

MORE THAN

MYTHOLOGY

ACTS XVII XXVIII



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ACTS 17:16-28

16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

18 A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with what I am going to proclaim to you. him. . . 19 Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?”

20 You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean. . .”

22 Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is why I am going to proclaim to you.

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ACTS 17:16-28

24 “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. 26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. 27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

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- Bigger than their gods – Made heaven and earth
- Self Sufficient – not served by human hands
- Over entire world – gives life and breath
- Watches over us – marks out history
- With us always – not far from any one
- In him we live and move and have our being
- We are his children.

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- Mythology tries to “earn” the gods attention -- We know God is ALWAYS with us

[God] is not far from any one of us. Acts 17:28

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

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- Mythology tries to “earn” the gods attention -- We know God is ALWAYS with us
- Mythology tries to “appease” the gods -- We know God is actively working FOR OUR GOOD

[God] is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life. Acts 17:25

we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

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- Mythology tries to “earn” the gods attention -- We know God is ALWAYS with us
- Mythology tries to “appease” the gods -- We know God is actively working FOR OUR GOOD
- Mythology tries to “earn” the gods approval -- We know God LOVES US infinitely and unconditionally

‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’ Acts 17:28

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

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Romans 5:8

Knowing God is WITH you gives PEACE
Knowing God is FOR you gives JOY
Knowing God LOVES you gives PASSION

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