



Pastor's Comments

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“Prepare For Impact!”

US Airways Flight 1549 had climbed to 3200 feet in the 90 seconds after takeoff when the pilot reported a double bird strike—both engines were out, and it was descending for a crash landing. As the reality of what appeared to be certain death dawned on the passengers, they began to pray. Moments later the huge jet was over the Hudson River when the pilot ordered, **“Prepare for impact!”** Flight attendants loudly instructed, “Brace, brace—head down!” Then the jet splashed down and began floating on the river. Thanks to God, the expertise of the pilot, attendants, and rescuers, all 155 passengers survived. The story is being called, “Miracle On The Hudson.”

When I heard of the pilot's order, **“Prepare for impact,”** I thought of an order that God made in Amos 4:12, **“Prepare to meet thy God!”** I thought of other flights that went down without survivors and wondered how many of those equated their pilot's order with God's order, **“Prepare to meet thy God!”**

Why prepare? Because **“every one of us shall give account of himself to God”** (Rom. 14:12).

Why prepare now? Because you may not have time to prepare later, **“now is the day of salvation”** (2 Cor. 6:2). Because no scripture teaches the possibility of getting right with God after we die since we will be judged as we are at the time of our death. **“He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still”** (Rev. 22:11).

How does one prepare? By accepting Jesus Christ as Savior, **“Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”** (John 14:6). Our sins are forgiven and we are brought into fellowship with God **only when we repent of our sins and place our trust in Jesus Christ.**

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