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*Acts 17:28*

*“For in Him we live and move and exist. As one of your own poets say, ‘We are His offspring.’”*

These words come from the Apostle Paul during a debate that he had on Mars Hill in Athens Greece. Paul was debating some of the philosophers of Athens about life and the purpose of life. As part of that debate he took the opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with the philosophers. The Greeks had gods for everything and their gods were little more than superhero figures made of stone. Those who did not believe in these mystical gods believed in nothing eternal and so they lived for the moment seeking to satisfy only their own personal desires and passions. While they were not always eager listeners to Paul, he had a vital message for them to hear.

There are many people in our culture today that are not unlike the people of Athens from Paul’s time. There are those who worship lesser gods of many kinds. For some it’s movie stars and for others it is sports stars. Some people worship at the alter of power or recognition. Some worship powerful politicians or business figures while other worship charismatic preachers. In the end none of these gods can secure a person’s peace, joy, or eternal safety. They are little more than superheroes with clay feet.

Of course, there are those who worship only their own passions and pleasures. The consumer oriented world we live in is their religion. They seek after the passions of life often being involved in promiscuous sex, extra-marital affairs, pornography or other sexual

brokenness in the vain attempt to feel loved. They do not realize that God is love and until they’ve experienced God’s unconditional love they will always have an emptiness in their heart.

Others turn to the accumulation of things. Their mantra is “he who has the most toys wins”. In a vain effort to find happiness they buy more and more putting their financial future, as well as present, in jeopardy. The courts are full of cases where houses, cars, boats and more are being foreclosed upon. Things do not bring peace, joy, or eternal security.

Sadly there is another whole group of people that just try to escape into drugs and alcohol or destructive behavior. They have not heard (or listened) to God’s promises in scripture. What they seek is right in front of them but their eyes are blind and their ears are deaf.

The one and only living God is the only place that we can find fulfillment, peace and joy. God is the author of life and the creator of all. We live and move and have our being in and through Him. God created us for a relationship. When we learn to love God and love one another, then and only then can we find our purpose, our peace.

If you want to begin a new relationship with God, now is the perfect time. God will meet you right where you are and lead you to real peace and joy. Come and let us journey together.