Murray Baptist Church – 8/25/20 – Bible Study Outline – Acts 17:29-31

From Book Based Bible Study to Topical – we start with a few highlights from Acts which we’ve been studying the past few months, and move to a topical study on the significance of “dust” in Scripture.

**A Few Points – we glossed over a few weeks ago**

Acts 17:29

* God’s offspring – created in God’s image
* “divine being” – the Godhead
* The God of Christianity is not a created entity – I am that I am (Exodus 3:14)
* The God of Christianity is not something created by human hands, design and skill (engraved of craft and thought/plan of man)

v.30

* In the past God “overlooked” times of ignorance. It initially referred to the ignorance of the Jewish people who rejected the Prophet Jesus (Acts 3:17; 13:27). In this case it applies to the erroneous conceptions of how the Gentile world thought of God and issues of the divine
* “he commands all people everywhere to repent” (Luke 5:14; 8:29, 56;9:31; Acts 1:4; 4:18; 5:28, 40; 10:42; 15:5; 16:18, 23). This also a also a good rebuttal to or a correction to the philosophy that “natural revelation” doesn’t need additional correction or supplement.

v.31

Day of judgment (Romans 2:5, 16; 1 Cor. 1:8; Phil. 1:6, 10; 1 Thess. 5:2, 4; 2 Thess. 1:10; 2:2; 2 Tim. 1:18; 2 Pet 3:10)

Dust in the Bible

Terms in the Bible can sometimes be used metaphorically, let me give you an example using the word dust

For example, this statement from Nahum 1:3 is an example of metaphorical language – “the clouds are the dust of his feet”

**The Seven Cs of the Dust – what can we learn from the dust**

Genesis 2:7 - Then the Lord God formed a man[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+2%3A7%3B+Genesis+18%3A27%3B+1+Samuel+2%3A8%3B+Psalm+103%3A14%3B+Isaiah+52%3A2%3B+1+Kings+16%3A2%3B+Psalm+72%3A9&version=NIV;KJV#fen-NIV-38a)] from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. [Creation]

Note: The Hebrew word for man is (Adam) sounds like the Hebrew word for ground (Adamah)

Genesis 18:27 - Then Abraham spoke up again: “Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, [Confession]

Context: Abraham was negotiating to save Sodom based on the number of Godly people present.

1 Samuel 2:8 - He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. “For the foundations of the earth are the Lord’s; on them he has set the world. [Conversion]

Context: This is part of Hannah’s prayer after the birth of Samuel the son, prior to which she was barren.

Psalm 103:14 – for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. [Compassion]

Context: One of David’s Psalms, set up by verse 13

Isaiah 52:2 – Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, Daughter Zion, now a captive. [Consecration]

Context: Among portions of Isaiah speaking of better times to come.

1 Kings 16:2 – “I lifted you up from the dust and appointed you ruler over my people Israel, but you followed the ways of Jeroboam and caused my people Israel to sin and to arouse my anger by their sins. [Consideration]

Context: This was a message to Israel about faulty internal leadership and its consequences

Psalm 72:9 – May the desert tribes bow before him and his enemies lick the dust. [Conquest]

Context: A Psalm of Solomon