

Acts 17:22-31 (NLT)

22 So Paul, standing before the council,^[a] addressed them as follows: “Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way, **23** for as I was walking along I saw your many shrines. And one of your altars had this inscription on it: ‘To an Unknown God.’ This God, whom you worship without knowing, is the one I’m telling you about.

24 “He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn’t live in man-made temples, **25** and human hands can’t serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need. **26** From one man^[b] he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.

27 “His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us. **28** For in him we live and move and exist. As some of your^[c] own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’ **29** And since this is true, we shouldn’t think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone.

30 “God overlooked people’s ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him. **31** For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.”

Footnotes:

- a. 17:22 Traditionally rendered *standing in the middle of Mars Hill*; Greek reads *standing in the middle of the Areopagus*.
- b. 17:26 Greek *From one*; other manuscripts read *From one blood*.
- c. 17:28 Some manuscripts read *our*.

New Living Translation (NLT)

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