



# OUT OF THE HARBOR





## OUT OF THE HARBOR

When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.”

ACTS 17:32



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

At that, Paul left the Council.

ACTS 17:33



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

ACTS 17:34



OUT OF THE HARBOR

# Assessing the Content of Paul's Address



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Paul showed  
familiarity with what  
his hearers believed.



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“Paul knows his own message and the mentality of the people he evangelizes. Too many Christians know their own message but understand far too little about how and why others think as they do.”

DARRELL BOCK



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“We cannot expect unbelievers to learn our ideas first so that they can understand us. We need to go to them, learn what they think, and find ways to present them with the truths of the Gospel in ways that will be meaningful to them.”

PAUL COPAN





## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Paul spoke the  
Gospel in worldview  
and personal terms.



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“Many people are rejecting our Gospel today not because they perceive it to be false, but because they perceive it to be trivial. People are looking for an integrated worldview which makes sense of all their experiences.”

JOHN STOTT



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Paul emphasized  
truths that  
challenged his  
hearers' beliefs.



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“Evangelism is the issuing of a call to turn, as well as to trust; it is the delivering, not merely of a divine invitation to receive a Savior, but of a divine command to repent of sin. Evangelism is communication with a view to conversion.”

J.I. PACKER



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Paul highlighted  
the necessity of  
response to Jesus.



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

“When one looks to God, Paul says, one will find Jesus.”

DARRELL BOCK



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

**God / Man / Christ / Response**



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

**God / Man / Christ / Response**

**God created each of us in His  
image. We are loved by Him  
and accountable to Him.**





# OUT OF THE HARBOR

**God / Man / Christ / Response**

**Man has rebelled against God  
and, because of that sin, we  
stand under His judgment.**



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

**God / Man / Christ / Response**

**Through Jesus Christ — His life,  
death, and resurrection — God  
intervened in our desperate  
plight and offers us salvation, the  
forgiveness of sin, and new life.**



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

**God / Man / Christ / Response**

**This Good News demands a response from each of us, and the appropriate response is repentance and faith.**



OUT OF THE HARBOR

# Assessing the Diverse Responses to Paul's Address



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22B



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

I do all this for the sake  
of the Gospel, that I may  
share in its blessings.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:23



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of Him everywhere.

2 CORINTHIANS 2:14



# OUT OF THE HARBOR

For we are to God the pleasing  
aroma of Christ among those  
who are being saved and  
those who are perishing.

2 CORINTHIANS 2:15





# OUT OF THE HARBOR

To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life. And who is equal to such a task?

2 CORINTHIANS 2:16



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Some people  
reject the claims  
of the Gospel.  
They say “No!”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Some people  
accept the claims  
of the Gospel.  
They say “Yes!”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Some people  
consider the claims  
of the Gospel. They  
say “Tell me more.”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“We are tempted to be in a great hurry with those whom we would win to Christ, and then, when we see no immediate response in them, to become impatient and downcast...”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“and then to lose interest in them, and feel that it is useless to spend more time on them; and so we abandon our efforts. But this is utterly wrong...”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“It is a failure both of love for man and of faith in God. At each stage you have to be willing to go along with him at God’s speed, which may seem to you a strangely slow speed...”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“But that is God’s business,  
not yours. Your business is  
simply to keep pace with what  
God is doing in his life.”

J.I. PACKER





## OUT OF THE HARBOR

The Gospel is for all  
people everywhere,  
including those  
who “have it all.”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“Paul knew that the Word would prove a savor of life to some of those who hear it. This knowledge make him confident, tireless, and expectant in his evangelism...”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“And if there were on occasion hard spells with much opposition and little visible fruit, he did not panic or lose heart. His business was to be patient and faithful in spreading the Good News till the time of harvest should come.”

J.I. PACKER



OUT OF THE HARBOR

**Key Takeaways  
for our Witness  
to the Gospel**

$$MI = HP + CP + CC$$



**MI = HP + CP + CC**

**Maximum Impact =  
High Potency  
+ Close Proximity  
+ Clear Communication**

**MARK MITTELBERG**



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“It is precisely the knowledge that the success of missionary initiative depends not on one’s own endeavors but on God’s sovereignty...”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“that gives the missionary courage to persevere in difficult situations and joyfully continue to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

ECKHARD SCHNABEL





## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“There are few things that energize the soul and enable us to maintain our passion for the Gospel as much as an evangelistic lifestyle...”



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

“When we get close to people, see their lives, and yearn for their salvation, we realize afresh how vital the Gospel is for their salvation and we experience afresh the power of energizing for witness by the Spirit.”

AJITH FERNANDO



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Like Paul, we're called  
to be faithful to the  
simplicity and complexity  
of the Gospel.



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

**Like Paul, we're called  
to understand the  
beliefs and context  
of our hearers.**



## OUT OF THE HARBOR

Like Paul, we're  
called to entrust the  
fruitfulness of our  
witness to God.





# OUT OF THE HARBOR

