

“WHEN MY GOALS ARE NOT GOD’S”

James 4:13-17

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In this section, James is reminding us that while we cannot predict the future, we must learn how to face it honestly.

I. MISTAKES.

Three mistakes first-century individuals made that are often repeated by us.

- A. Mistake #1: Planning the future without God. James 4:13
- B. Mistake #2: Presuming to know the future. James 4:13-14
 - They failed to comprehend the complexity of life.
 - They failed to comprehend the uncertainty of life.
 - They failed to comprehend the brevity of life.
- C. Mistake #3: Postponing what should be done today. James 4:15-17

II. LESSONS.

- A. What James IS NOT Teaching.
 - That we should be obsessed with the possibility of dying.
 - That we should not plan ahead.
 - That it is wrong to plan for our future security.
- B. What James IS Teaching.
 - That tomorrow’s circumstances are totally uncertain.
 - That we have no assurance of a long life.
 - That we have no right to ignore God’s will.