

“Sharing Your Faith”

– Know Your Audience, Part 2 –
(Acts 17:10-34)

A. Berea: People with an Orthodox Religious Background. 17:10-14

1. The strategy in Berea. 17:10
2. The eagerness of the worshipers. 17:11
3. The widespread faith. 17:12
4. The agitation by Jews from Thessalonica. 17:13-14

B. Athens: People with a Pagan Religious Background. 17:15-34

1. There is no substitute for time with people. 17:15-17
2. Persistence (17:17) will be rewarded (17:18-20).
3. Pay a compliment. 17:21-22
4. Find a point of connection. 17:23, 28
5. Explain the BASICS. (Start with God, work toward Jesus.)
 - a. Creator. 17:24
 - b. Transcendent (above everything – has no needs). 17:24-25a
 - c. Controller. 17:25b
 - d. Planner. 17:26
 - e. Friendly. 17:27a
 - f. Approachable. 17:27b-28
 - g. Non-material. 17:29
 - h. Patient. 17:30a

- i. Will judge us through a man. 17:30b-31a
 - j. Guarantee – He resurrected him! 17:31b
6. Expect mixed results. 17:32-34
 - a. Some will sneer. 17:32a
 - b. Some will be curious. 17:32b-33
 - c. Some will believe. 17:34

C. The Good News about Jesus (adapted to counter the pagan religion of Evolution)

1. Both God and Evolution are “faith” positions.
2. Both begin with assumptions that cannot be proven.
3. Two opposing assumptions
 - a. The God of the Bible
 - b. The Big Bang
4. God created you. You did not evolve. Gen. 1:1, 27
5. God will call each of us to account. Heb. 9:27
6. We all have sinned. Rom. 3:23
7. We earn death by our sin. Rom. 5:12; 6:23a; Rev. 20:14-15
8. God loves us; sent Jesus to die for our sins. Rom. 5:8
9. God raised Jesus from death on the 3rd day. 1 Cor. 15:3-5
10. If we place our faith in Jesus, we are forgiven. Acts 13:38-39
11. If we trust in Jesus, we are given eternal as a free gift. Rom. 6:23; John 3:16; John 20:30-31

Do you have eternal life?

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