

- Acts 17:29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.
- 30 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.
- 32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this *matter*.
- 33 So Paul departed from among them.
- 34 Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

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- IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS STEPHEN,
- V. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDATIONAL EMPHASIS SAUL/PAUL THE PIONEER, 13:1-21:26
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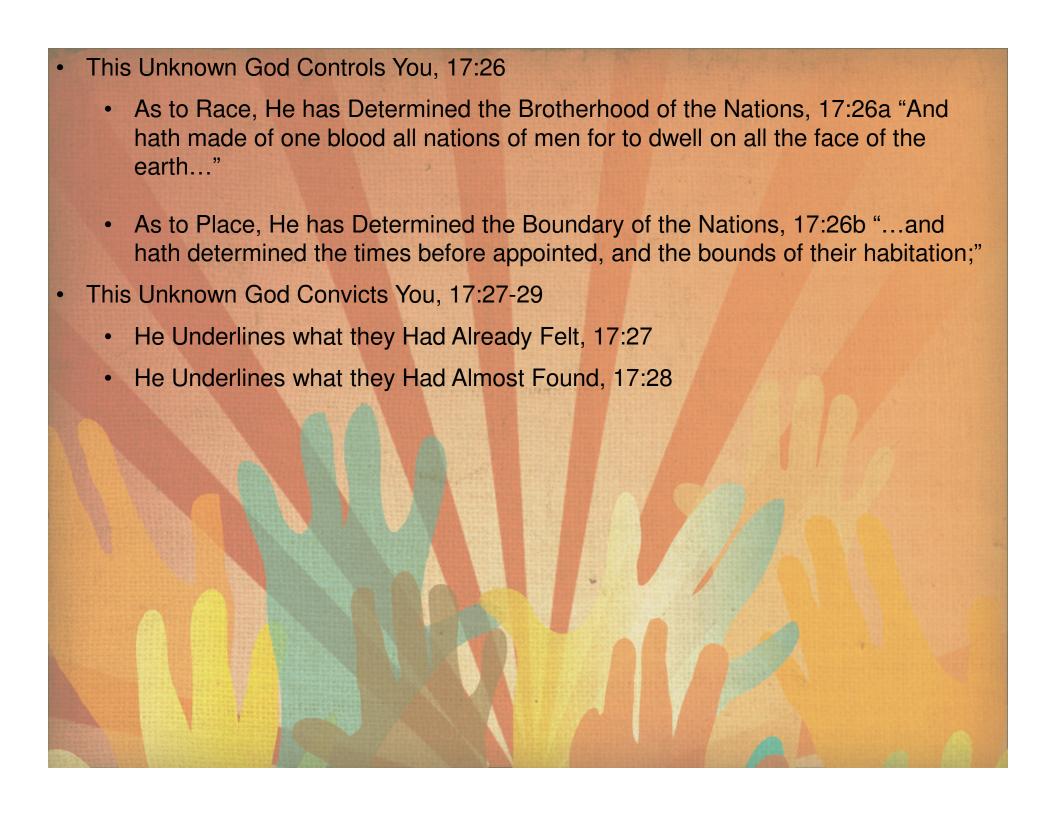
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(2) Paul Preaching to Scoffers, 17:22-34 (a) The Logical Sequence of His Message, 17:22-31 i. Its Logical Beginning, 17:22-23

- I am Appalled at Your Ignorance, 17:22-23a "Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.
 23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD..."
- I am Appealing to Your Intelligence, 17:23b ...Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you."

ii. Its Logical Basis, 17:24-30

- This Unknown God Created You, 17:24-25
 - He is an Infinite Being, 17:24a "God that made the world and all things therein..."
 - He is an Independent Being, 17:24b-25 "...seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; <u>25</u> Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;"





Col. 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

He Underlines what they Had Always Forgotten,
 17:29

Acts 17:29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

Jn. 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Original Word: χάραγμα

Transliteration: charagma

Definition: sculpture; engraving, a stamp, sign.

xáragma – properly, an engraving (etching); (figuratively) a mark providing undeniable identification, like a symbol giving irrefutable connection between parties.

xáragma ("brand-mark") was originally any *impress* on a coin or a seal, used by an engraver on a die (stamp, branding iron). (xáragma) later became "the identification-marker" (like with an owner's unique "brand-mark").

https://biblehub.com/greek/5480.htm

This Unknown God Commands You, 17:30

Acts 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

Original Word: παραγγέλλω Transliteration: paraggelló

Definition: I notify, command, charge, entreat solemnly.

paraggéllō – properly, to charge, give a command that is fully authorized because it has gone through all the proper (necessary) channels.

God commands (*paraggéllō*) *believers* to act as He *authorizes* them through the *revelation* of faith (*His inworked persuasions*). Accordingly, (*paraggéllō*) and faith (*pístis*) are closely connected in the NT – see 1 Tim 1:2-4,4:11,12, 5:7,8.

[(paraggéllō) "originally meant to pass on or transmit; hence, used as a military term, of passing a watchword or command; and so generally to command" (WS, 222).] https://biblehub.com/greek/3853.htm

- Heb. 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,
- 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;
- <u>2 Pet. 3:9</u> The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Luke 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

1 Thess. 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

iii. Its Logical Burden, 17:31

 Judgment Decreed, 17:31a "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world..."

Wiersbe outlined Paul's speech as presenting the following:

- the greatness of God: He is Creator (v. 24);
- the goodness of God: He is Provider (v. 25);
- the government of God: He is Ruler (vv. 26-29); and
- the grace of God: He is Savior (vv. 30-34).

Wiersbe, Warren W. *The Bible Exposition Commentary*. 2 vols. Wheaton: Scripture Press, Victor Books, 1989. (Vol. 1, p. 473).

- Judgment Defined, 17:31b "...in righteousness..."
- Judgment Dramatized, 17:31c "...by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."
 - (b) The Limited Success of His Message, 17:32-34

i. The Derision of Some, 17:32-33

Acts 17:32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter.

33 So Paul departed from among them.

ii. The Decision of Some, 17:34

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

Conclusion

1 Cor. 16:15 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)

Eph. 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Col. 4:17 And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.