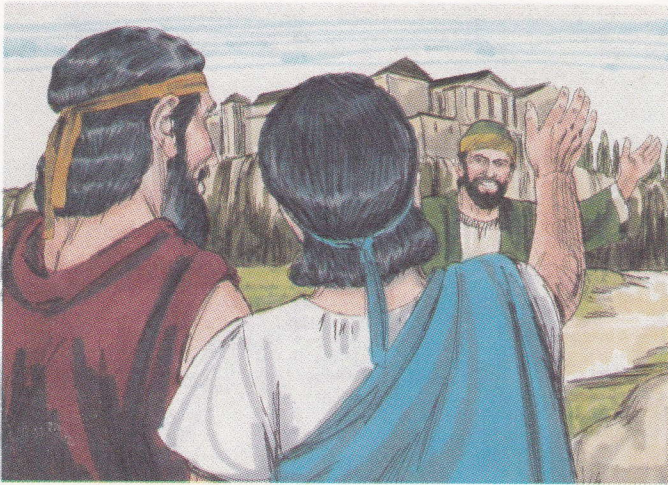
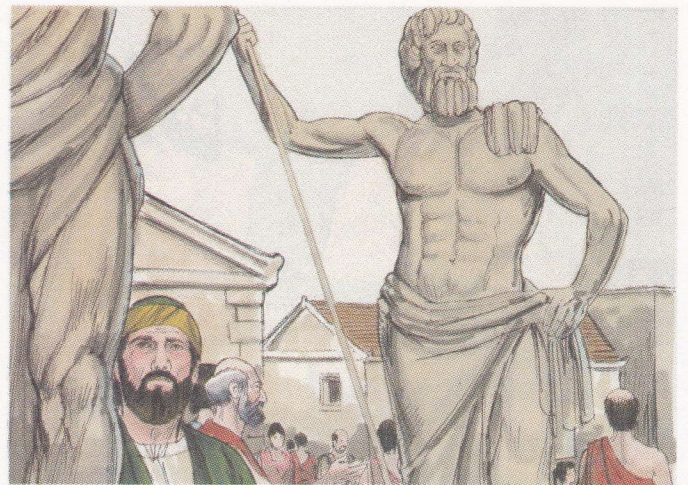


# Paul in Athens



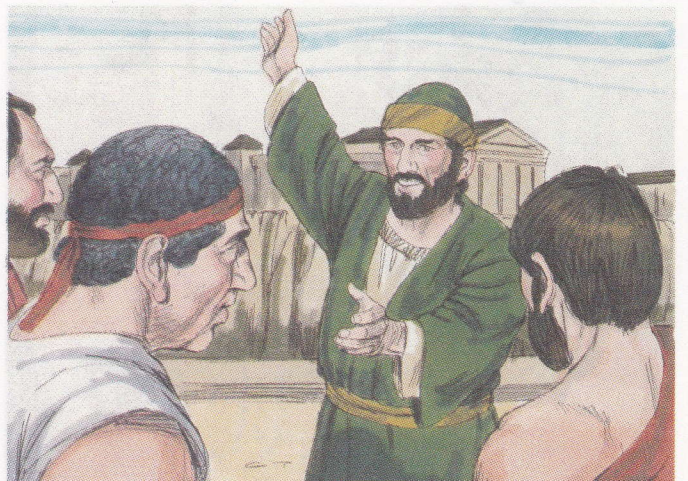
**1** After preaching in Thessalonica and Berea, Paul went on to Athens. Timothy and Silas stayed for a time in Berea.



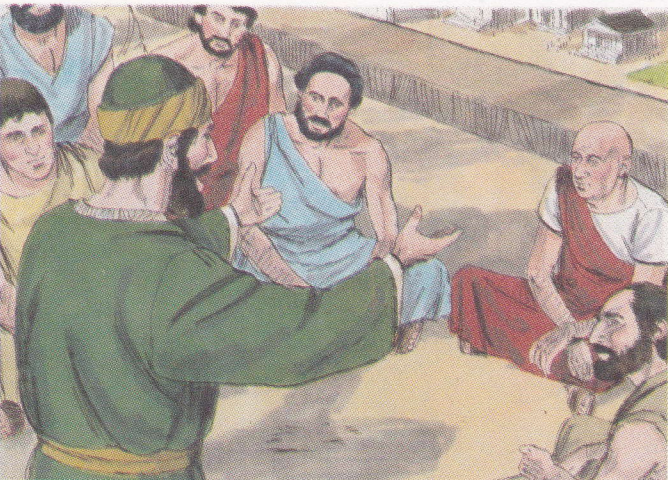
**2** Paul was saddened to see that Athens was full of idols. On the Sabbath he spoke in the synagogues to the Jews, and every day he talked to the people who came to the marketplace.



**3** The Epicurean and Stoic philosophers argued with Paul. Some said, "What is this babbler saying?" Others said, "He seems to be talking about foreign gods."



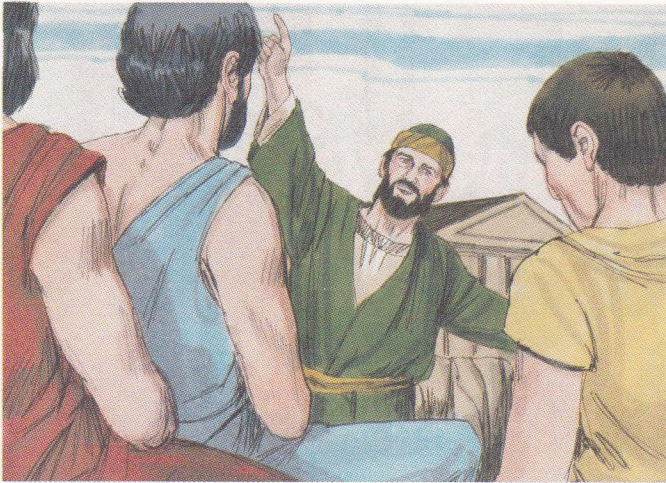
**4** They invited Paul to the Areopagus. "Tell us what this new teaching of yours is," they said. "You are saying some strange things, and we want to know what they mean."



