

## Sermon Notes

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

#### *From His Message to Athens*

##### Part IV

#### I. Life of Paul.

##### A. Things we have learned thus far.

1. Birthplace of significance.
2. His education.
3. Committed to zealous Pharisaism.
4. Severe persecutor of the church.

##### B. Today's insights.

1. His legal status.
  - a. A Roman citizen.
  - b. Only three ways to achieve such status.
    1. Reward.
    2. Purchase.
    3. Birth.
  - c. Characteristic dress – the T\_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. Paul made good use of his legal status.
    1. Philippian incident – Acts 16:35-39.
    2. Jerusalem incident – Acts 22:22-29.
    3. Caesarean appeal – Acts 25:10-12.

#### II. Exposition.

##### A. Acts 17:24

1. God as creator.
  - a. Outward witness – Psalm \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Inward witness – Romans \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Kosmos (world). Paul used the term before Carl Sagan.
  - a. Isaiah 42:5

##### b. Correction of the Epicureans.

3. “Lord of Heaven and Earth.”
  - a. Isaiah 45:7; Genesis 14:19,22
4. “Does not dwell in temples.”
  - a. Also asserted by Steven – Acts 7:46-49.

##### B. Acts 17:25

1. “As if He needed anything.”
  - a. Greek misconception.
  - b. God is not dependent on anything.
    1. Psalm 50:9-12.

##### C. Acts 17:26

1. No special blood line for human beings.
  - a. One common ancestor.
  - b. F.F. Bruce.
2. The Sovereignty of God is in view.
  - a. Isaiah 40:15-17

##### D. Acts 17:27

1. “That they should seek God.”
  - a. Romans 1:20.
  - b. “Grope,” “Reach out,” or “Feeling after.”
  - c. James Boice.
  - d. Helen Keller.

#### III. Points for Reflection.

- A. There is a witness to God's existence, and He expects to be acknowledged by men.
- B. God is both creator and sustainer.
- C. God is not dependent upon human beings and Christians in particular.