

The movement of thought, along whose lines the hearers are to reason, is from a faculty or power in created beings to its counterpart in their Creator. If a created being has the power to hear and to see, shall not the Creator have that power?

The thrust of this passage, then, appears to be that human beings ought to reason from their created powers to similar powers in the Creator. If created human beings can hear, surely God can hear! If created human beings can see, surely God can see! And if God can hear what wicked men say and see what wicked men do, then wicked men should be warned of God's coming judgment of their wicked deeds, and good men should be encouraged, knowing that God will justly redress their grievances against the wicked.

This passage assumes the existence of God as Creator, and then calls on human beings to use their reasoning powers to discover what God is like. As such, this is internal general revelation; i.e., general revelation that comes to the recipient from within himself.

(2) Acts 17:16-31

Translation:(from the NASB)

- 16 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him as he was beholding the city full of idols.
- 17 So he was reasoning in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles, and in the market place every day with those who happened to be present.
- 18 And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. And some were saying, 'What would this idle babbler wish to say?' Others, 'He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,' -- because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.
- 19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, 'May we know what this new teaching is which you are proclaiming?
- 20 For you are bringing some strange things to our ears; we want to know therefore what these things mean.
- 21 (Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new.)
- 22 And Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, 'Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects.
- 23 For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.
- 24 The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;