

## MY plan? - GOD'S Plan? ~ James 4:13-17

→Scripture Reading James 4:13-17, Psalms 39:4-5

### INTRODUCTION

- The time to repair the roof is - when the sun is shining. JF Kennedy
- It does not pay to leave a live dragon out of your plans - if you live near him. JRR Tolkien
- Life is what happens to us - while we are making other plans. A. Saunders
- Give me six hours to chop down a tree and - I will spend the first four sharpening the axe. A Lincoln
- Failing to PLAN - is Planning to FAIL Benjamin Franklin
- All human plans are subject to RUTHLESS revision - by Nature, Fate, or whatever one prefers to call the POWER behind the Universe. AC Clarke

### Don't BRAG about Your PLANS ~ James 4:13-16

[13] 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." [14] 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.

**Psalm 39:4-5 (NET)** O LORD, help me understand **my mortality** and the brevity of life. Let me realize how quickly my life will pass. [5] Look, you make my days short-lived, and my life span is nothing from YOUR perspective. Surely **all people**, even those who seem secure, **are nothing but VAPOR**.

→**Submitting to God** Acknowledges HE is in Control of Everything including the FUTURE

[15] Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

→**Submitting to God SAYS...** I want what YOU WANT - You are my Lord and my God

[16] As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil.

For us to PLAN as if God did NOT exist is arrogant and self-focused. It is a declaration of independence from God and it ignores reality. Expositor's

### IMPLICATION

→To IGNORE God and make PLANS is utter FOOLISHNESS

**Ephesians 5:15-18 (HCS)** Pay careful attention, then, to how you WALK - not as unwise people but as wise - [16] making the most of the time, because the days are evil. [17] So don't be foolish, but UNDERSTAND what the Lord's WILL is. [18] And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless actions, but be FILLED by the Spirit:

### APPLICATION

**Psalms 37:4 (NIV)** DELIGHT yourself in the LORD and He will give you the **desires of your heart**.

(NET) ...take DELIGHT in the Lord and He will ANSWER your prayers.

**DELIGHT-** to find our Satisfaction in God alone

If we truly DELIGHT in the Lord, then the chief DESIRE of our heart will be to KNOW Him better so we can delight in Him even more, and **the Lord will satisfy that desire**. Wiersbe

## 1 Thessalonians 4:3 (HCS) For this is God's WILL, your SANCTIFICATION

The goal of **SANCTIFICATION** is progressive conformity to the image of Jesus Christ. The believer participates with the Spirit in the process of transformation that continues until glorification. HCS

The WILL of God comes from the HEART of God. His PLAN is the expression of His LOVE. So we don't have to be afraid. Wiersbe

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** (NLT) Don't you realize that **your body is the temple** of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for **God bought you** with a HIGH PRICE. So you must HONOR God with your body.

## DO the RIGHT Thing ~ James 4:17

[17] Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

## APPLICATION

➔ It is not enough to NOT DO what is WRONG - We must also Positively DO what is RIGHT

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are **God's workmanship, created IN** Christ Jesus to do GOOD WORKS, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

## TAKE AWAY ??

**Submitting to God should be SEEN in...**

- HOW we Talk ABOUT others vs. 11-12
- HOW we Talk TO others vs. 11-12
- our OBEDIENCE to God's WORD vs. 11-12
- how we Acknowledge God is in CONTROL of Everything - INCLUDING the FUTURE vs.13-14
- our SAYING I want what YOU WANT - You are MY Lord and MY God vs.15

**Jeremiah 29:11** (NIV) For I know the PLANS I have for you," declares the LORD, "PLANS to prosper you and NOT to harm you, PLANS to give you HOPE and a future.

**Jeremiah 29:10-11** (NIV) This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. [11] For I know the PLANS I have for you," declares the LORD, "PLANS to prosper you and NOT to harm you, PLANS to give you HOPE and a future.

God's Will for you is EXACTLY what you would choose IF you had ALL the facts. B Thrasher