

God is...

In Our Midst

Acts 17:22-27

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. 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,

Acts 17:22-27

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. 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,

Acts 17:22-27

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, 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.’

God is above His creation

He is distinct from His creation.

He can't be contained

He can't be controlled.

God is present and active in His creation.

Not deism – the belief in a creator who does NOT intervene in his creation.

Not pantheism – the belief that identifies God with the universe.

Zephaniah 3:14-7

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, **the LORD, is in your midst**; you shall never again fear evil.

Zephaniah 3:14-7

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The LORD your God is **in your midst**, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

God is present to save!

Jesus – Our Immanuel

God With Us...

Matthew 1:23 ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and **they shall call his name Immanuel**” (which means, **God with us**).

John 1:14 ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh **and dwelt among us**, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Filled with His Holy Spirit

Romans 8:9–10 ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact **the Spirit of God dwells in you**. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if **Christ is in you**, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

Filled with the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but **be filled with the Spirit...**

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.