

Part I: “Endless Philosophies & World Views Will End!”

Acts 17:16-21

Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, His spirit was provoked within Him when He saw that the City was given over to idols. Therefore, He Reasoned in the Synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile Worshipers, and Daily in the Marketplace (Agora) with Those Who happened to be There. Then certain Epicurean and Stoic Philosophers encountered Him (Paul). And Some said, “What does this Babblers want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a Proclaimer of foreign gods”, because He Preached (Gospel Message) to Them (about) Jesus and the Resurrection. And They took Him (Paul) and brought Him to the Areopagus (on Mars Hill), saying, “May We know what this New Doctrine is of which You speak? For You are bringing some strange things to Our ears. Therefore, We want to know what these Things (Gospel Message) mean!” For all the Athenians and the Foreigners Who were There (Areopagus) spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. **Acts 17:16-21 (NKJV)**

Q

“What Does Paul Do Immediately After Entering A New City Or Region?”

A

Paul Looks For an Opportunity To Preach & Teach The Full Gospel Message To Both Jews & Gentiles Alike Whenever Entering A New Territory Or City!

Q

“What Is Added To This Divine Desire To Share The Gospel?”

A

Paul Is Provoked By God’s Spirit In His Spirit, With A Greater Desire & A Greater Urgency!

“Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, His spirit was provoked within Him when He saw that the City was given over to idols.” ... Acts 17:16

Paul later Wrote This, “What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, & I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.” 1st Corinthians 10:19-20

CQ?

“This Morning Brother’s & Sisters Do You Feel Provoked In Your Spirit By God’s Spirit With A Great Desire & A Great Urgency To Share The Life Transforming Gospel With Others?”

Q

“What Does Paul Do In Response To This Provocation In His Spirit?”

A

Paul Daily Reasoned With Everyone He Came Into Contact With!

“Therefore, He Reasoned in the Synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile Worshipers, and in the Marketplace Daily with Those Who happened to be There.” Acts 17:17

Q

“What Does It Mean To Reason With Others?”

A1 – Fully Knowing & Relating

Reasoning Means Being Informed On The Human Condition: Physically, Mentally, & Spiritually, Where We Find Ourselves In This Life.

It Means Knowing History & The Fall Of Mankind From God.

It Also Means Knowing About Current World Events

& How They Relate To The Long Historical Struggle & War Of Satan Against God & His Evil Attempts To Enslave Humanity!

(Continued Over)

A2 – Using Logic & Reason

Reasoning Means Being Logical & Having The Knowledge Of Proper Argumentation.
It Means Being Able To Incorporate Data, Facts, Knowledge,
& Debate Skills, Into A Coherent Position.

It Also Means You Keep Daily Educating Yourself
& Honing Your Communication Skills, Knowledge Base, & Understanding

A3 – Relating Personal Relationship

Reasoning Means That You Use God's Word To Interrelate
& Fully Connect & Explain How All That You Have Come To Know & Experience
About Your Relationship To God, & With Others.

It Is Demonstrating That Others Can Also Experience & Embrace This Life In The Spirit
Daily Reasoning Takes A Lot Of Effort, Discipline, & Work

Paul Writes To Us Today, "**You**, therefore, **My Son**, **Be Strong in the Grace that is in Christ Jesus**. **And the things that You have heard from Me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also**. **You** therefore must endure hardship as a **Good Soldier of Jesus Christ**. **No One** engaged in warfare entangles **Himself** with the affairs of this life, that **He** may please **Him Who Enlisted Him as a Soldier**. And also, if **Anyone** competes in **Athletics**, **He** is not crowned unless **He** competes according to the rules. The **Hardworking Farmer** must be first to partake of the crops. Consider what **I** say, **and may the Lord give you understanding in all things**. **Remind Them of these things, Charging Them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers**. **Be diligent to present Yourself Approved to God, a Worker Who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth**. **But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness**. And **Their Message (False Gospel) will spread like cancer**. **But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife**. And a **Servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting Those Who are in Opposition, if God perhaps will grant Them repentance, so that They May Know the Truth, and that They may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will**."

2nd Timothy 2:1-7, 14-17a, & 23-26

Q

"When We Are Faithful & Diligent & Urgent To Share The Gospel With Others,
What Types Of Outcomes Might We Expect?"

"Then certain **Epicurean** and **Stoic Philosophers** encountered **Him (Paul)**." ... Acts 17:18a

A1

Outright Rejection – Labeled As Idle Talk, Ridiculous, Unbelievable, & Nonsense

And **Some** said, "What does this **Babbler** want to say?" ... Acts 17:18b

A2

Just Another Religion Among All The Others In The World
"**Others** said, "He seems to be a **Proclaimer** of foreign gods",
because He **Preached (Gospel Message)** to **Them** (about) **Jesus and the Resurrection**

Acts 17:18c

Q

"Where Do Most People Today Live Daily?"

A

Always Questioning Everything, But Never Coming To Any Decision Or Conclusion!

"For all the **Athenians** and the **Foreigners** Who were **There (Areopagus)**
spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing."

Acts 17:21

(Slide 31)
REMEMBER

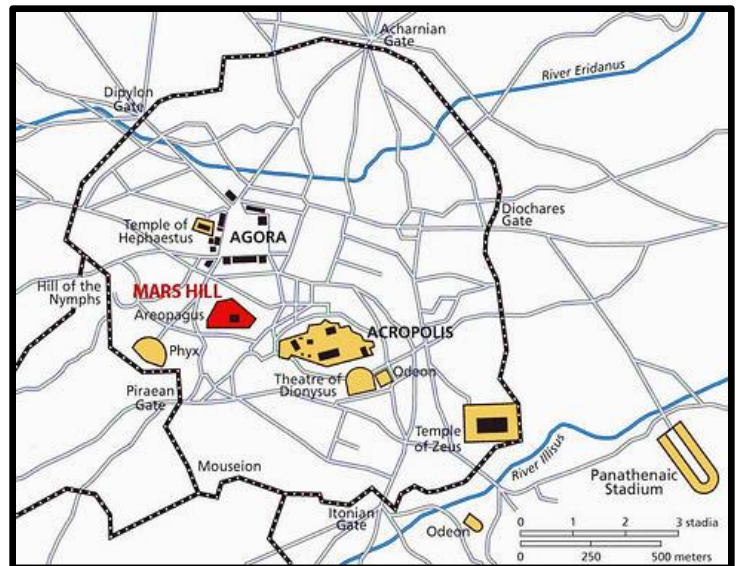
When Jesus Christ Returns To Earth The Endless Debates & Questions Will Cease!
All Other Philosophies & Worldviews Will End When He Comes Into View!
All That Will Remain Will Be The Reality Of God & His Word!

(Slide 32)
TODAY & TOMORROW

Remember Your Calling To LOVE As You Have Been LOVED!
Your Calling Is Not To Save People, But To Serve All People In HIS LOVE!
Your Calling Is To Seek & Share With The Lost & Broken:
The Grace, Mercy, Truth, & LOVE of the Gospel Of Jesus Christ Our Lord!

APPENDIX

World Map of Ancient Greece & Churches & City Map of Ancient Athens



Agora - Marketplace

