Research on Paul and Mars Hill in Athens:

Acts 17:24, 25, 28

24God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

“*God that made the world*— Thus is demonstrated, even to reason, the one, true, good God; absolutely different from the creatures, from every part of the visible creation. *Seeing he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands*— God hath no need of temples to dwell in, seeing he hath made the world, and is the Lord, or possessor, of the universe. Ye, therefore, greatly err in thinking, that by erecting magnificent temples and images, and by consecrating them, ye draw God down into them, and prevail with him to reside among you in an especial manner. That vulgar notion is unworthy of men whose minds are improved by science, and who, from God’s having made the world, ought to know that his presence is not confined to temples made by men.

*Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing*—Neither is the true God worshipped with sacrifices and meats prepared by men’s hands, if these things are offered to him, as though he needed to be fed with the fruits of the earth, and with the flesh of beasts, and refreshed with the steams of sacrifices and incense:

*seeing he giveth to all*— That live and breathe, whether men or beasts; *life*— For in him we live; *and breath*— In him we move; and *all things*— For in him we are: whence it is evident that men can contribute nothing to his life or happiness” (Benson Commentary).

25Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

“Neither is worshipped with men's hands - The word here rendered "worshipped" denotes to "serve"; to wait upon; and then to render religious service or homage. There is reference here, undoubtedly, to a notion prevalent among the pagan, that the gods were fed or nourished by the offerings made to them. . . Paul affirms that the great Creator of all things cannot be thus dependent on his creatures for happiness, and consequently, that that mode of worship must be highly absurd” (Barnes’ Notes).

28For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

“For in him we live - The expression "in him" evidently means by him; by his originally forming us, and continually sustaining us. No words can better express our constant dependence on God. He is the original fountain of life, and he upholds us each moment.

“It means that we derive strength to move from him; an expression denoting "constant and absolute dependence." There is no idea of dependence more striking than that we owe to him the ability to perform the slightest motion.

“And have our being - And are. This denotes that our "continued existence" is owing to Him. That we live at all is his gift; that we have power to move is his gift; and our continued and prolonged existence is his gift also. Thus, Paul traces our dependence on him from the lowest pulsation of life to the highest powers of action and of continued existence. It would be impossible to express in more emphatic language our entire dependence On God” (Barnes’ Notes).