
Christianity and World Religions

- **Primary Premise:** If our faith is built on the One true solid _____, then we need not quiver before a polytheistic _____.

Paul and the Areopagus – Acts 17:22-34

- Acts 17:22-34
 - How has our world become increasingly more like Paul’s world?
 - *First*, idols do line our streets; they are just of _____ that are better at _____ themselves.
 - *Second*, on the back end of this post-modern era, _____ plurality has hit our nation with striking expansive force.
 - *Third*, The world has become increasingly _____.

Pop Quiz:

- Testing our knowledge of world religions.

Three Observations on Paul’s Sermon (Acts 17:22-34)

- The first conclusion we can draw from observing Paul in this passage is that Paul has acute _____ knowledge.
 - Acts 17:24-27, 29-31
 - Acts 17:18 – “Epicurean and Stoic philosophers...”
 - In addition to theological acumen, we also have done the work to build up our ability to defend the faith by observing its logic, historicity, coherence, and dependability.
 - In ***Apologetics 101***, we covered...
 - The Existence of God
 - The Existence of Christ
 - The Reliability of Scripture
 - Creation and Intelligent Design
 - The Existence of Truth
 - That Christianity makes sense of Evil.

- ...we are prepared for the task ahead of us!
 - Remember, when it comes to knowledge, _____ is more important than the strides.
- The second observation is that Paul knew what his opposition _____ .
 - Acts 17:28
 - He is confronting his opposition with not only a mastery of his own position, but of _____ as well.
 - Three notable characteristics of Paul’s Response:
 - First, Paul is being _____ .
 - We need not debate these other religions. A better word would be that we are to “ _____ ” with these other religions.
 - Second, Paul is being _____ .
 - Acts 17:23
 - Third, Paul is presenting a compelling _____ .
 - Acts 17:30-31
- The final observation we take from Paul’s presentation is when he delineates the true nature of the _____ they worship as well as their proclivity to worship
 - Two Questions: What and Why?
 - What are other religions truly worshipping?
 - **Affirmed Doctrine:** there exists no other God than the God of _____ theism. (Isa. 44:5; Ps. 18:31; John 5:44)
 - Two Perspectives on the “Who”:
 - First, some believe that the spiritual forces behind these religions are primarily _____ .
 - Second, the images and idols worshipped by the nations have no real _____ behind them.
 - The answer? Its simple - _____ .
 - Why Do non-Christians feel the need to worship?
 - The image of God
 - He has been clearly perceived in all of creation