



“Plans” James 4:13-17

We all make plans while considering as many variables as possible. But when we ignore God’s will when we plan, we ignore this reality- God’s will determines whether or not our plans will succeed or have any lasting value!

If we can determine the goals at the heart of our plans we will learn where our hearts treasure lies. Then we can learn to submit to God’s will and direction in our lives

III. We have a planning problem—v.13

IV. We fail to recognize or admit the uncertainty of life—v.14

V. We fail to acknowledge God’s sovereignty—v.15

VI. We prove our arrogance when we plan without God—v.16

I. We sin when we believe ourselves to be Self-Sufficient—v.17

II. How can we plan in God’s Will?

Growing Notes

1. Should we plan for the future? Is it wrong to do this? At what point might planning become problematic in your life?
2. What can you be sure of in life? In eternity? How does that affect the way you plan for the future?
3. Are there areas of your life where you have trouble acknowledging God’s sovereignty? Does that make Him any less sovereign?
4. James tells us that planning without God demonstrates arrogance. Are there any other scriptures that support his claim? Are there any scriptures that refute it? What would you tell someone who claims that good planning apart from God is possible/desirable?
5. Is self-sufficiency a sin? Does what James teaches agree or disagree with what our culture teaches about being self-sufficient?
6. What is the best way to know God’s will? If you are unsure of God’s will what can you do?