

HOW TO FACE YOUR FUTURE

James 4:13-17

Everyone is interested in the future. James warns us about common mistakes we make regarding the future.

3 COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

- I. MISTAKE #1: PLANNING WITHOUT GOD!
 "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.'" (vs. 13)

THE SOLUTION: INCLUDE GOD IN YOUR GOALS

"Instead, you ought to say, 'IF it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.'" (vs. 15)

"We may make our plans, but God has the last word." Prov. 16:1 (GN)

"We should make plans -- counting on God to direct us." Prov. 16:9 (LB)

- II. MISTAKE #2: PRESUMING ABOUT TOMORROW!
 "Why, you don't even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil." (vs. 14 & 16)

Ps. 39:4-6; Ps. 102:3, 11; Job 4:7,9; Ps. 103:15

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

"Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth."
 Prov. 27:1

THE SOLUTION: LIVE ONE DAY AT A TIME!

"So don't be anxious about tomorrow -- God will take care of your tomorrow, too. Live one day at a time." Matt. 6:34 (LB)

- III. MISTAKE #3: PUTTING OFF DOING GOOD!

"Anyone then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it sins." (vs. 17)

THE SOLUTION: Do IT Now!

"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." Prov. 3:27-28

Luke 12:16-20 -- A foolish man

*"RIGHT NOW God is ready to welcome you. TODAY He is ready to save you!"
2 Cor. 6:2 (LB)*