

May 25, 2014

Acts 17: 22-31

²²So Paul took his stand in the open space at the Areopagus and laid it out for them. “It is plain to see that you Athenians take your religion seriously. ²³When I arrived here the other day, I was fascinated with all the shrines I came across. And then I found one inscribed, TO THE GOD NOBODY KNOWS. I’m here to introduce you to this God so you can worship intelligently, know who you’re dealing with.

²⁴“The God who made the world and everything in it, this Master of sky and land, doesn’t live in custom-made shrines ²⁵or need the human race to run errands for him, as if he couldn’t take care of himself. He makes the creatures; the creatures don’t make him. ²⁶Starting from scratch, he made the entire human race and made the earth hospitable, with plenty of time and space for living ²⁷so we could seek after God, and not just grope around in the dark but actually *find* him. He doesn’t play hide-and-seek with us. He’s not remote; he’s *near*. ²⁸We live and move in him, can’t get away from him! One of your poets said it well: ‘We’re the God-created.’ ²⁹Well, if we are the God-created, it doesn’t make a lot of sense to think we could hire a sculptor to chisel a god out of stone for *us*, does it?

³⁰“God overlooks it as long as you don’t know any better—but that time is past. The unknown is now known, and he’s calling for a radical life-change. ³¹He has set a day when the entire human race will be judged and everything set right. And he has already appointed the judge, confirming him before everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Sermon – “Who is God? Did Paul get it right?”