

The Alien Word

Acts 17:16-34

We're not in **Berea** anymore ...

"... these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so ..." (Acts 17:11)

Even in **Thessalonica** ...

"... he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." (Acts 17:2b-3)

Athens is different ...

A "Berean" culture" is _____ to the Gospel.

A "Thessalonian" culture is _____ towards the Gospel.

An "Athenian" culture is _____ of the Gospel.

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. (Acts 17:16)

Athens, though the _____ / _____ capitol of the world, was thoroughly _____.

The Athenians for the most part were " _____ ", but had no sense of _____ or the _____.

Paul addressed 3 groups:

The Jews ...

The Epicureans ...

The Stoics ...

Paul recognizes a **unique opportunity**:

Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. (Acts 17:21)

Paul's message on Mars Hill:

There is a God, and this is _____. He is and _____. He is like ...

God is both _____ you seek and _____ you seek ...

No longer able to claim _____, your only right response is _____ ...

The *sine qua non* of his message was the _____.

What is **missing** from Paul's message?

What are our **takeaways** then?

The *weight* of the _____ must necessarily precede the *worth* of the _____.

Before Paul could *communicate* the Gospel, he had to _____ the Gospel.

There is no understanding the good news of Jesus and his resurrection unless there is a _____.

Start the conversation at the right place and pray that it will continue to the right conclusion...**Two big takeaways** for every believer: