Intro: As a basis for our study turn to Amos 4:12 “Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.” Amos sees the need for Israel to prepare for God. We also have that need.

I. God Is.
   A. We do not know this from empirical knowledge (knowledge coming from the 5 senses).
      1. It is provable from a prima facie case.
      2. This is when adequate evidence is available to establish a fact, it stands unless it can be refuted.
      3. The only way to account for things is to begin with a self-existent being (God).
         a. Gen. 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”
         b. Psa. 90:2 “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.”
         c. Hab. 1:12 “Art thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.”
   B. Nature:
      1. Psa. 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”
      2. Heb. 3:4 “For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.”
      3. Blind chance cannot account for the earth.
      4. Evolution is like an explosion in a printing shop producing Webster’s Dictionary.
   C. For an atheist to know that God does not exist, he must know everything. If there is just one thing he does not know, it might be that God exists.

II. Man Must Meet God—The Judgment.
   A. Justice demands the judgment.
      1. It would be unjust for good and evil to be rewarded alike.
      2. Man has courts because he sees the need of judgment.
   B. Everyone will meet God—no exceptions.
      1. Mat. 25:32 “And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:”
      2. Acts 17:30-31 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”
      3. Rom. 14:10-12 “But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. 12So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”
   C. The Bible will be the standard of judgment.
      1. John 12:48 “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”
2. Rom. 2:16 “In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”
3. Rev. 20:12 “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”

D. We will be judged on our own record.
1. Rom. 14:12 “So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”
2. 2 Cor. 5:10 “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
3. Gal. 6:7 “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

E. It will come at an hour when we think not.
1. Mat. 24:36 “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.”
2. 2 Pet. 3:10 “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”
3. Mat. 24:42-44 “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. 43But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”

III. MAN NEEDS TO PREPARE FOR THE OCCASION.

A. Too much is involved not to prepare.
1. Mark 8:36-37 “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Y7Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”
2. Mat. 10:28 “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

B. Life is too uncertain not to prepare now.
1. Jam. 4:13-14 “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 14Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”
2. Heb. 3:8, 15; 4:7 “Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:... 15While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation.... 4:7Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”
3. 2 Cor. 6:2 “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)”

C. How to prepare
1. Search the Scriptures; John 5:39 “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.”
2. Be doers of the Word; Jam. 1:22 “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”
3. Obey the Gospel; Rom. 1:16 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
4. Add the Christian graces; 2 Pet. 1:4-11 “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 4And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 5And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to
patience godliness; 7And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

5. **Persevere; Mat. 10:22** “And ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.”

**D. Greatest tragedy is to fail to make preparation.**

1. Mat. 25:1-13
2. Mat. 25:14-30

### IV. THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING

**A. Mat. 25:31-46**

**B. Ecc. 12:13-14** “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

1. It is the day for which man lives.
2. If he fails here, he fails in his whole duty.

Conclusion: Are you prepared for that meeting?