



Paul in Athens

Acts 17



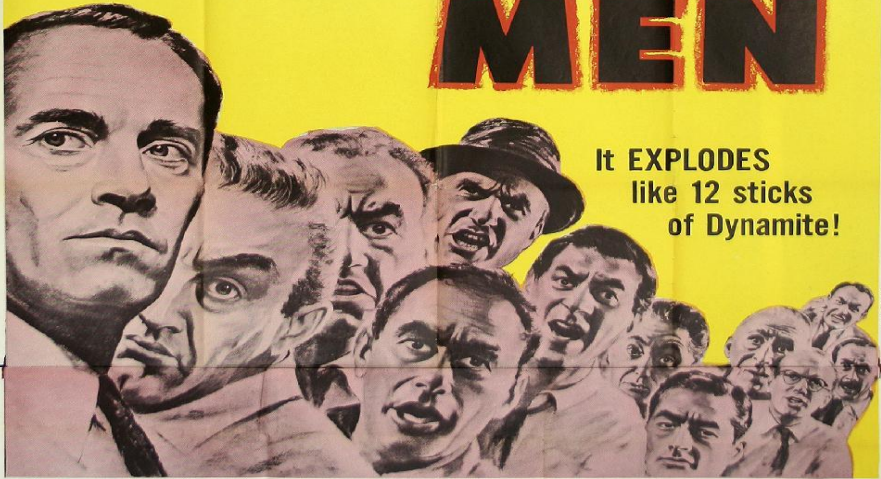
HENRY FONDA

12

LIFE IS IN THEIR HANDS—
DEATH IS ON THEIR MINDS!

ANGRY
MEN

It EXPLODES
like 12 sticks
of Dynamite!



with LEE J. COBB • ED BEGLEY and E. G. MARSHALL • JACK WARDEN

Story and Screenplay by REGINALD ROSE Directed by SIDNEY LUMET

Produced by HENRY FONDA and REGINALD ROSE • Associate Producer GEORGE JUSTIN

An ORION-NOVA Production • Released thru UNITED ARTISTS





WHITE HORSE



51

BLACKWELL

50

49

BLACKWELL

48

DOCTOR
FAUSTUS

Biffa





ITALY

ROME

Thessalonica

Berea

MACEDONIA

Philippi

GREECE

ATHENS

Corinth

PATMOS

Ephesus

ASIA MINOR

Antioch
(of Pisidia)

Tarsus

Haran

ASSYRIA

NINEVEH

Garden
of Eden?

MEDIA

Antioch
(of Syria)

Damascus

JERUSALEM

MOAB

EDOM

Mt. Sinai

ARABIA

Red Sea

Black Sea

Caspian Sea

Persian Gulf

Euphrates River

Tigris River

Ararat Mts.

Shushan

Ur

Babylon

Caesarea

Tyre

Sidon

Cyprus

Rhodes

Crete

Malta

Sicily

Libya

Mediterranean Sea (Great Sea)

Nile River

Memphis

Kadesh

Promised Land

Edom

Moab

Jerusalem

Damascus

Antioch (of Syria)

Haran

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Setting the scene!

17 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.”

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Setting the scene!

⁵ But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶ And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷ and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.”

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Setting the scene!

¹⁰ The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue.¹¹ Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

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Setting the scene!

But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. ¹⁴ Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. ¹⁵ Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

Paul in Athens

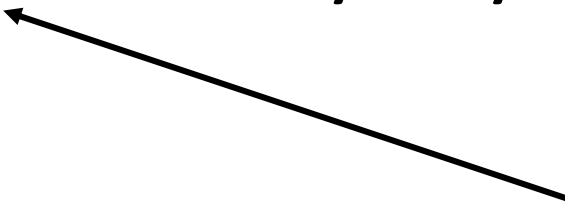
¹⁶ Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.



