



# GOSPEL IMPACT

WHEN IT INTRIGUES OUR MINDS  
ACTS 17:16-21

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • January 28 & 29, 2023 • Acts, week 85 • Msg. 23-03

**Acts 17:16** 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. And some said, "What does this babbling 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? **20** 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. (ESV)

1. Know \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.16-17)

2. Beware \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.18-21)

A)

B)

C)

D)

E)



# Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Jeremiah 10:5-12** and **Romans 1:18-32**. It may be easy today to see the folly of trusting in the physical idols of the Ancient Near East, but how does Romans demonstrate the enduring popularity of idolatrous realities?
2. Read **Malachi 1:6-10** and **Mark 11:15-18**. How can people who say they worship and serve the true God of the Bible still be guilty of a kind of idolatry? How can you prevent this sort of lapse in your life?
3. Read **1 John 5:21**. Review the five subpoints from the sermon's second point. Which of these is the biggest temptation for you? What specific part of your weekly world is exposing and coaxing you to think like that?
4. Read **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**. How can this passage strengthen you to think rightly about God and not capitulate to the cultural assault upon biblical truth?
5. Read **Jeremiah 6:16-17** and **1 Timothy 6:20-21**. How can you increase your tenacity to hang on tightly to the historic and unchanging truth of God's word and not be swept along by an ever-changing set of cultural values?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 14-33 – **When There's Theological Confusion**

Msg. 20-02 – **Telling the Truth**

Msg. 21-08 – **The Paganism of the People**

Msg. 18-02 – **Lamenting His Rebellious Subjects**

Msg. 22-10 – **Leveraging the Detours**

Msg. 06-19 – **How to Decipher Truth in an Age of Conspiracy & Relativism?**

Msg. 22-05 – **Ultimate Realities**

## Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> ..... Ex.19-21 & Mt.20:1-16

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> ..... Ex.22-24 & Mt.20:17-34

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> ..... Ex.25-26 & Mt.21:1-22

Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> ..... Ex.27-28 & Mt.21:23-46

Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... Ex.29-30 & Mt.22:1-22

Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... Ex.31-33 & Mt.22:23-46

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> ..... Ex.34-36 & Mt.23:1-22

Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> ..... Ex.37-38 & Mt.23:23-39

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Beale, G. K. **We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry**. InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Beckwith, Francis and Greg Koukl. **Relativism: Feet Firmly Planted in Mid-air**. Baker Books, 1998.

Carson, D. A. **Telling the Truth: Evangelizing Postmoderns**. Zondervan, 2000.

Lutzer, Erwin. **No Reason to Hide**. Harvest House Publishers, 2022.

McDowell, Josh and Don Stewart. **Handbook of Today's Religions**. Thomas Nelson, 1992.

Mohler, Albert. **The Gathering Storm: Secularism, Culture, and the Church**. Nelson Books, 2020.

Myers, Jeff and David Noebel. **Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews**. David C. Cook, 2015.

Nash, Ronald H. **Worldviews in Conflict: Choosing Christianity in a World of Ideas**. Zondervan, 1992.

Ortlund, Raymond C. **Whoredom: God's Unfaithful Wife in Biblical Theology**. InterVarsity Press, 2001.

Pearcy, Nancy. **Total Truth: Liberating Christianity from Its Cultural Captivity**. Crossway, 2008.

Schaeffer, Francis. **The Complete Works of Francis A. Schaeffer: A Christian Worldview**. Crossway, 1985.

Sire, James W. **The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog, Fifth Edition**. InterVarsity, 2009.

Trueman, Carl R. **Strange New World: How Thinkers & Activists Redefined Identity**. Crossway, 2022.