

# SERMON OUTLINE

Market Street Church of Christ ♦ 3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301 ♦ (503) 362-5634

## The Unknown God

November 8, 2009

### I. A Distorted View of Life: Acts 17:16-21

- A. Looking for My Idol - Looking for "god"
  - 1. They seem - ignorant (idols) - BUT just like us today
  - 2. What we will do to get what we want = IDOL
- B. Searching for the Meaning of Life - Looking for answers
  - 1. **Epicureans** - Live it up, have fun, party! - Do what feels right.
  - 2. **Stoics** - You can do anything you set your mind to do!
- C. Fashioning My Own God: Acts 17:22-23 - *What's wrong with this?*
  - 1. I am a religious person - doing "religious" things - NOT IT!
  - 2. My view of God - What I WANT Him to be
  - 3. Left with: Controlled; "legalistic"; follow-the-rules; emptiness, frustration, heartless - because I don't KNOW GOD.

### II. Understanding God - Says Four Things

- A. He Is All Powerful - Our Creator: Acts 17:24-25
  - 1. "Made the world and all in it"; "Lord of heaven and earth"
  - 2. **Psalm 50:7,9-12** - We don't want to hear this!?
  - 3. God is the one in control - far greater than me.
- B. He Is the Source of Life and All Things: Acts 17:26
  - 1. "Gives to all people life and breath and all things"
  - 2. Life - zoe - "absolute fullness of life" - **James 1:17**
- C. He Shows Us There Is Something More: Acts 17:26-27
  - 1. "Determined appointed times / boundaries"
  - 2. Given us life but we know it's never enough - **Ecclesiastes 1:8**
  - 3. WHY? So that we might turn to Him - **Ecclesiastes 3:12-14**
- D. He Seeks Our Ultimate Good: Acts 17:27-29
  - 1. "He is not far from each one of us"
  - 2. I want a God who cares - **Acts 17:30-31; Romans 8:31-32**
  - 3. Trust God, who truly seeks my good.

### III. My Response to God / Application

- A. How a correct view of God affects my life
  - 1. Kind of frightening - He is in control, not ME! (Judgment)
  - 2. Very reassuring - because He loves me! (Jesus)
- B. I need to change my direction (Repent): Submit to and follow Him.