Why are our newspapers throughout the world in every language filled with united states, and Europe, and Russia, because of the dominant ones and the far east getting more so every time. Talks about then predicts the inaudible] the destruction of the house of Jeroboam. Here it is. It’s in the 8th century B.C. Now the setting up of the messiah’s kingdom. The return of a remnant. Amos is quoted by James in his marvelous address Jerusalem council. Acts 15:16-17. He is quoted Amos’ by Stephen in Acts 7:42-43. He quotes from the 5th chapter verses 25-27.

Who is this man Amos? Well he belongs to taquoa [sp?]. It's a small town of Judea about 12 miles south of Jerusalem. He was a herdsman. He was a gatherer of sycamore fruit. How’d he do that? Well in order to bring the sycamore fruit to fruition, to ripeness they would pinch, they knew the art of it and gathered the sycamore fruit. He was called of God to prophesy to the northern kingdom. Somewhere mainly to the southern kingdom like Isaiah. But here's to the northern kingdom. He went to bethel in Israel where sanctuary was. And oh how he aroused interest because he came from Judah to prophesy to Israel. They would have said stay at home and save your breath. Oh no. but they did oppose him. Even Amaziah the priest in chapter 7 verse 10 opposed his direct messages and urged his exile. He said get going! You leave us alone. You go home. You have plenty of work for yourself there. Then you can talk about us. Book is full of figures of speech taken from rural, pastoral life. How much you can learn from the beauties of nature and agriculture and the like from the prophet.
Now the central chapter of the book in Amos is chapter 5. It has the message of the book. There it is. The 5th chapter in Amos. You have the word very clearly concerning Israel [inaudible] he pleads with them to return unto the lord. What does he want them to do? Look at the last portion, the latter portion of the 15th verse. Hosea 5 hate the evil love the good, establish justice at the gate. Maybe the lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph. Seek good and not evil. Yes that you may live and so the lord the God of hosts shall be with you as he has spoken. If God didn't want them to turn from their ways and be saved and be spared agony and all that, he wouldn't have sent these prophets. That’s his proof that he loves them, that he wants them to have blessing. He prophesied then as a contemporary of Hosea.

He speaks in the first 2 chapters the judgments on the gentiles and then the judgment in Israel in the next chapters 3-9. There is a remarkable word in the 4th chapter and with this I’m going to conclude 4:12. Look at it. How many preachers of the gospel, evangelists, have preached from this passage. Therefore thus will I do unto thee o Israel and because I will do this unto thee prepare to meet thy God o Israel. Prepare to meet thy God. Talks about impending destruction. Talks about the Assyrians, enemies on the human plane, but he says more important of all I warn you prepare to meet your God.

What does he mean by this? Well frankly and oh how men of God pray their hearts out, preach their hearts out, to get folk to realize that they're not prepared to meet him. Just now Billy graham just completed his campaign in Amsterdam. Our older son is there now at the Tyndale
Theological Seminary and in his time off from his teaching at trinity in outside of Chicago. And they had tremendous internous[sp?] evangelists. And what’s their main concept? What’s their thrust? What are they after? Are they out to get large as the unbelieving so thoughtlessly and erroneously say? They’re out to make money? No, no no. no they're out to tell people you have to prepare to meet your God because none of us is prepared to meet him. That’s true in two ways: we're not ready by nature and we’re not ready by neglect. No man was prepared to meet God. Do you know that Adam our father Adam had walked with God in the cool of the evening? That’s something that none of us had done in that way. Never will day in that exact same way. He was not afraid to meet God. But after he sinned, sin came in and everything was changed.

Adam where art thou? What was the trouble? Did God not know where he was? God knew where he was. He wanted Adam to know where he was. What have you done to yourself Adam? What have you done?

