Context → Text → Life



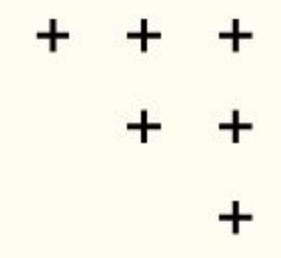
**Jesus is the knowable God
you do not know.**

Context → Text → Life

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**Jesus is the knowable God
you do not know.**

- + Reason
- + Ridicule
- + Context and Text



**Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens,
his spirit was provoked within him as he saw
that the city was full of idols.**

ACTS 17:16 ESV





Spirit-led Prayer looks like:

Dedication // Request // Curiosity