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CHURCH ON THE MOVE

Then they took him to the high council of the city. “Come and tell us about this new teaching,” they said.

Acts 17:19 (NLT)

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You are saying some rather strange things, and we want to know what it's all about.”

Acts 17:20 (NLT)

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(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 17:19 (NLT)

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1. You can know the God that you do not know.

The background features a collage of historical maps in shades of brown and tan, overlaid with a dark blue gradient. A network of thin white lines connects various glowing blue and white dots scattered across the image, creating a sense of global connectivity.

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So Paul, standing before the council, addressed them as follows:
“Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way,

Acts 17:22 (NLT)

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For as I was walking along I saw
your many shrines. And one of your
altars had this inscription on it:

Acts 17:23a (NLT)

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‘To an Unknown God.’ This God,
whom you worship without
knowing, is the one I’m telling you
about.

Acts 17:23b (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is Creator

“He is the God who made the world
and everything in it.

Acts 17:24a (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is LORD

Since He is Lord of heaven and
earth,

Acts 17:24b (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is transcendent

He doesn't live in man-made
temples,

Acts 17:24c (NLT)

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And human hands can't serve his
needs—for He has no needs.

Acts 17:25a (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is a giver

He Himself gives life and breath to everything, and He satisfies every need.

Acts 17:25b (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is in control

From one man He created all the
nations throughout the whole earth.

Acts 17:26a (NLT)

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He decided beforehand when they
should rise and fall, and He
determined their boundaries.

Acts 17:26b (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is near

“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.

Acts 17:27 (NLT)

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2. This is who God is: He is personal

For in Him we live and move and exist. As some of your own poets have said, 'We are His offspring.'

Acts 17:28 (NLT)

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And since this is true, we shouldn't think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone.

Acts 17:29 (NLT)

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3. This is what He is commanding you to do:
Repent

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“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.

Acts 17:30 (NLT)

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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.”

Acts 17:31 (NLT)

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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.”

Acts 17:32 (NLT)

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That ended Paul's discussion with
them,

Acts 17:33 (NLT)

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But some joined him and became believers. Among them were Dionysius, a member of the council, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Acts 17:34 (NLT)

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