



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

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Feeling After God

Speaking on Mars' hill to the idol worshippers of Athens, the Apostle Paul declared God "made the world" and all "*should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him*" (Acts 17:27).

The Greek word Paul used here for "*feel after*" means to "verify by contact." Figuratively, it means "to search for" and **indicates a serious attempt** to "*seek the Lord*" and to "*find him.*" Some may think it impossible to "*find*" God—that He is too far removed from man, but Paul goes on to say, "*though he be not far from every one of us.*" That which separates God from man is sin. "*Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you*" (Isaiah 59:2). "*Sin is the transgression of the law*" (1 John 3:4). Sin is the primary problem between man and God as Psalms 53:2-3 reveals, "*God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God. Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*" If a person is truly sincere in seeking after God, he must first "**understand**" that God is holy and then deal with the sin that separates him from God. Patrick Morley said it this way, "The turning point in our lives is when we **stop seeking the God we want and start seeking the God Who is.**" We can only **contact** the **God Who is holy** when we release our grip of the unholy. The Bible states, "**Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you**" (James 4:8). Then it explains how to do that, "**Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts.**" This is done by humbly repenting and asking God's forgiveness of sin through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross. If you "*feel after*" God like this, you will "**find him!**"