

7. **Athens (V15-17)** Paul arrived for his first visit to \_\_\_\_\_ by sea and sent word back for “*Silas and Timotheus for to \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ with all \_\_\_\_\_.*” While he awaited their arrival “*his spirit was \_\_\_\_\_ in him, when he saw the city \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.*” He once again went to “*the \_\_\_\_\_ with the Jews, and with the \_\_\_\_\_ persons, and in the market \_\_\_\_\_ with them that \_\_\_\_\_ with him.*”
8. **Encountering The Academic Elite (V18)** “*Certain philosophers of the \_\_\_\_\_, and of the \_\_\_\_\_, encountered him.*” Athens was distinguished for the cultivation of a subtle and refined philosophy. The former group was named for **Epicurus**, who lived about 300 years before the Christian era. They were atheistic and hedonistic humanists. The Stoics originated from **Zeno**, a Cypress-born Athenian philosopher who died 264 BC. They believed God created but that He and everything was subject to fate, that human passions and affections were to be suppressed and restrained; that happiness consisted in the insensibility of the soul to pain; and that a man should gain an absolute mastery over all emotion. They were Pharisee-like being stern and self-righteous. ~Adapted from Barnes~ They speculated: “*What will this \_\_\_\_\_ say?*” and “*He seemeth to be a \_\_\_\_\_ forth of \_\_\_\_\_ gods.*”
9. **The Confrontation (V19-21)** They “*took him, and \_\_\_\_\_ him unto \_\_\_\_\_, saying, May we know what this \_\_\_\_\_, whereof thou speakest, is?*” The celebrated supreme judges of Athens (ie: Areopagites) met here on Mars’ Hill. They “*spent their \_\_\_\_\_ in nothing else, but either \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ some \_\_\_\_\_ thing*” and were curious for information on these “*\_\_\_\_\_ things to our ears.*”
10. **Paul’s Introduction (V22-23)** “*Ye men of Athens, I \_\_\_\_\_ that in \_\_\_\_\_ things ye are too superstitious.*” This word “*superstitious*” means *religious, filled with piety*, not filled with *voodoo* as we think of it today. “*For as I \_\_\_\_\_, and beheld your \_\_\_\_\_, I found an \_\_\_\_\_ with this inscription, TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ GOD. Whom therefore ye \_\_\_\_\_ worship, \_\_\_\_\_ unto you.*” In a strange sense these scholarly academics were not even one step ahead of the most primitive savage in their “need” to honor “the” God.
11. **God Is Omnipotent (V24-25)** “*God that \_\_\_\_\_ the world and \_\_\_\_\_ therein, seeing that he is \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven and earth, dwelleth \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ made with hands.*” Paul emphasizes that God had (a) purpose and design in His creativity. (b) Fate is ruled out. He is creator of the “materials” (Heb 11:3) from which man builds temporal structures. (V25) “*Neither is \_\_\_\_\_ with men’s \_\_\_\_\_, as though he \_\_\_\_\_ any thing, seeing he giveth to all \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and all things.*” (c) God doesn’t depend upon man for his nurture and existence, rather man upon God (Acts 14:17; Jas 1:17).
12. **God Is Greater Than Man (V26-27)** God “*hath made of \_\_\_\_\_ all nations of \_\_\_\_\_.*” All descended from Adam and Eve. He “*hath \_\_\_\_\_ the times \_\_\_\_\_ appointed, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of their habitation.*” The eternal purpose and foreknowledge of God was in place before man. Strictures and limitations, divinely enforced and governed by natural law, ruled man from the earliest of time and still do. It is innate in man to worship a creator: “*That they should \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord, if haply they might \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ him, though he be \_\_\_\_\_ from every one of us.*” (Rom 1:20) “*For the \_\_\_\_\_ things of him from the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world are clearly \_\_\_\_\_, being understood by the things that \_\_\_\_\_ made.*”
13. **Warning About Ignorance (V29-31)** Paul says, “*we are the \_\_\_\_\_ of God*” so let’s not compare the Godhead to material products and manufactures, that He once “*\_\_\_\_\_ at*” ignorance but now demands \_\_\_\_\_. Why? “*Because he hath appointed \_\_\_\_\_, in the which he will \_\_\_\_\_ the world*” by Jesus whom “*he hath \_\_\_\_\_ him from the dead.*”
14. **Audience Reaction (V32-34)** “*Some \_\_\_\_\_: and others said, We will \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of this matter.*” Paul left them but “*certain men \_\_\_\_\_ unto him, and \_\_\_\_\_*” including “*Dionysius the \_\_\_\_\_, and a woman named \_\_\_\_\_, and others.*”