Yes, man is not prepared. Now by nature and by neglect. No man was every born prepared to meet God. They go astray immediately from their mother’s womb. Psalm 51:5. Yes. We’re lost we're undone we're ungodly. The expressions the bible uses. No one can say that I have been unfairly taken advantage of. I didn't know all this; I didn't know all that was involved. You can’t say that the bible tells us we are lost, we are undone, we are far off. Ephesians 2:13 there's a law of moral gravity just as there is in the physical world. We are born unprepared to meet God and the tendency is for us to be drawn farther and farther away from him to Satan and it's real. We are enemies of God. Romans 5:10 the one who has done all for us the one who still is ours to do all for us, how could we comfortably stand in his presence? We can’t. Man is not prepared to meet God.
And then here is the other truth too, the corollary to it, that we must meet him. We’ve got to meet God prepared or not. And oh how all this has got to be pressed on. you say well I don't know that I am going to go to be [audible] because I’ve been there for some time but now it’s getting a little too warm under the collar. Well but you have to tell the truth, even if it hurts. Tell the truth even if it hurts. You must meet God prepared or not. Some people we can circumvent, we can get around them. But how can a person scape meeting God? It’s possible for a man not to meet God in nature, in the providential events of his life, trouble, sickness, death, it's possible for man not to open up that precious word. And so he can’t meet God in the word. Can’t meet God in prayer. the person can circumvent in all these areas, but he cannot say some of the time when it comes to meeting God in judgment you will, you will, if there is a summon even in our courts, you just say well skip it forget it. Oh no there’s going to be no substitute, there has to be a meeting of him ourselves. You can’t send a proxy. even the atheist who denies God, the agnostic who doubts God's existence, the [inaudible] who overlooks, who ignores, casts aside the truth of God's existence, a criminal who lives as the God didn't exist. The so called moral sinner who does the same. Everyone. All have to meet god. There’s going to be a meeting face to face. All the meetings of earth and God's dealings have been preparatory for that one great meeting. Think of it: to live any length of time and not realize that God must be met. That he has to meet. Oh yes.

My seminary professor told this incident. He said one morning early my telephone rang. Somebody at the other end of the line said Mr. so and so shot himself almost through the heart. He’s calling for you. As soon as he could get to the man’s side, he was there home of poverty,
home of sin, home of neglect. For two weeks that man had been on a drunken binge, recovering from that drunken spree he found himself sick, downcast, discouraged, took his own pistol, shot himself. He took the preacher, the seminary professor by the hand, 7 in the morning he said I wasn't able to get away from him, from his grip until 11 o clock when his hand fell pulseless at his hand. I begged him for hours. For hours to give his heart to Christ. Just before he died I called his family, and his oldest son, 14 years of age, came he hugged, he kissed his father goodbye, he said I will never forget what that father said to that son. Then the children one after another came and the 6th one the baby came. Then he came to bid farewell to his faithful, his godly, his dear wife who was a believer. He took her by the hands still holding onto the preachers hand and said molly you've been a good wife, wonderful wife. for these 16 years you had to do all the praying, you had to do all the bible study, all the teaching of the word of God to our children I know that. You had to do all the church going all the godly living. I haven't helped you at all. That was an understatement. He said molly for 16 years you stood for me and religion. Now I'm dying. I want to know if you're going to stand for me at the judgment bar of God. That pale sad faced woman with tears streaming down her face turned to the preacher for an answer and then the preacher did have an answer. He said oh fellow you've thrown off on God here and your faithful wife has done everything she could for you. But on the judgment bar of God you have to stand in your own shoes, you have to stand in your own shoes. You’ve got to meet God. Face your record and face your sins. And the sad part of it is he died. He went out without God. Unprepared to die, and to meet God. There’s not going to be a more propitious time than now. What makes you think there is? Now, n-o-w. You can’t show me in the bible where anything is promised to anybody unless it’s now. n-o-w. Now is the accept time. Behold now is the day of salvation. If God says a word twice, you better perk up your ears the first time and really pay
heed, surely, the second time. Now, n-o-w, one the most important words of the vocabulary of man.

