

a Sermon, or skeleton,
on "Prepare to meet thy God"
Preached on Shockoe Hill, Richm.
Sunday Night June 28. 1833.

James A. Riddick
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Amos II. 12. "And because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God O Israel"

Our discourse on this occasion will be in continuation and conclusion of the subject which we commenced this morning. After making a few preliminary remarks we divided the subject into two general propositions
I The punishment with which the wicked are threatened,

II Show how it is to be avoided -

The second proposition we omitted, to form the basis of a subsequent discourse, which we now propose to consider. What we may advance on the present occasion will

arise nearly altogether from
the impulse of the moment.
Having been otherwise en-
gaged nearly all day, I
have not had time to ma-
ture that part of our Subject
under present consideration.
Our remarks of consequence
must be ^{somewhat} of a general Char-
acter - The point we have
in hand at present is to show
How threatened punishment
of the wicked is to be avoided
In order to the more
clear development of the Sub-
ject, it will be necessary
to take a short review of
what we advanced in the
previous discourse on the
punishment with which
the wicked are threatened -

1 The reflections of a troubled
mind in the present world.

2. Temporal judgments, &
 3. Everlasting punishment
- in the torments of Hell.

The great enquiry at the present time is, "How shall I escape the punishment of the wicked?" To this reply in the warning language of our text: "Prepare to meet thy God". It must be recalled that this expression is a military phrase - God had determined to visit the Israelites in vengeance, he therefore commanded them to prepare to meet him in battle - Now there are but two ways to settle a point of difference with an offended party - either to vanquish him in combat or yield to his terms of reconciliation - God being the

offended party with the wicked,
Their conclusion must be made
between two propositions, either
to contend with battle, or sub-
mit to his terms of recon-
ciliation -

1 The first resort, viz: To contend
with ^{God in} battle, will be absurd from
considering the omnipotence
of God -

2. The second proposition there-
fore is our only refuge - to sub-
mit to the terms of peace.

These were made known im-
perfectly under the Mosaic
dispensation but more fully by
the gospel of Christ, which has
brought life and immortality
to light -

1 We are to repent of our sins

2. We are to believe in the
Lad Jesus Christ

3 We are to go on unto per-

Letter -

We shall now close the subject by enforcing the exhortation "Prepare to meet Thy God."

1. Entreat the sinner to consider his latter end - The day of reckoning will finally come.

2. An unconverted woman do not sell thy soul for the trifling toys of the world.

3. The exhortation in our text is enforced by ten thousand monuments.

This was the instruction which thy mother gave when thou wast reclining in her arms

This is the theme of our previous instructions from the Sacred desk

We read this command on every huge Holy writ

It is proclaimed by The availing
reasons

It is written upon the brow
of the old & in form - Their
features tell us prepare -

Go to the house of the poor
and you will hear The
spirit whisper prepare -

Go to your yard, and the
admiration will be renewed

Go to the merchant, and
as he turns the linen to show
The robe - it says prepare

Go to the mechanics shop
as he plains the plumb
to enquire the Subject of
morality - It says prepare

Go to the grave, and hear
The silent clods - and hear
The exhortations prepare to
meet thy God.

The flowing, crepe & the
habilement ~~that~~ of mourning
That I beheld in this con-
gregation tell me that
some of your friends are
gone -

May the Holy Spirit
help us all to prepare
for great, vast, boundless
eternity -