God-fearing *Gentiles*

Paul in Athens

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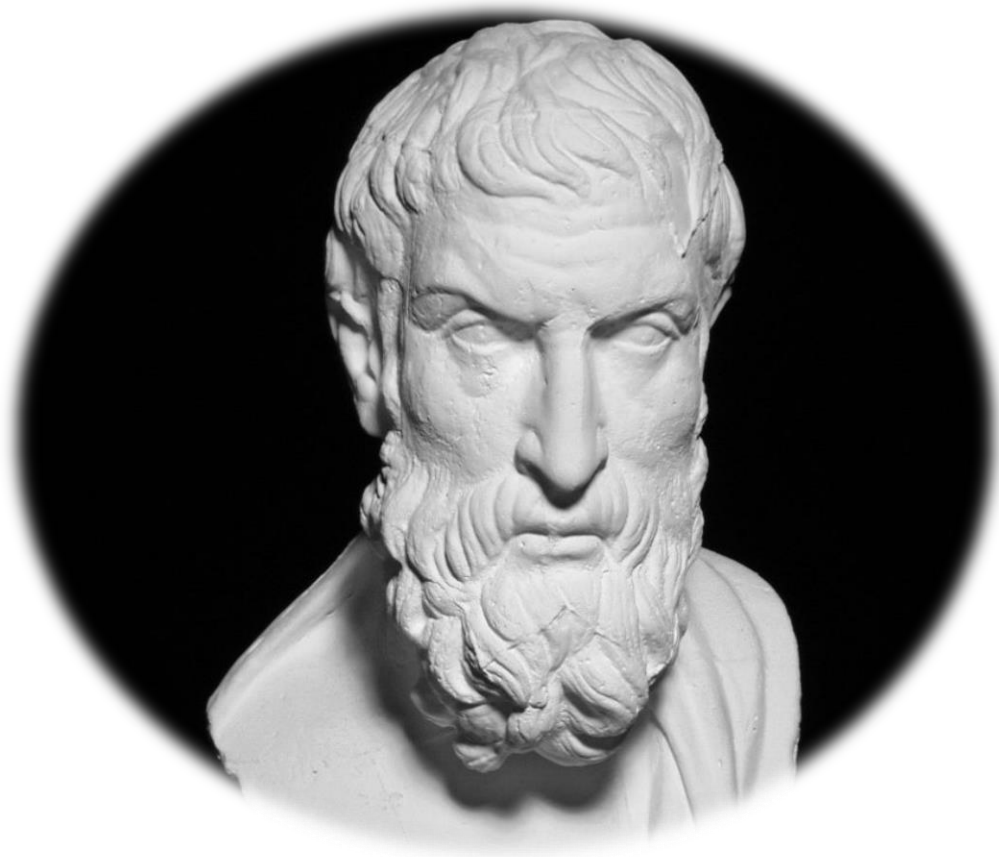


The *agora* “gathering place”

