

Outline

Introduction

“Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn’t do it, it is sin for them. James 4:13-17

THREE MISTAKES TO AVOID ABOUT THE FUTURE

MISTAKE #1: PLAN WITHOUT _____.

“The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty. Proverbs 21:5

”To humans belong the plans of the heart,
but from the LORD comes the proper answer of the tongue.

² All a person’s ways seem pure to them,
but motives are weighed by the LORD.

³ Commit to the LORD whatever you do,
and he will establish your plans.

⁴ The LORD works out everything to its proper end— Proverbs 16:1-4

“How to Face Your Future”

James

4:13-17

6/27/21

THE REMEDY

“Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money” (vs. 13) say instead...“If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” (vs. 15)

THE POSTURES TOWARDS GOD’S WILL

1. You can reference God’s will: “I know I should go to worship...But I’m so tired. So, hello Pastor Pillow and hello Rev. Sheets!” Zzzzzz.
2. You can pay deference to God’s will: “I’m pretty tired but worship is important so let me observe a moment of silence and put on the Best of Hillsong Worship CD. What a beautiful name it is...”
3. You can give preference to God’s will: “I know I am tired but worship is a given and I need to go and be refueled and I need I need to go to refuel others. So up and att’em!”

MISTAKE #2 _____ ABOUT TOMORROW

TWO REASONS TO NOT PRESUME ABOUT TOMORROW

1. Life is too unpredictable.

“Why, you don’t even know what will happen tomorrow. (vs. 14a)

2. Life is fragile and temporal.

“What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” (vs. 14b)

“Come,” each one cries, ... Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even better!” Isaiah 56:12

“How to Face Your Future”

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THE REMEDY

“So don't be anxious about tomorrow -- God will take care of your tomorrow, too. Live one day at a time.” Matthew 6:34 (Living Bible)

MISTAKE #3: KEEP PUTTING THINGS OFF

“If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them. (VS. 17)

"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, 'Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow' -- when you now have it with you." Proverbs 3:27-28 (New International)

One of These Days

“I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.” 2 Corinthians 6:2