

***Sermon Title:* "MEETING IN THE MARKETPLACE"**

Date: October 22, 2023 - Acts 17:16-21

Central Idea: When witnessing, make your way as quickly as possible to Jesus and the resurrection. Are you sharing Jesus?

Introduction: Paul now moved into the capital city of Athens. He was greatly impressed, not by the wonderful buildings, not by the art, not by the philosophy, but by the idolatry. The whole city was filled with sculptured idols. There was a god upon every hilltop.

When Paul arrived in Athens, the intellectual center of the world, he realized that the Lord wanted him to teach the gospel where Greek philosophy reigned supreme. For Paul, these artifacts were not mere artistic objects, but rather they were objects of a pagan religion. In this idolatrous city, Paul was to introduce the gospel of Christ.

I. God's Worship Neglected v. 16

1. What Paul Saw

2. What Paul Felt

II. God's Message Delivered vv. 17,18

1. To the Jews v. 17

2. To the Devout Greeks v. 17

3. To Men of All Sorts vv. 17,18

III. God's Servant Examined vv. 19-21

1. The Outcome

2. The Statement

Conclusion: When Paul preached in Athens, he could have been on the campus in any university in this country today. The people had the same frame of mind. The Greeks were among the most educated people the world ever produced, but they did not know the Old Testament scriptures. Are you sharing Jesus with this lost world?