

DECLARING TRUTH

IN THE MIDST OF AN UNBELIEVING CULTURE

Dr. Paul Chappell | Monday Evening | June 12, 2017

“Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. 17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him. 18 Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.” (Acts 17:16-18)

INTRODUCTION

Quote: “The very conjunction of names is arresting. Athens—a sacred shrine of paganism, and Paul the most faithful incarnation of the Christian passion.”—**G. Campbell Morgan**

1. The _____ of the Man of God

A. His _____ Was Stirred

Definition: *stirred*—provoked, a holy rage, burning compassion

Quote: “Men who worship everything are worshipping nothing.”

“Mine eye affecteth mine heart because of all the daughters of my city.” (Lamentations 3:51)

B. His _____ Was Pressed

“And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ.” (Acts 18:5)

“For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! “ (1 Corinthians 9:16)

2. The _____ of the Man of God

Quote: “The actions of a man are the best interpreters of his thoughts.”

“I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.” (Romans 1:14)

A. The _____ of His Ministry

Quote: “The only alternative to soulwinning is disobedience to God.”—**Curtis Hutson**

HE REASONED

Definition: *disputed*—to converse, reason, discuss in argument or exhortation

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” (1 Peter 3:15)

HE PREACHED

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. 21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.” (1 Corinthians 1:18, 21)

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” (2 Timothy 4:2)

B. The _____ of His Ministry

THE SYNAGOGUE

THE MARKET

AEROPAGUS

“For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.” (Acts 17:21)

3. The _____ of the Man of God

A. The _____ of the True God

THE ILLUSION OF MANY RELIGIONS

THE IDENTITY OF THE TRUE GOD

“God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;” (Acts 17:24)

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.” (Psalm 19:1)

“He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? He that formed the eye, shall he not see?” (Psalm 94:9)

B. The _____ of the True God

IN HIS CREATION

“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:” (Colossians 1:16)

IN HIS LORDSHIP

“Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;” (Acts 17:25-26)

“Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.” (Daniel 2:37)

C. The _____ of the True God

“And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.” (Acts 17:30–31)

“Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Acts 20:21)

SALVATION FROM JUDGMENT

“For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: 23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him. 24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” (John 5:22–24)

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:18)

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

RESURRECTION FROM DEATH

CONCLUSION

“Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.” (Acts 17:34)

Quote: “Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God.”

—William Carey



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