So first of all we are saying we are not prepared to meet God, we are also saying we must meet God, and bless God, the gospel isn't a record or a story of absolute inability to do anything about it. We can be prepared, yes. The verse sounds not only a word of warning, prepare to meet thy God verse 12 of chapter 4 of Amos. It's a word of warning but it's a word of hope. Pronouncement of destruction. Do you realize that a word, a pronounce of destruction, is in itself a call to repentance and should awaken hope. When God sent Jonah to Nineveh and said so many so many today in Nineveh shall be destroyed. Well if God didn't love them and didn't wanna do something for them, stay at home! Most will do. And don't bother them at all. [Inaudible] to be prepared shows that God loves. That there is hope. Paul was certainly prepared to meet God, definitely so. And he certainly is in the glory ever since. If one want to be there to come into the presence of the queen of England to meet her, you have to be prepared in a manner designated by the queen. God has laid down one way of preparation. All must prepare the same way. Did you ever stop to think that the snail and the long necked giraffe both had to enter Noah’s ark by the same door. There weren't un teamed--one religion is good as another. Can you imagine one of them standing by the door and saying I wish it was another one, I wish there was another opening in the roof and all that. No they all had to come by the same door. The way of preparation isn't by a church, and they are not to be bypassed. God founded the church. It's not by a church though, or an ordinance, or a sacrament, or a creed, or ceremony, or a form, or a man, but by the Lord Jesus Christ. And we must prepare now, oh now to get folk to realize that it's now. Oh I’ll wait for a more convenient time. Well will you please sit down and in 5 minutes
write out what would be a more convenient time? No, no. the best time. The only time to prepare is the present. God has not promised to any one of us any other time. The present is with us to decide only God knows what’s going to happen tomorrow. I challenge you beloved we can read the New Testament, our bible through and through for a promise for good, for any unsaved person in the future tense, I challenge you. But you'll never find it. All the promises for spiritual welfare of the unsaved and the word of our God are in the present tense, and I know what you're doing. you're teaching, you're leaning in the teaching of the word of God and you want to be instructed in the word but your hearts are going out too because some of you have been invited to that particular bible, and they have invited an unsaved one, and this might have been the hour of opportunity, and you're not going to suddenly become an evangelist, another Billy graham. One of anyone is enough. God made one Adam, he didn't make 2. And when God said it’s not good for man to be alone he didn't say oh I made a mistake. No no no no, nothing wrong with Adam, but he was incomplete. There’s a difference between error and incompleteness. It’s not good for man to be alone, he has to have someone who will answer to him. Imagine sitting down to tea with a giraffe. [inaudible] so all now, now delay [inaudible] for preparation snatched from you.

I know when I was struggling with this whole matter of accepting Christ. Knew what it would mean when I thought out later when I met my wife. I was tossing to and fro. finally it was in the early morning and I said oh God if this Jesus is the messiah, if he is the savior, as I have been told by this Christian lady, this neighbor who prayed for me 8 years, if he is the one, if you reveal it to me now, I will accept you. And I went immediately to sleep. I hadn't been sleep since so of course [inaudible] but oh what a passage, what a passage. Therefore, he says thus will I do unto thee Israel and because I will do this unto thee. On the top of the page [inaudible] in the
extreme northwest corner [inaudible] as I do this unto thee prepare to me thy God oh Israel. That must mean time is allotted to you.

[Inaudible] ok now we must always be on time if not a little ahead of time. So now 9:45 we have a break. For the next 15 minutes if you have written out a question hand it up please. I see all you intelligent ones are getting your biblical guns ready. Pass it up and then we will be glad, Mrs. Pearl [inaudible] our faithful one will pick it up. Just lift your hands so she'll know which ones you are. You all look so equally intelligent. She wouldn't know which one of you wants to ask it. Come on. We’ll take them all one for one time, the first time. That’s called priming the pup. Anyone have a question? One question is off limits and that is what on the world were you talking about this morning. Yes brother. Brother's name is Dan. He's got a bible name.

[Audience member question]: [entire question inaudible]

Oh, I’ve been awake ever since. Yes. Oh, when I went, well, he gave me the conviction that Jesus was the promised messiah of Israel, and in, oh, it just slips me how many days it was, I was on my way, I went to the man who had told me about the Lord, the one he had sent me to was a missionary. The Christian missionary [inaudible] work, and I went to him and told him about it and he was praising God, and of course he knew that I was not allowed to remain at home, and I had been preparing for rabbinical service you see. When you do that you don’t know Christian organizations. I had never been in a church to speak of in my life, before that. And here I was a
graduate of a university out of Pittsburg. So I went to him and the Lord worked this and that and the other, and had me be an evangelist at the town in Pittsburg at the [inaudible] memorial hall and I was introduced to him from another one and suffice it to say it was practically no time at all I was on my way, I was on my way to Florida to teach in a Christian school. Taught English. Still thinking this is a terrific language myself. Along with others studied about a score of them besides English and Semitic languages and others, European. So I was there, I was there for a year, and I was teaching also history. My major was history at the University of Pittsburg. And when I wasn’t teaching I was supposed to be in classes, but the classes you see were undergraduate classes but even then they weren't classes in doctrine, I wish they had been, so I wrote back to a friend in New York and said I have not been getting any Bible teaching as such apart from what I've been reading in the word myself. And then I need to know a system of truth just as there is is rabbinical theology, there is Christian theology. I know that. so I said I don’t think that I’m making any progress at all and I don’t want the, well there was a statement since I had taught Hebrew at children since six years of age. And I taught them Hebrew direct method: Hebrew to Hebrew. I spoke Hebrew and taught Hebrew and so on. And so I said I am not getting the material that I need in order to preach. So I wrote this friend back in New York who was one of those that made arrangements for me to go down into Florida. He said well there’s a school it’s not very old. See this is 1931. I was saved in 1930; this was the end of the school year. So 1931, I've been saved a year. he said about seven years ago a school as started in Dallas, Texas by a dr., I guess he was called off and had been given a degree, dr. Lewis Barry chafer [sp?].

