

Sermon Notes: There Are No Other Gods | Pastor Wes | Sunday Morning Sermon | 06/02/24

Introduction

- Paul's experience in Athens
 - Athens worships 3,000 gods (Acts 17:16)
 - Paul is provoked by the city's idolatry

Paul's Approach

- Reasoning in the synagogue and marketplace (Acts 17:17)
- Encounter with Epicurean and Stoic philosophers (Acts 17:18)
 - Epicureans: Pursuit of pleasure, avoiding hardship and death
 - Stoics: Belief that everything (good or evil) is God

Key Teachings

- True freedom is not doing whatever you want, but living within God's will
- Modern society's idols
 - Wealth, pleasure, victimization
 - Comparison to media and generational changes

Scriptural References

- Acts 17:22-31
 - Paul preaches about the unknown God
 - God made the world and everything in it
 - God does not dwell in temples made with hands
- Romans 1:18-20
 - God's wrath against ungodliness and unrighteousness
 - God's attributes are evident in creation
- Psalm 19:1-3
 - The heavens declare the glory of God

- Day and night reveal knowledge of God

- Isaiah 53:1-12

- Prophecy of the Messiah
- Jesus bore our griefs, carried our sorrows
- By His stripes, we are healed

Practical Applications

- Recognizing and rejecting modern idols

- Focus on personal and societal idols

- Importance of sharing the gospel

- Engage with others thoughtfully and respectfully
- Understand others' beliefs to effectively communicate God's love

Conclusion

- Call to a deeper relationship with God
- Prayer for the congregation to stand firm in faith
- Invitation for personal prayer and commitment to Christ