Greater by Far

Acts 17:16-34

1st Order Questions: 2nd Order Questions A big mistake: Answering Order Questions with Order Answers **Background for this Passage** The Apostle Paul: Missionary in the Roman Empire Telling people the _____ of Jesus Christ Usually speaking to , as well as Gentiles who had adopted beliefs Sermons showed Jesus as the fulfillment of the promises of Repeatedly attacked by some of the Jews Ended up in as a place of safety Left traveling companions in Now encountering a thoroughly setting Acts 17:16-34 16-21: Paul challenged Athenians about Seemingly: ministry by extensive idolatry A great distance from true of God Passion for God's and people's of it Ministry in 2 contexts: synagogue & He challenged the about idols Athens: place of endless 22-23: Paul in Areopagus: the answer for their Started his bridge in world " God" became his basis for conversation Opened the door for a _____ 24-31: God is _____ of all, not a _____ of human artistry Biblical ideas in " clothing" The _____ of humanity can't be less than humanity The of human history is greater than it Purpose: that all would God God is not _____ from anyone The _____ of human history will judge it All people everywhere ______ to turn to God Jesus Christ is the and over all

32-34: Responses: mocking, "interest", or genuine belief

No evidence of starting a _____ there Yet some people became Christians

The Big Idea:

God is the _____, ____, and ____ of all human and natural history Therefore... God is to be worshiped and _____ _____ and _____ and _____ everything else Application: God! Internal life (head & heart) : deep, genuine belief We _____ nothing to God He has no of us at all and He owes us nothing He is "high" beyond comprehension Yet... He has given us His ____ Invites us into _____ with Him His _____ lives within His children He is amazingly patient and kind with our continued See, understand, and His overwhelming and unfathomable glory Guard our hearts against... longing for other things looking down on others, as though we are '_____' like God External life (hands) : deep recognition of our lack of glory before His glory Unhesitating and enthusiastic _____ (obedience) before the wisdom and glory and of God Be passionate for the glory of God In ourselves: fight against in all its forms The world around us: point people to the true and unsurpassable glory of Be deeply disturbed () where worship of God is displaced by anything else John 17:3

Reflection

• How do you genuinely view God in relation to yourself, to other people, and to the joys and trials of life? What helps you worship His greatness?