

## ORIGINS Pt 6 “The Ends of the Earth”

### Acts 1:8 NIV

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

### Acts 17:23-25 NIV

23 For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. 24 “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.

- Paul quotes two familiar poets: Epimenides and Aratus
- There is a cultural understanding of Spiritual Matters.
- Paul introduces the God they are looking for.

### Acts 17:26-28 NIV

26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. 27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’  
As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

29 “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. 30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

The implications of bearing witness is not simply geography, but also generationally.

## WORRY & CONCERN

We worry **about** things...  
Concern is **for**...

- It is much easier to create an adversary rather than a neighbor.
- It is easier to grow cynical and dismissive than it is to cultivate empathy.

## **REPENTANCE & A NEW REALITY**

- Repentance is about a return.
- Repentance brings us into a New Reality.

Judgement- krinō

to come to a conclusion or the determining criteria for how things are going to be.

Justice- dikaiosynē

a right-ness that connects and serves as the foundation for this way of life.

"Life is often difficult and our best efforts are thwarted. We often mess things up ourselves. But it is really important to believe that the way things are, when all is said and done, is not a state of chaos and warring, but rather a state of peace and well-being and beauty. Reality is a bountiful gift, not violent, indifferent, or meaningless. It makes a difference what you think "normal" is, and what you can hope to develop in your living and knowing."  
- Ester Meek

## **FROM WORRY TO CONCERN**

- Can you get outside of yourself and consider a reality of Righteousness?
- Can you trust Jesus with what you think He is asking of you?
- What might it be like for what you worry about to become a concern for?