

## Sermon Notes

### *The Life of Paul and Evangelism Lessons*

#### *From His Message to Athens*

##### Part II

#### I. Life of Paul.

##### A. Educational life.

1. His home town of Tarsus was a city known for higher education.
2. Advanced religious training was secured in Jerusalem.
  - a. Acts 22:3; Philippians 3:5.

##### B. Gamaliel and Pharisaism.

1. Background on Gamaliel.
  - a. Luke's notation – Acts 5:34
2. Pharisee
  - a. Probable meaning of the term.
    1. Zealous – Acts 22:3; Galatians 1:13-14

#### II. Paul's message to Athens.

##### A. Acts 17:16-31.

##### B. Key thought from last week's message:

**Agitation resulted in Action – talk about the Gospel.**

##### C. Exposition.

1. Verse 18.
  - a. Epicureans.
    1. Founder – Epicurus
    2. Belief

##### a. Libertarians of today?

##### b. Stoicism.

1. Founder – Zeno.
2. Origins of name.
3. Belief.

##### c. Confusion over Paul's presentation.

1. Mistook Paul to mean two deities.

#### 2. Verses 19-21.

##### a. Areopagus (verse 19).

1. Is Luke's meaning the site or the tribunal?

##### b. "Strange to our ears," verse 20.

1. Surprise.

##### c. "Telling or hearing of something new," verse 21.

1. The university setting.

##### d. "Idle babbling," verse 18.

#### III. Points for Reflection.

A. We live among epicureans today and their mindset must be challenged.

B. We live among stoics today and their mindset must be challenged.

C. Gently confront with the Scripture, "You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."