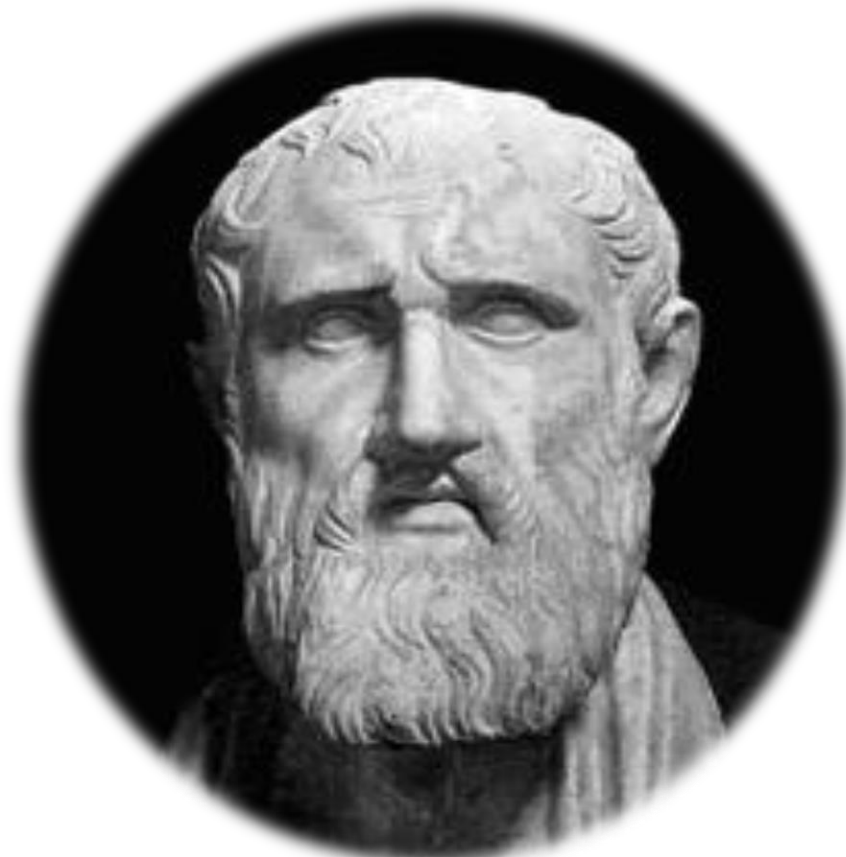


Paul in Athens

¹⁸ Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.



Epicurus (341-270 B.C.)



Zeno (320-263 B.C.)

Paul in Athens

¹⁹ And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.





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Garden
of Eden?

Euphrates
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Persian Gulf

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Nile River



0 mi 500
0 km 500



2,981 Miles



2,981 Miles

MACEDONIA
GREECE

ASIA MINOR

ARARAT MTS.
Garden of Eden?
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Garden of Eden?

Haran

Antioch of Syria

Euphrates River
Tigris River

Caspian Sea

Black Sea



2,981 Miles

785 Miles

Paul's three main points...

1. God created the world!

2. God created man and man needs God!

3. Man's attempts to represent God with idols is foolishness!

Paul's Message

²² So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For 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.

Paul's Message

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

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What does this say to the Epicureans?

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*What about the
Stoics?*

*What does this say to the
Epicureans?*

Paul's Message

²⁶ And 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, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,

Paul's Message

²⁸ for

““In him we live and move and have our being’;

as even some of your own poets have said,

““For we are indeed his offspring.’

Paul's Message

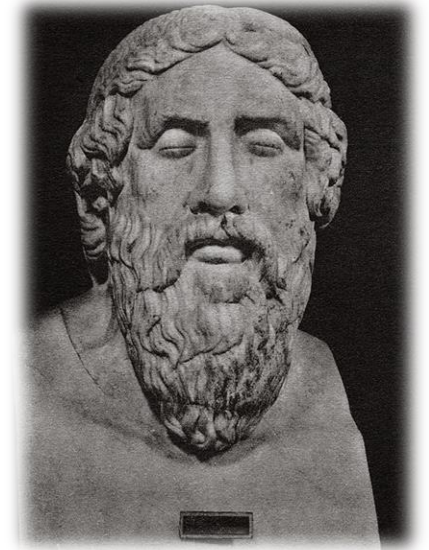
Epimenides, a poet from Crete from around 600 B.C. Paul quotes him again in Titus 1:12, "One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

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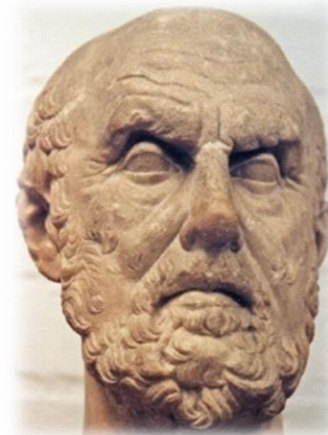
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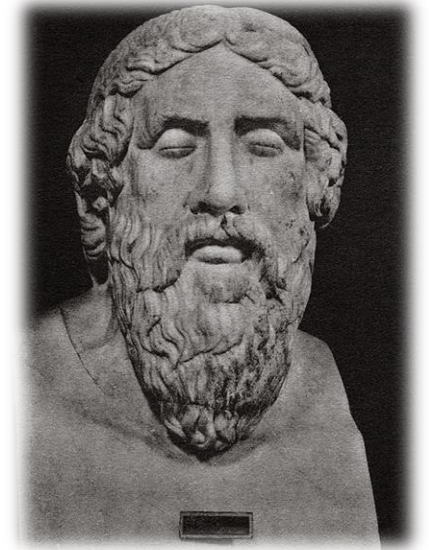
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Aratus, a poet from Cilicia from between 315 – 240 B.C. This quote is from his work *Phainomena*.



Paul's Message

²⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because 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.”

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What's missing here?

Paul's Message

³² Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." ³³ So Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

What kinds of responses can you and I expect when we testify to our faith in Christ?

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