

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

# 'TO THE UNKNOWN GOD'

### Paul in Athens

Acts 17: 16-34

Using the 'GOD's Word' translation



"Paul explains,' God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands" Acts 17:24

#### MEMORY VERSE:

"The God who made the universe and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn't live in temples made by humans." ACTS 17:24

#### CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD:

 "While Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy in Athens, he saw that the city had statues of (PHILISTINES, FALSE GODS) everywhere.." ACTS 17:16

#### TRUE OR FALSE:

 Then they brought Paul to the city court, the Areopagus, and asked, "Could you tell us these new ideas that you're teaching?' " ACTS 17:19 TRUE OR FALSE

#### UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

- 3. "Paul stood in the middle of the court and said, "Men of Athens, I see that you are very \_\_\_\_\_.' " ACTS 17:22
  - a. rebellious
  - b. religious
  - c. ridiculous

#### TRUE OR FALSE:

 "I noticed an altar with this written on it: 'To an unknown god'." ACTS 17:22

#### TRUE OR FALSE

 "The God who made the universe and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth. He lives in temples made by humans." ACTS 17:24 TRUE OR FALSE

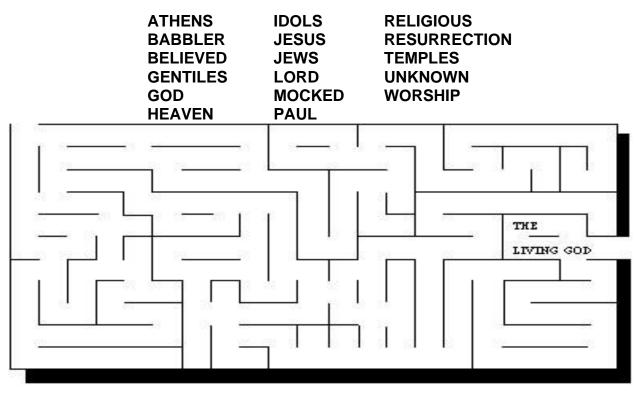
#### UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

6."When the people of the court heard that a person had come back to life..." ACTS 17:32

- a. some joked about it
- b. others said, 'We will hear you again on this matter.'
- c. all of the above

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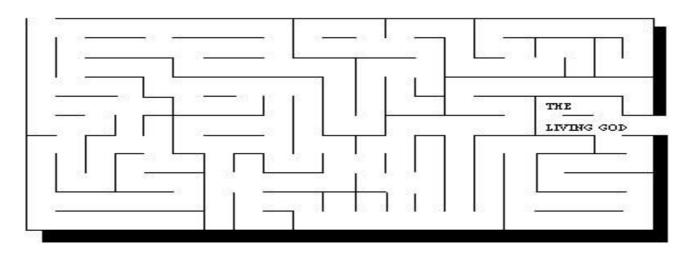


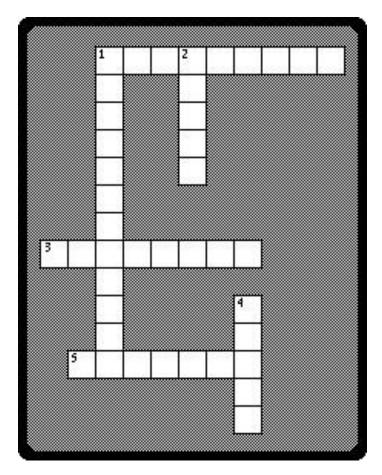
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> ATHENS BABBLER BELIEVED GENTILES GOD HEAVEN

IDOLS JESUS JEWS LORD MOCKED PAUL RELIGIOUS RESURRECTION TEMPLES UNKNOWN WORSHIP





- 2 DOWN "Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to \_\_\_\_\_." ACTS 17:16
- ACROSS "And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, 'May we know what this new \_\_\_\_\_ is of which you speak?' " ACTS 17:19
- ACROSS "Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, 'Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very \_\_\_\_\_.' " ACTS 17:22
- 5 ACROSS "For as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ GOD." ACTS 17:22
- 4 DOWN "God, who made the world, and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with \_\_\_\_\_." ACTS 17:24
- 1 DOWN "And when they heard of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the dead, some mocked, others said, 'We will hear you again on this matter.' " ACTS 17:32

<sup>16</sup> While Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy in Athens, he saw that the city had statues of false gods everywhere. This upset him. <sup>17</sup> He held discussions in the synagogue with Jews and converts to Judaism. He also held discussions every day in the public square with anyone who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> Some Epicurean and Stoic philosophers had discussions with him. Some asked, "What is this babbling fool trying to say?" Others said, "He seems to be speaking about foreign gods." The philosophers said these things because Paul was telling the Good News about Jesus and saying that people would come back to life.

<sup>19</sup>Then they brought Paul to the city court, the Areopagus, and asked, "Could you tell us these new ideas that you're teaching? <sup>20</sup>Some of the things you say sound strange to us. So we would like to know what they mean."

<sup>21</sup> Everyone who lived in Athens looked for opportunities to tell or hear something new and unusual.

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in the middle of the court and said, "Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>As I was going through your city and looking closely at the objects you worship, I noticed an altar with this written on it: 'To an unknown god.' I'm telling you about the unknown god you worship. 24 The God who made the universe and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth. He doesn't live in shrines made by humans, <sup>25</sup> and he isn't served by humans as if he needed anything. He gives everyone life, breath, and everything they have. <sup>26</sup> From one man he has made every nation of humanity to live all over the earth. He has given them the seasons of the year and the boundaries within which to live. <sup>27</sup> He has done this so that they would look for God, somehow reach for him, and find him. In fact, he is never far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup>Certainly, we live, move, and exist because of him. As some of your poets have said, 'We are God's children.' 29 So if we are God's children, we shouldn't think that the divine being is like an image made from gold, silver, or stone, an image that is the product of human imagination and skill.

<sup>30</sup> "God overlooked the times when people didn't know any better. But now he commands everyone everywhere to turn to him and change the way they think and act. <sup>31</sup> He has set a day when he is going to judge the world with justice, and he will use a man he has appointed to do this. God has given proof to everyone that he will do this by bringing that man back to life."

<sup>32</sup>When the people of the court heard that a person had come back to life, some began joking about it, while others said, "We'll hear you talk about this some other time."

<sup>33</sup>With this response, Paul left the court. <sup>34</sup>Some men joined him and became believers. With them were Dionysius, who was a member of the court, and a woman named Damaris, and some other people.



Look out for the PENTECOST ACTIVITY packs arriving soon – if you don't get one by 28<sup>th</sup> May please let us know!

We are building up our 'library' of GODLY PLAY videos on the YouTube channel at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCopwyXTvmHCMOUSKeJJf6YQ and you can find out about Paul in today's Godly Play.