

"PAUL ON MARS HILL"**Introduction**

1. A very famous event here
2. Paul's Second Missionary Journey
3. Paul at Athens – the Areopagus

1. THE BACKGROUND TO THIS SERMON

- 1) v.16-21: interesting + important facts
- 2) The experiences at Thessalonica
- 3) Silas and Timothy awaited by Paul
- 4) Paul's compassion for the Athenians
- 5) Two venues:
 - (i) market
 - (ii) philosophers
- 6) Epicurians: Stoics (v.18)
APPLICATION: The world is lost, though so clever

2. THE SERMON OF PAUL: I

- 1) Its location: Areopagus (v.19)
- 2) The curiosity: Jesus + the resurrection
- 3) Paul's subject to start with:
 - (i) their ignorance of God
 - (ii) God the great Creator
 - (iii) the self-sufficiency of God
 - (iv) the sovereign wisdom of God
 - (v) the duty of all men to seek Him**OBSERVE**: The first great need of ignorant men is to know about God first.

APPLICATION: Here is where to begin – the doctrine of God Himself

3. THE SERMON OF PAUL: II

- 1) God's "winking" at man's ignorance
- 2) "But now" (v.30): OT > NT
- 3) The fact of coming Judgement:
 - (i) all must appear before God
 - (ii) this event proved by the resurrection of Christ
 - (iii) Christ: the Judge
- 4) The appeal of Paul's sermon:
 - (i) the need to seek God
 - (ii) the glorious person of Christ**OBSERVE**: A sermon is not a lecture – but calls for a decision

4. THE REACTION TO PAUL'S SERMON

- 1) It was mixed:
 - (i) many mocked – did not believe in miracles
 - (ii) but some believed
- 2) See how some postponed their duty "we will hear thee again"
- 3) Believing persons: of differing statures – yet all hear God's voice through Paul
OBSERVE: The gospel divides all who hear it

CONCLUSION

1. Where are the scoffers now?
2. The believers named.
3. Where is your name?

PSALM**50¹: 1 – 6****49: 6 – 11****50¹: 21 – 23**