

Introduction

2 Corinthians 5:17–21

Body

1 Corinthians 1:23

There are two sermons in the bible that are very different from each other.

- The first is found in [Acts 2](#), and here we find Peter preaching right after the Holy Ghost fell in the upper room to a very Jewish population.
- The second in [Acts 17](#), where Paul is preaching to the Greeks at Areopagus.

Acts 2:14–36

- Peter quoted scripture
- Pointed to experience
- Made the altar call

Acts 17:22–31

- Paul didn't start with scripture, but with the truth his listeners had.
- Using that springboard, he presents the Christian position.
 - God created everything (v24-26)
 - He states that God made all peoples and nations of the earth.
 - He goes on to state that this creator, this all-powerful, sovereign God, can be discovered.

- He supports the Christian position using references from their own culture (v28)
- He concludes that, because of these truths, God's Word is supreme and must be obeyed. (v30-31)
- He concluded and makes the altar call (v30-31)

Why the different formats?

- Because the listeners were different.
- The cultures were different.
- Our culture today is becoming more and more "Greek" and less and less "Jewish".

These are to large groups of people. What about when we're talking with our co-worker, or a family member?

Proverbs 26:4-5

In a nutshell, we will prove the veracity of scripture by demonstrating the impossibility of the contrary.

There are two steps presented here

1. Answer not a fool according to his folly.
 - a. We cannot adopt the unbeliever's position or belief system or we will end up in the exact same place as him.
 - c. We state that we do not accept the unbeliever's truth claims.
2. Answer a fool according to his folly.
 - a. We continue by saying "but let's say for argument's sake that your position is in fact true. How do you explain ..."
 - c. Basically, we're going to look for two things:
 - i. Look for Arbitrariness

- ii. Look for Inconsistencies

Conclusion

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

- Today, Christians must live out their new lives as those who have been made a new creature, complete with a new mind, new presuppositions, a new worldview.
- The old man is dead, along with his old belief systems and ways of viewing the world.
- We are to completely embrace our new lives, and completely forsake our old ones.