



The Athenian Acropolis

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From the earliest days of the Christian faith, Athens played an important role in its spread throughout the Mediterranean world. Additionally, the archaeological evidence sheds light on the early Christians who lived in the city as well as the contribution that Christianity made to the development of Athen's history and culture.



THE ACROPOLIS OF ATHENS

- Ancient city located on an outcrop above the city of Athens.
- The Parthenon is located here.

The Acropolis of Athens has some relevance to Christianity. First, Apostle Paul visited it to give his message. Second, the Parthenon was converted into a Christian church in the 5th century AD.

THE ROMAN AGORA



The Roman Agora was an open space surrounded by colonnades. While not strictly a Christian site, it's important to mention it because it played an important role in the development of Christianity in Athens. It'll be mentioned several times along this presentation.

AREOPAGUS (MARS HILL)

- Rocky outcropping located near the Acropolis
- One of the most important archaeological sites in Athens
- Apostle Paul delivered a sermon here in the 1st century AD



The Areopagus or Mars Hill was the site where the Apostle Paul delivered his famous speech about the “Unknown God” to the Athenians, which is recounted in the New Testament book of Acts. According to the Bible, Paul was in Athens to preach the gospel, and he used the Areopagus as a platform to address the Athenians.

THE CHURCH OF HOLY APOSTLES

- Byzantine-era church (10th century)
- Located near the ancient Roman Agora



This is another important Christian archaeological site in Athens. The Church is also known as the Agii Apostoli. The church features a stunning mosaic floor and well-preserved frescoes that depict scenes from the life of Christ and the apostles.

THE CHURCH OF PANAGIA KAPNIKAREA

- One of the oldest churches in Athens
- Orthodox Christian Church
- 11th century AD



The Church of Kapnikarea is dedicated to The Virgin Mary and is one of the oldest churches in Athens. Nowadays, it serves as a hub of religious life for Orthodox Christians. Even though it went through different changes over the years, it still conserves its most notable feature, a domed roof.

THE CATHEDRAL OF ATHENS (Metropolitan Cathedral of the Annunciation)

- Located in the central district of Syntagma Square.
- Built in the 19th century.
- Important symbol of Greek Orthodox Christianity.



The Cathedral of Athens is the largest and most significant cathedral in Athens. The interior of the cathedral is adorned with frescoes, mosaics, and sculptures, including a magnificent iconostasis decorated with scenes from the life of Christ.

THE MONASTERY OF DAPHNI

- Byzantine building dedicated to the Virgin Mary.
- 6th century AD.
- Mosaic decoration depict scenes from the life of Christ and the Virgin Mary.



The most relevant feature of the Monastery is the mosaics that represent the life of Christ, as well as various saints and prophets.



From the Areopagus where the Apostle Paul preached, to the ancient Byzantine churches, we can understand the importance and impact that the city of Athens had in the early Christian history.