

Class 2 Session B Notes

Romans 1:16-28

- People do have knowledge of God
- This knowledge is denied and suppressed
- They judged God; therefore God gives them up to an “unjudging mind” a “mind devoid of judgement”

Acts 17 – Paul does apologetics

- Idolatry in Athens: Idolatry in our culture too – nothing has changed!
- Paul debated; was opposed by undaunted
- Paul’s defence begins with something positive to say; doesn’t begin by needlessly offending people
- Paul challenges the apparent polytheism of Athens; proclaims the Creator
- Cites their poets to reveal their guilt; in their “heart of hearts” they are not polytheistic – they do know the true God (as Romans 1 says)
- Paul uses the resurrection as evidence for his worldview
- Proclaims a coming judgment and a means of escape:
- God commands all men everywhere to repent (change their minds; trust in Him)
- A successful apologist:
 - Not based on mere persuasion (numbers of converts – this is secondary)
 - How faithful are we to the truth of the Scriptures?
 - How faithful are we to our ultimate commitment?
 - The successful apologist is one who is uncompromising in biblical truth. His apologetics/evangelism method honours God. He does not use fallacious arguments in order to persuade. He does not put error in service of the truth!