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**Sermon: *One God. One Race. One Purpose.***

**Scripture: Acts 17:16-34**

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**Introduction:**

* All of humanity shares a common beginning, worth, purpose & problem.

**Paul explained the history and problem of mankind:**

1. **There is One Creator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 24-25)**

* Through creation, God has revealed himself as the God who rightfully \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over all. *(Romans 1:18-20)*
* Through Scripture, God has revealed himself as the God who lovingly and patiently \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mankind. *(2 Corinthians 4:6)*

1. **There is One Human \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 26)**

* Man was created in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God. *(Genesis 1:26-27; 9:6)*
* The Bible teaches us that there is ONE biological human \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but many ethnicities based on culture, language and geography. *(Genesis 2; Revelations 5:9-10, 7:9, 11:9, 14:6, Mark 16:15-16)*

1. **There is One Eternal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 27-30)**

* God revealed Himself through both Creation and Scripture, because God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him.
* God wants us to know Him that we might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Him & delight in Him forever.
* Apart from God’s Word & the Holy Spirit, everyone refuses to seek and worship God. *(Romans 3:9-12; 1 Corinthians 2:13-14)*

1. **There is One Effective \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 30-31a)**

* The human race has one universal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Sin. The problem has one universal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Jesus. *(Romans 5:12-21)*
* Salvation through Jesus Christ is…
* Essential - *Every person needs rescue from sin. (Romans 3:9-10, 20, 23)*
* Exclusive *- No one saved apart from faith in Jesus Christ. (John 14:6; Acts 4:10-12)*
* Effective *(Romans 10:9-13;) Everyone who believes is forever saved.*

1. **There are Two Eternal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v. 31b)**

* Because of sin, every person is born \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from God and is destined to spend eternity apart from God in a place of eternal torment called hell. (Matthew 8:12; Mark 3:29; 9:48; Revelation 9:2, 14:10; 2 Thessalonians 1:9)
* Because of Jesus, every person who is born again through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus Christ is destined to spend eternity with God in a place called heaven. (John 10:28, 17:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17)

**Conclusion:**

Regardless of a person’s ethnicity, family, success, wealth or earthly contributions, if they have not trusted Christ as their Savior, they will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it all and their own soul. *(Matthew 16:26)*

**Questions to Consider:**

1. Why is creation by God such a significant truth? How does evolution diminish both God’s glory and man’s value?
2. How should the difference between race theory and ethnicities change how we perceive and treat others?
3. What about God should lead us to love Him and delight in Him (i.e., worship)?
4. What alternate paths to salvation does mankind follow? What is wrong with each path?
5. Why is it hard to talk about hell? Does anyone really deserve an eternal hell apart from God? Does anyone really deserve an eternal relationship with God?