

## Weekly Study Guide for April 27, 2025 | Appointed Times

### Read Acts 17:24-31

24 “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. 26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. 27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 28 ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’ 29 “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. 30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

*To read the above passage in context, go to [Acts 17](#).*

### Read 2 Chronicles 16:9a

9 For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.”

*To read the above passage in context, go to [2 Chronicles 16](#).*

**Additional Support:** [Genesis 1:1-5](#); [Ephesians 1:10](#); [Galatians 4:4,5](#); [Esther 4:14](#); [1 Chronicles 12:32](#); [John 4:1-4](#); [2 Peter 3:8-9](#); [John 6:40](#); [James 4:13-16](#); [Acts 15:28](#); [Acts 16:6-7](#); [1 Corinthians 16:9](#); [2 Corinthians 2:12](#), [6:2](#); [Job 23:10-11](#); [Ephesians 5:15-20](#); [Philippians 1:6](#)

### Questions:

1. What stands out to you in the verses above? What does it say about God? What does it say about us?
2. Who establishes our appointed times and boundaries? Why?
3. How does this relate to God’s sovereign will? Are we really in charge of our lives?
4. Why should we fully commit our lives to God? What does He promise to do when we are loyal to Him?
5. What is one big takeaway from all of this? How does it apply to you? What difference will this make in your life tomorrow?

**For later:** Take time to prayerfully reflect on how this lesson applies to your life. What did you learn? What are some personal takeaways and insights you gained? How can you apply this to your life? Is there anything you need to change? How will this strengthen your relationship with God? Ask God to reveal areas where you need to trust His sovereignty more fully and where He is calling you to deeper commitment.

### Summary:

1. **What stands out?** One of the most striking aspects of these passages is the emphasis on God's authority and involvement in human history. Acts 17 highlights that God is the creator and sustainer of life, not confined by human-made structures or reliant on human service. 2 Chronicles 16:9 then underscores His active presence, watching over those who are committed to Him.
2. **What does this say about God?** These verses emphasize that *God is both transcendent and deeply personal*. He governs all creation, but He is not distant—He desires relationship and seeks out those who are loyal to Him. He is just, but also full of grace, calling people to turn to Him. His sovereignty is seen in how He marks out times, boundaries, and history itself.
3. **What does this say about us?** It reminds us that humanity is created by God, designed to seek Him, and that *we are His offspring—not just random beings existing by chance*. It also challenges us to think about whether we are truly living in pursuit of Him or our own agenda and interests.
4. **Who establishes our appointed times and boundaries? Why?** Acts 17 states clearly that God determines where and when people live. This isn't arbitrary—it's part of His plan to prompt people to seek Him. *Our circumstances aren't accidental*; God arranges them to draw us closer to Him.
5. **How does this relate to God's sovereign will? Are we really in charge of our lives?** While humans make choices, God's sovereign will is overarching. We have free will, but ultimately, *God's purpose prevails*. Recognizing His sovereignty shifts our perspective—rather than trying to control every aspect of life, we can trust that He has a plan and will guide us.
6. **Why should we fully commit our lives to God?** *God promises to strengthen those who are fully committed to Him*. This means that when we dedicate our lives to Him, He actively supports, guides, and empowers us. Faithfulness brings His presence and strength in ways we could never achieve alone.
7. **One big takeaway—how does this apply to life?** A key takeaway is *trusting God's sovereignty and responding by seeking Him*. Knowing that God actively guides our lives should change how we approach each day—it encourages surrender, faith, and a deeper pursuit of Him.
8. **What difference will this make tomorrow?** This perspective might mean choosing *trust over worry, obedience over hesitation, and faith over fear*. It reminds us to stay committed to God because He is actively strengthening us as we do.