

Jeff Sweeten

Thur Saith the Lord is presented by the

# Park Heights Church of Christ

1300 E. Boynton St. Hamilton 254-386-3953

Schedule of Services

#### SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. Bible Class 10:25 a.m. Morning Worship 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship

#### WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Please call or email if you have a question or comment 254-386-3953 jeffdsweeten@gmail.com or chelejones24@yahoo.com

Website: www.parkheightscoc.com

## Thus South the Lord

### THE SENSE OF GOD

By Jeff Sweeten

In his famous speech to some Athenians "in the midst of the Areopagus," Paul referenced Greek stoics and the fact that they had philosophized their way into the truth about God's existence.

This truth was being ignored by the creation of their panoply of gods, including a statue with the inscription: "to the unknown god" (cf. Acts 17:22-31). This cognizance of God is well represented in Greek literature, in particular, *The Golden Sayings of Epictetus*, (cf. LXVILXVII). He stated the following:

"Our way of life resembles a fair. The flocks and herds are passing along to be sold, and the greater part of the crowd to buy and sell. But there are some few who come only to look at the fair, to inquire how and why it is being held, upon what authority and with what object. So too, in this great Fair of life, some, like cattle, trouble themselves about nothing but the fodder...

Some few there are attending the Fair, who love to contemplate what the world is, what He that administers it. Can there be no Administrator? Is it possible, that while neither city nor household could endure even for a moment without one to administer and see to its welfare, this Fabric, so fair, so vast, should be administered in order so harmonious, without a purpose and by blind chance? There is therefore an Administrator."

It is a sad state of affairs in our current culture, wherein those who claim the greatest accolades in education are often atheistic or agnostic, asserting all we see and all we are is merely the product of blind chance. Something has never come from nothing. The notion that a Big Bang (the origin of which has <u>yet</u> to be explained) could produce, out of chaos, the ordered and reasoned state of matter and our very being is intellectually laughable. Perhaps Musk's latest Tesla was merely the product of a massive "dust bunny" in a junk yard; such a proposition makes about as much sense as the existence of our universe being the product of some unexplained and unexplainable cosmic accident. So, the sweet Psalmist of Israel states:

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard." PSALM 19:1-3

That conversations and consciousness of God's existence and our place in His creation has been relegated to self-appointed literati deemed above those of the lesser degreed is a shame. However, we theological commoners are well equipped to observe and understand the common sense, reasonableness and logic of confessing the existence of an "Administrator": God. Of course, this begs the question: if the existence of God is so obvious, why do so many ignore Him? If it makes sense to believe in God (and it does), it makes sense to obey Him. After all, we are more than cattle capable only of being interested in the fodder.