

CONTEXT



City	Lystra	Thessalonica & Berea	Athens
Cultural Bridge	Natural World	Jewish history & Messiah	Natural World & Soul's Desire for Immortality
Sin	Old gods/idols made by hands	Moral performance through the Law and misunderstanding Messiah	Idolatry - You think you're free but you're actually enslaved
Gospel Emphasis	God's goodness in creation & history	The Messiah must suffer to bring forgiveness & new creation	Resurrection of Jesus as the Divine King
Sources of Authority	Creation/Material World	Hebrew Scriptures & Prophets	Creation & Greek Poets



Paul affirms shared categories, appealing to the natural world and general revelation as sources of authority.

WHAT WE DO KNOW

There is a Creator God - a source of life

The Creator God is transcendent...

...but he is not far from us

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"We pray for those who do not believe but who long to know you, the very Word of Life."

Common Worship: Daily Prayer

The Creator God reveals himself through the natural world...

...and human beings

"For we are also his offspring." -- Aratus

"In him we live and move and have our being" —Epimenedes

"God does not live in temples made with hands..." -- Aratus

WHAT ARE WE TO DO

Repent of Idolatry

Outrage Culture:

- Purity
- Call to Repentance
- Perpetual guilt
- Self-monitoring
- Legalistic Ethic

Embrace Resurrection Life through Jesus Christ

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets at different times and in different ways. In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son.

Hebrews 1:1-3

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through him and for him... he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

Colossians 1:15-17

INVITATIONS