

SERMON OUTLINE FOR STUDENTS

ANTHROPOLOGY — WEEK 1

TITLE: *We Have a Maker*

MAIN SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Acts 17:16–34

SPEAKER: Pastor Phil Ward

I. PAUL IS INVITED TO SPEAK ABOUT JESUS AND THE RESURRECTION (ACTS 17:16–21)

- A. Paul engaged many in Athens because he saw they needed Jesus (**Acts 17:16–18**)
- B. Paul is invited to speak more about Jesus and the resurrection because the culture of Athens was openminded and loved novelty (**Acts 17: 19–21**)

II. PAUL HIGHLIGHTS THE CREATOR/CREATURE DISCTINCTION (ACTS 17:22–29)

- A. Paul grounds his speech in terms of Creator/creature distinction because the Athenians had no distinction (**Acts 17:22–29; Romans 1:25**)
 - 1. Athens, like much of our culture, had a Pagan (oneist) worldview (**Acts 17:22–23**)
 - 2. Paul understood that the fundamental difference between a Pagan and a Christian (twoist) worldview is the Creator/creature distinction (**Acts 17:24–29**)
- B. God is our Maker (**Acts 17:22–26; Genesis 1:1; Psalm 100:3; Nehemiah 9:6; Revelation 4:11**)
 - 1. God is self-sufficient (**Acts 17:25; Psalm 50:10–12**), eternal (**Psalm 90:2**), self-existent (**Exodus 3:14**), maker of all things (**Romans 11:36; Colossians 1:16; John 1:1–3; Isaiah 40:28; Hebrews 11:3; Psalm 33:6; 9; 1 Corinthians 8:16**)
 - 2. Food sustains all things by his word (**Hebrews 1:2–3; Colossians 1:17**)
- C. We are creatures (**Acts 17:24–29**)
 - 1. We are not self-sufficient, but have dependencies (**Acts 17:25–26, 28**)
 - 2. We are limited (**Acts 17:25–28; Job 38–39**)
 - 3. We have given ends or purpose (**Acts 17:27, Genesis 1:27–28; Romans 1:25**)

III. A CALL TO ACTION AND THE RESPONSE (ACTS 17:30–34)

- A. God commands all people everywhere to repent (**Acts 17:30–31**)
- B. The people respond with a mixture of mockery, intrigue, and belief. (**Acts 17:32–34**)

WORDS I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND

SOMETHING NEW TO ME

WHAT I HEARD ABOUT THE GOSPEL

SERMON REFLECTIONS

1. Why did the apostle Paul start talking about Jesus and the resurrection?
2. What is the Creator/creature distinction? Why does Paul ground his speech with that doctrine?
3. What are some specific implications about God and humanity that flow out of the Creator/creature distinction? What characteristics of God are necessary for him to be the Creator? What characteristics of humanity are necessary to us as creatures?

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD I HEARD (CIRCLE THE ONES MENTIONED)

Good	Wise	Wrathful	Merciful
Just	Jealous	Faithful	Perfect
Holy	Gracious	Patient	Love
Other:			

KEY WORDS (WRITE WHAT THESE WORDS MEAN)

Novelty –

Oneist/Oneism –

Twoist/Twoism –

NOTES OR DRAWINGS ABOUT WHAT I HEARD