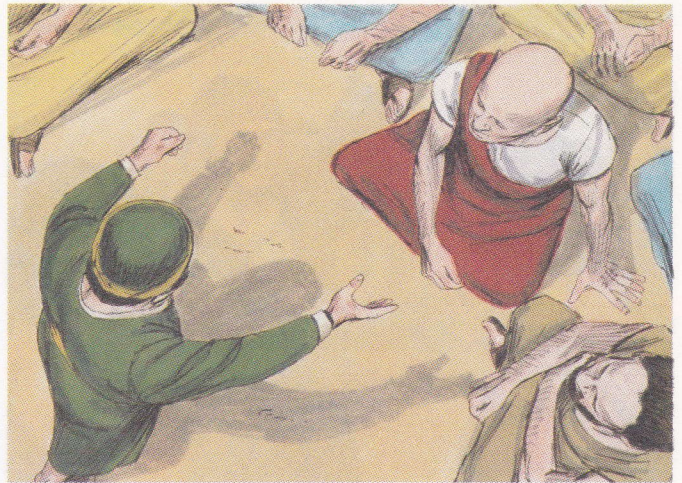
**5** So Paul said: "Men of Athens! I see that you are very religious. For as I walked around, I found an altar with the words: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD."



**6** "It is this God whom you do not know that I proclaim. The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth. He does not live in temples built by men."



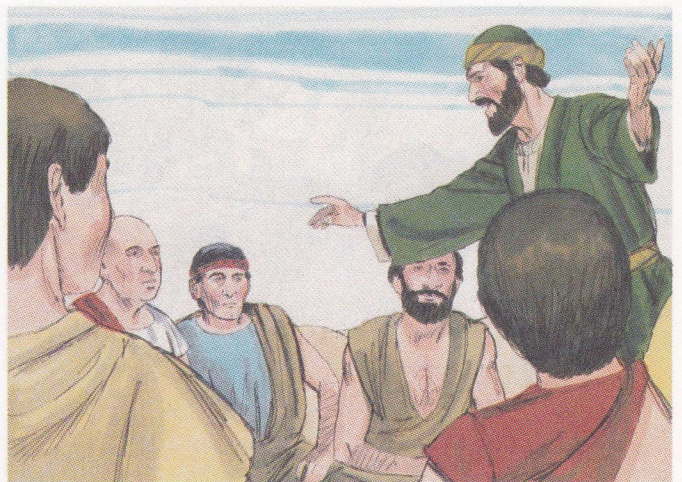
**7** "He gives all men life and breath and everything else. From one man he made every nation of men. Some of your own poets have said, 'We are his children.'"



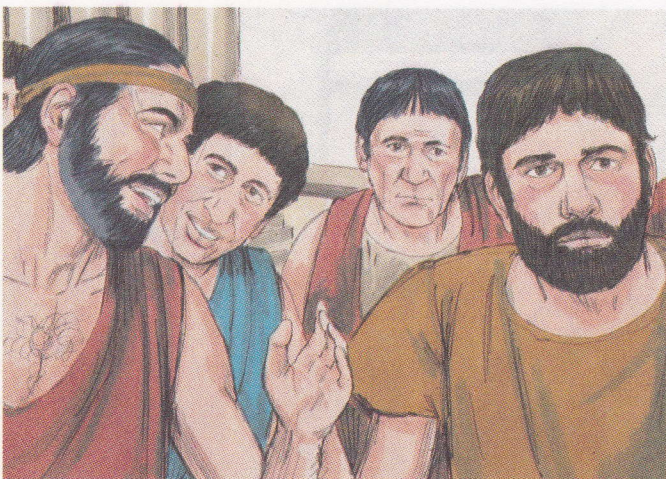
**8** "Since we are God's children, we should not think that God is like something made from gold or silver or stone—an image made by men."



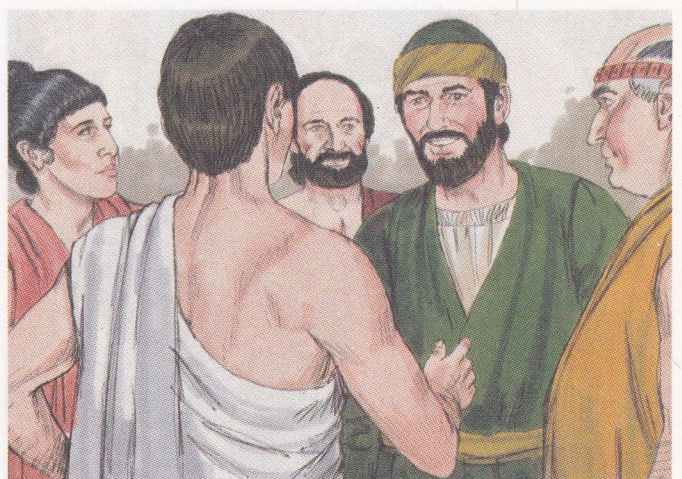
**9** "In the past God overlooked such ignorance," Paul said. "But now he commands all people everywhere to repent."



**10** "God has set a day when he will judge the world by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this by raising him from the dead."



**11** When the philosophers heard Paul mention the resurrection of the dead, some laughed at him. But others said, "We want to hear you talk about this again."



**12** After Paul left the Areopagus, a few people joined him and believed. One of these was a man named Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus. Another was a woman named Damaris.