

How To Plan Ahead – James 4:13-17
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Introduction

1. James began chapter four discussing about war with God and ends talking about the will of God. These themes are related in that if we are out of the will of God we will find ourselves at war with God. There are three attitudes toward the will of God and only one is correct...

I. Ignoring God's Will (4:13-14,16)

- a. Life Is Complex (v13)
 - i. The first reason we should never ignore God's will is because of the complexities involved in life.
- b. Life Is Uncertain (v14a)
 - i. This is based on Proverbs 27:1 and reminds us of Luke 12:16-21
- c. Life Is Brief (v14b)
 - i. Our years are but vapors in eternity and we can't spend our lives in waste. We must invest our lives in things that are eternal
- d. Life Is Frail (v16)
 - i. Man has no control over the future and to boast is sin.

II. Disobeying God's Will (4:17)

- a. The Danger Of Pride
 - i. This is knowing God's will and deliberately disobeys it and this leads to misery!

III. Obedying God's Will (4:15)

- a. "If The Lord Will"
 - i. Our food needs to be same as Jesus' in John 4:34
 - ii. We must first know His will (Acts 22:14) and then obey it always striving to grow in it everyday
 - iii. God wants us to understand His will which is spiritual wisdom which will lead to us being able to prove God's will (Romans 12:2)
 - iv. Finally we must do God's will from the heart (Ephesians 6:6)

Psalm 40:8 – "I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart."