

# A LIFE WORTH LIVING

## “Filling the Emptiness”

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was **waiting for them in Athens**, he was **deeply troubled by all the idols** he saw everywhere in the city. <sup>17</sup> He went to the synagogue to reason with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles, and he spoke daily in the public square to all who happened to be there.

**Acts 17:16-17 (NLT)**

**MARDUK**

**ASHTORETH**

**DAGON**

**MOLECH**

**Idol = replacement for God**

<sup>18</sup> He also **had a debate** with some of the Epicurean and Stoic **philosophers**. When he told them about Jesus and his resurrection, they said, “What’s this babbler trying to say with these strange ideas he’s picked up?” Others said, “He seems to be preaching about some foreign gods.” <sup>19</sup> Then they took him to the high council of the city. “Come and tell us about this new teaching,” they said. <sup>20</sup> “You are saying some rather strange things, and we want to know what it’s all about.” <sup>21</sup> (It should be explained that all the Athenians as well as the foreigners in Athens **seemed to spend all their time discussing the latest ideas.**) **Acts 17:18-21 (NLT)**

<sup>22</sup> So Paul, standing before the council, addressed them as follows: “Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way, <sup>23</sup> 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.

**Acts 17:22-23 (NLT)**

<sup>24</sup> "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... <sup>27</sup> **"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.** <sup>28</sup> For in him we live and move and exist... <sup>29</sup> <sup>33</sup> we shouldn't think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone. **Acts 17:24; 27-29 (NLT)**

<sup>32</sup> When they heard Paul speak about the resurrection of the dead, some laughed in contempt, but others said, "We want to hear more about this later." <sup>33</sup> That ended Paul's discussion with them, <sup>34</sup> **but some joined him and became believers.** **Acts 17:32-34 (NLT)**

**EVERYBODY WORSHIPS SOMETHING.**

**It's just a question of what we worship the most.**

**RELATIONSHIPS**

**MONEY / STUFF**

*"For where your **treasure is**, there your **heart will be also.***  
**Matthew 6:21 (NIV)**

**KIDS**

**SUCCESS**

**PLEASURE**