

FOUNDATION OF FAITH: GOD THE FATHER

By Keith Greer

"If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?" {Psalm 11:3}

Our faith in God is on a solid foundation. All the evidence is on firm and solid ground. Not on shifting sand! How would one prove the existence of God? Why not. use the sermon Paul preached in the city of Athens? A city given over to all forms of idolatry. Where did Paul begin in his discourse?

"Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, 'Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you!'" (Acts 17:22,23)

Paul starts where they are at: Instead of many gods there is only one true and living God! Paul not only states the flaw in their understanding but the remedy to correct that thinking! Paul opposes their teaching and will not leave them in ignorance. "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands." (Acts 17:24)

Paul is going to describe God to them. God made the WHOLE WORLD! Creator and sustainer of all life. Where is the evidence?

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. "{Genesis 1:1-3}

"The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork." (Psalm 19:1) How else can we explain the order and design of all of creation? Intelligence cries for a designer! That designer was God!

"Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, " (Acts 17:25,26)

Pray tell who needs who? God is the sustainer of all life! He gives and provides all the needs of man. In their idolatry they had a god for everything (sun, moon, stars, earth, etc.) Man does not need to sustain God, it is the other way around! In those days they built great houses for their gods and brought gifts and food to give them. The one true and living God needs nothing from us to sustain His life.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. " (James 1:17)

"Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. " (Matthew 6:8)

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. "{Matthew 6:33}

"So that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring. " (Acts 17:27,28)

Make no mistake that God created all things, He sustains all things and when it's destroyed He will take care of that too. Just as in the days of Daniel, God wanted King Nebuchadnezzar to understand this one point, "God rules in the kingdoms of men." Wherever man is God is very near. Personally speaking, this is a very comforting and reassuring fact! ***