And by the way to our English friends who will be happy to know that one of the three founders of Dallas seminary was an English gentlemen, Dr. Ruth Thomas [sp?] and he later went on up
into Canada, was in Wycliffe [sp?] there and the other by the way, the third founder, Dr. Chafer was one, he was an understudy of [inaudible] and so on. The second one was Griffith Thomas who wrote on the Church of England and so on. He was a very learned man, very godly man used to be in conferences with moody bible institute extensions and so on. And the third one was Dr. Alex B. Winchester of the Knox Presbyterian Church in Toronto, Canada. Those three men came together. I think we have at least one lady here from Atlanta. Don't we have somebody here from Atlanta? Where is the lady? [Inaudible] Oh a man, okay! Where is our Atlanta man? Okay. He was in the back part of the ship asleep [laughs]. Anyhow, so they met in Atlanta to pray because [inaudible] chafer had been evangelism and without [inaudible] he always would ask preachers what would you add in a seminary curriculum if you had it to do over again? They said we want more emphasis on the bible. On the English bible how to understand it, how to interpret it, how to transmit it and so on. So those three men on the hotel I don't know which one it was in Atlanta Georgia prayed all night. [Inaudible] okay. Any questions? So uh he told me about the school and as long as it would take to write a letter from Florida to Texas, I don't know whether his mail was any faster then than it is now, but I was admitted there and finished my work there. It took six years of work in four, in four years I got three theological degrees, and then I was called to teach and I taught there until I left in 1948 to go into a double ministry with Dr. McGee at the church of the open door. I was head of the Jewish department, which was under the biola university call now and the church of the open door, and also was used as the Lord to found the Talbot Theological Seminary in 1952. Yes, sir?

[Audience member question:] [Inaudible]
Yes, we have to.

[Audience member continues:] [Inaudible]

I think our brother has touched on a very important interpretive principle that I am going to answer that. If the 39 books of the Old Testament were not relevant to us, then what’s the difference, what’s the stringency incumbent upon us to learn it any more than we study hamlet? You see. One of my minors at the university, my major was history, and I had four minors: English, French, German, and psychology. But what is the insistence? There are certain principles and the reason brother folk don't, and that’s not just people that'll be in our BSF meetings, but the reason some preachers will not touch the old testament is because I don't know my way around, you see. I don't know my way around. I understand Ruth, four chapters, that don’t tax you too much. They know Jonah. Went to fish seminary got a whale of an education. That’s Jonah. They know about those. But those are narratives. They’re narratives. I’ll tell you why they are trouble. They do not know a certain interpretative principle. You can get not more trouble than you bargained for if you try to drag in things from the Old Testament under law into our age. You see. You have to realize you didn't speak to your children as the father when they were three months old as you do now when they’re six or seven or eight. And what you told them then was truth but it has to fit the particular framework in time. Let me just make one possible statement [inaudible] something happened the central even of history, the cross.

