



Lesson #10: What is Your Life? (James 4:14)

George Truett (Former pasotr of First Baptist Church in Dallas, TX) once said,
 "To discover God's will is life's greatest _____.
 To know God's will is life's greatest _____.
 To do God's will is life's greatest _____."

As we come to James 4 this evening the Spirit of God alerts us to the fact that when it comes to the will of God there isn't much time that can be wasted discovering it. "For what is your life? It is even a _____" (4:14). Therefore, **because life is a vapor you must humble yourself before God and obey His will.**

The problem is that we tend to presume upon a future that we cannot control. There are three mistakes made by those early believers that many in our day still make. As we read James 4:13-17 I would like to share those three mistakes with you in an effort to help you from falling into the same trap.

GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR FUTURE IS COULDED BY FOOLISH _____ (4:13)

Verse 13 is ever so appropriate for a materialisitc society like the one we live in.

A. Foolish planners are _____

There are actually two kinds of atheists in the world today.

- An **Intellectual Atheist** says, "I do not believe that there is a God."
- A **Practical Atheist** says, "I know there is a God I just choose to live like he _____ exist."

We live this way when we make our plans without ever asking God to participate and without asking God what He would have us to do. James outlines how we are practical atheists.

1. God is ignored in our _____ plans
2. God is ignored in our _____ plans
3. God is ignored in our _____ plans

B. Foolish planners are _____

When we fail to acknowledge God and His leadership for our future, we are living in _____. Let's not forget that James is writing to believers. It was writing to NT believers but many of them were living like OT Lot. They were making decisions without asking, "What is God's will in this?"

GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR FUTURE IS COULDED BY FOOLISH _____ (4:14-16)

The people James was writing to were making great plans for the future. However, they were forgetful of one great truth: Man does not control the future.

A. Your future is _____

There is no way you can predict what tomorrow will hold. We may plan what we will, but we can bring none of it to pass. God is soveriegn. This means that we are _____. The problem being addressed in this text is that their trust was not in God, but in their business ventures. They were assuming they were in _____ of a future they really had no _____ over.

B. Your future is _____

You would think that because death is not just probable, but absolutely certain, every person would be desperate to know how to get _____ with God. But, strangely, people put it out of mind andgo on about life as if they will live forever.

GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR FUTURE IS COULDED BY FOOLISH _____ (4:16-17)

Humans throughout all history have struggled with putting things off that need to be done right away.

A. You must live for God in the _____

In the final 2 verses, James condemns that lifestyle of his readers by telling them that their foolish rejoicing in plans that may never come to pass is wrong. In fact, all sin can be grouped into one of two categories.

1. Sins of _____ - These are committed when we choose to willfully do what we know is wrong.
2. Sins of _____ - These are committed when we refuse to do what we know is right.

In God's eyes, one group is just as evil as the other.

B. We must leaven the future to God's _____

Instead of living for a tomorrow that may never come, our duty is to live for God in the present and leave _____ up to Him. Don't get so caught up in living for the future that we lose sight of the work to be done here _____. Tomorrow may never come. What a tragedy it would be to face God with unfinished business.

Concluding Thoughts

You don't know what you'll be on the morrow, your life is a vapor. And yet, we still presume upon what we cannot control. What have you been putting off in your life? Have you been putting off _____ the Lord? Make up your mind to do it today! Have you been putting off coming to Jesus for _____? Get to him today, tomorrow may never come!