

THE 4 WANTS

Acts 17:22-34

Part 2

“YOU CRAVE PURPOSE”

And it's only found in Christ

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R. Albert Mohler, Jr. writes, “We are called to serve the cause of Christ at one of the crucial turning points in human history. The generations now living have witnessed an explosion of knowledge, the collapse of distance, and the rising and falling of empires. Cultures and societies have been radically transformed. Expansive wealth has brought great material comfort, but the most basic structures of society are undermined. Families are fractured, lawlessness abounds, violence invades, and the media bring a constant stream of chaos into our lives.

Most souls are homeless, and the reality of truth is itself denied. Postmodern Americans accept meaning as a replacement for truth and exchange worldviews as quickly as they try on new clothes.

This is a very strange time to proclaim and defend the Christian faith.”

May I piggyback on his thoughts with a question? How do we share the Gospel in a world that craves purpose and meaning but is unsure that **anything** is true?

Enter Paul in Acts 17...

WHEN DEFENDING YOUR FAITH...

- A powerful defense starts with a **provoked spirit**.
- In apologetics, there is no “**silver bullet**” argument.
- No presentation is complete without **special revelation** (the Word of God).
- The Bible calls you to share the reason for the hope within you (1 Peter 3:15) in a **culturally relevant** way.

GRASPING FOR GOD

- Man instinctively **craves purpose** and perceives “**good**.”
 - Touch point ... the problem of a **moral universe**.

- The **origin** of the **universe** points to **design**.
 - Touch point ... the attributes of God are unavoidable in "**cosmology**."

- Man's existence points to **fine tuning** or **special attention**.
 - Touch point ... life exists on a **razor's edge**.

- The God of the **universe** is not **man made**.
 - Touch point ... gilded statues (**paganism**), will never **satisfy**.

WRAP

- Remember Paul...
 1. Brushes up against their **world view**.
 2. **Invites** them to **think**.
 3. Leads them to **God's Word**.