[Inaudible] That's a story all in its own you see. And you cannot hear me my dear friends, ladies and gentlemen. You cannot treat things that are on this side of Calvary the same as those. That’s an insult to the living god, the three persons of the trinity. That’s an insult to god to think that that didn’t matter anymore. God works in different ways. That doesn’t mean that right is wrong and wrong is right. You’ve got to realize certain principles. You can’t go oh lord hear me. That’s
true of both portions of scriptures. But oh lord save me. [Inaudible why are you talking as if Christ didn’t come. don’t do that, don’t insult God. that cost god all he had. he didn’t send an angel. He said his only beloved son. It’s a marvel; I marvel all the time that the whole universe did not collapse. The second person of the trinity. Now rejected out the worst of all death. You ought to hear what the romans writers said about it. Let death by crucifixion not only be far from the experience of any roman citizen but even from his thinking. Yeah. Lifted up between heaven and earth is no fit for either place. Now what a death it was with agony. See it didn’t touch any vital part in the first place. It didn’t the head the brain, it didn’t touch the heart, it didn’t touch the [inaudible]. So those poor, poor victims suffered. They had to break their bones to put them out of their misery. So I tell you the reason and I know your I have sympathy with your problem there and it’s a real one and I have sympathy with him too, see. And part of it too is in order to be able to interpret the Old Testament you’ve got to be in it sometimes and it’s amazing. I tell folk even adults a lot of people are going to be surprised in heaven that three fourths of the bible in the old testament what are you going to do about it? What are you going to do about it? You’ve heard dr. [inaudible] is very thrilled about the old. So am I. how do you know a savior is coming if you don’t have the Old Testament. That doesn’t mean you don’t go from the old to the knew. My dear friends if you understand the old yours going to rush to the remedy in Christ. Some people don’t know how sick they are that’s why they don’t call the doctor. [Inaudible] don’t get me started. I’ve only been at it only fifty years. Alright anyone else? That’s just that I thought. They’re intelligent. They don’t need answers. Yes brother.

Audience question: [inaudible]

Did you hear that folk? He said is there any significance in the way in which God calls specific ones. Yes. Definitely so like Amos and so on, and did you notice how our reward calls different
ones thank you to be shepherd of flock? Because he himself is the chief shepherd and how can God speak to a certain individual better than in the area in the milieu in the surroundings in which they're so known. The farmer plowing the ground. As far as that’s concerned the bible is full of areas of occupation. A tailor mending things; a farmer; a shepherd and so on. Yes. He could speak right out of his experience. And there’s a certain attachment too between a shepherd and what a shepherd won’t do. Think of how he goes seeking out one lost sheep. What a picture that is. And it just shows that God and his wonderful plan of redemption; he pervades all areas of human life. I spoke earlier of being in the temple on the Day of Atonement, what is the Jews hope? How does he see eternity? He doesn’t he just keeps weeping. Lord forgive, lord forgive. They don’t know what to do. He used to say get the Jew back to the holy land back to this land and all his troubles would be at an end. But they forgot to [inaudible]. Nobody’s troubles are at an end until they have ended in Christ. Yes, they are. They have no hope. princess if you talk to a Jew who is dying and he has been so faithful, he has worn his prayer shawl, he has worn the skull cap, because [inaudible] Here he is. He’s just lived in the [inaudible] and they just study and study. Here’s this men and they spend their days. Do you know why they keep studying their word? Not because they need a seminary degree or anything like that. They believe that giving more honor to God by studying his word, because if you know Christ you are bringing more honor to it, how can you be honoring me than to take my work for what I say? just disregard because [inaudible] I can talk myself sick and no matter what I say you're going to do what you want anyhow and so on. yes in their synagogues on the day of atonement, all sadness, oh how they're weeping and weeping and there’s one place to in the synagogue the day of atonement where they the men, the ladies, and the up up in the upper um area, and that’s not to keep them separate but as you have in the new testament, the early epistles there, it’s so that they wouldn't
be asking the husband no what do you say and so on. that can be a little confusing [inaudible] but in a certain part of the synagogue, he gets on his knees, the orthodox Jew does, and touches the floor of the synagogue with his head and says [inaudible] the lord he is God. Why? That’s what they said at Mount Carmel when God manifested them to Elijah. There was the still big line of cleavage between God and any other deity. And I’m telling you we are putting in all kinds of deities. Instead of God we are putting up the dollar signs. Yes there can be no joy except in Christ. And did you notice through the New Testament those that came to know the Lord, did they sit down and weep, no if they did they wept for joy. Someone once said the best way to spell joy is j for Jesus y for you and nothing in between. Yes. Then comes joy. Yes you're right, what’s the Jews [inaudible] if you had asked that dear man now you’ve been praying all your life and so on, and you're praying now, what is your hope? You’re going to go to heaven? You’re going to go to [inaudible] the Garden of Eden. You what he said? I hope so. You have to know so. What’s his hope for eternity? The God that has spoken too many [inaudible] he sees it as the place where God is in paradise. All things will be made possible for them. It’s just hoping. Its man’s way if you don’t have God's way you're just left. Agnosticism has its answer, atheism has its. I have exactly 9:45. You are dismissed and the lord bless you.