



Feeling Your Way
Toward God (Acts 17)

VINTAGE US, PART 4

Ed Noble, Lead Pastor
September 23 & 25, 2011

VINTAGE US: What they were saying *rang so true, so real* that people came by the thousands; the world got shook! Vintage Us engaged the world in a way they "got it."

ACTS 17 — SPEAKING AND THINKING ABOUT GOD IN A WAY THAT MAKES SENSE (AND DISTURBS YOUR WORLD).

¹⁶ Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him as he was observing the city full of idols.

1. WE MUST FACE THE IDOLS!

- "Good things... wrong place. Good question... wrong answer. Legit need... wrong solution.
- Think hard and be brave as you answer: *Why do I hold onto the idol?*
- Always a good question to ponder: *What "provokes my spirit"?*
- Always a good prayer to pray: *"Break my heart for what breaks Yours!"* (or you pray, "Lord, *disturb the hell out of me!*")

¹⁸ And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. Some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities," — because he was preaching Jesus and (Anastasia) the resurrection.

²² So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. ²³ For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; ²⁵ nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; ²⁶ and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, ²⁷ that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; ²⁸ for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.' ²⁹ Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. ³⁰ Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, ³¹ because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead." ³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, "We shall hear you again concerning this." Acts 17:22-32

2. CONNECT WITH "UNKNOWN GOD."

- *hope, humility, giving up*
- The universal: the *hole in our soul*, the *unquenchable thirst*, the *garden longing*.

3. START FROM THE START — The confirm and challenge balance.

4. Supply the answer to this: "SO GOD, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?"

THE END: God: "O.K. play time is over... it's time to "RE-THINK!"

*God is putting the world to rights! Yeah? or Yeah!!!



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- WE MUST _____!
 - "Good things... wrong place. Good question... wrong answer. Legit need... wrong solution.
 - Think hard and be brave as you answer: _____
_____?
 - Always a good question to ponder: _____
_____?
 - Always a good prayer to pray: _____
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Acts 17:22–32

- _____ WITH "UNKNOWN GOD."
 - _____
 - The universal: the _____,
the _____, the _____.
- _____ FROM THE _____ — The _____ and
_____ balance.
- Supply the answer to this: "SO GOD, _____
_____?"

THE END: God: "O.K. play time is over... it's time to "RE-_____!"
*God is putting the world to rights! _____? or _____!!!