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²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For 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." —Acts 17:22-23 ESV

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"The god of American pop culture is an indulgent heavenly spirit who is little threat to our lifestyles and luxuries—a god consistent with consumer culture and rampant immorality. This god might wish human beings would behave, but is powerless when they do not... A vast majority of Americans claim to believe in God, but most believe in an idol of their own imaginations.

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This deity is always there to be called upon in times of trouble, but he would never intrude upon our personal space, judge our sins, or hinder our happiness... The anemic view of God held by many church members is evident in doctrinal confusion, corrupted worship, compromised evangelism, and spiritual deadness.

The absence of awe, wonder, and exaltation in our worship indicates that we have rejected one of the most critical teachings of Scripture—the fear of God." —Albert Mohler

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The Unknown God is...

Sovereign in Creation

Acts 17:24-27

Sovereign in Creation
 His action is absolute.
 Acts 17:24-25

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²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

²⁶And 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.

—Acts 17:24-26 ESV

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...then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.—Genesis 2:7 ESV

"Humanity was not made for mere existence, but significance and glory through the knowledge of our Creator God."

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Sovereign in Creation

His design is specific.
 Acts 17:26

Sovereign in Creation
 His person is revealed.
 Acts 17:27

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"You have made us for Yourself, O God, and we are restless until we find our rest in Thee." —Augustine

23Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD." —Jeremiah 9:23-24 ESV

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18For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For His invisible attributes, namely, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

²¹For although they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

-Romans 1:18-23 ESV

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The Unknown God is...

Supreme in Judgment

Acts 17:30-31

overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because 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 17:30-31 ESV

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"The glory of the gospel is this: The One from whom we need to be saved is the very One who saves us." —Bruce Frank

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The Unknown God is...
Savior to All Who Believe
Acts 17:31, 34

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"... ³¹because 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." ... ³⁴But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them. —Acts 17:31, 34 ESV

"To know God is to know life."

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And this is eternal life, that they know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. —John 17:3 ESV

"Would you loose your sorrow? Would you drown your cares? Then go plunge yourself in the Godhead's deepest sea. Be lost in the immensity and you will come forth as from a couch of rest refreshed and invigorated. I know nothing which can so comfort the soul, so calm the swelling billows of sorrow and grief, so speak peace to the winds of trial as the devote musing upon God. It is to that subject I invite you this morning." —C.H. Spurgeon

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... 9if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame."

12For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. 13For "everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."

-Romans 10:9-13 ESV

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