

**If Jesus is The Truth,
Why Don't More College Professors Believe in Him?**

"The Life of Paul" episode 24

Acts 17:16-34

**"Athens was the intellectual center of the world. The city of the Academy.
The birthplace of democracy....**

The city was a philosopher's dream. Wealthy families sent their children to Athens to learn philosophy and to be enriched by ear-tickling myths of fanciful gods and goddesses. The native home of Socrates and Plato, Athens was also the adopted home of Aristotle and Epicurus....

The final voice of authority on all this high-brow philosophizing came from the direction of the Areopagus, the hill of Mars, which still stands in solid marble today. In that lofty place sat philosophers and scholars, teachers and historians, each of them so unsettled and unsure in their thinking that no room was allowed for anything absolute. Truth to them was relative. Dogmatism amounted to intellectual suicide. Though Paul's soul perceived the evil around him, his spirit ached for the spiritual blindness and emptiness of the Athenians....

His attempts to penetrate the darkness proved unsuccessful."

Charles Swindoll, *Paul: A Man of Grace and Grit*, 2002

🏛️ Human wisdom values t _____ above T _____.

***They spent their time ... talking about the latest ideas.* v. 21**

🏛️ Human wisdom produces p _____.

What is this babbler trying to say?

v. 18

Knowledge puffs up; love builds up.

1 Corinthians 8:1

🏛️ Human wisdom guffaws at the g _____.

When they heard ... some of them sneered.

v. 32

***The message of the cross is foolishness...* 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5**

🏛️ Human wisdom ends in id _____.

The city was full of idols.

v. 16

Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools, and

***exchanged the glory of the immortal God for idols...* Romans 1:22**

Q: Since God gave us Mind--human reason--as one of His greatest gifts to us, how can we use this great gift without falling into "the folly of the Academy"?