

Wednesday Night Yard Teaching Guide: *The Christian Story*

Opening Scripture Reading

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.' Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

(Acts 17:22–31)

Main Points

Most worldviews serve to answer four fundamental questions – questions that we all have about our lives and the world we live in. Here are those questions, and how the Christian faith through God's word answers them:

1. *Where do we come from?* From God, the source of all good
2. *What went wrong?* Adam and Eve turned from God and the world fell into corruption
3. *How do we fix it?* We don't! We need a Savior, and that Savior is Jesus Christ
4. *Where are we going?* Through judgment to the glorious presence of our Creator

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever thought about your "worldview" before? Are these concepts helpful?
2. Do you know about other worldviews? How do they answer the four questions we discussed?
3. Which biblical answer to the four previous questions did you find most helpful? Why?
4. How does the fact that you were made for friendship with God change how you live?