

# HOW TO FACE YOUR FUTURE

## Developing a Faith That Works

### James 4:13-17

“ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit” whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.” But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.”

## 3 COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

### I. MISTAKE #1: Trusting the future is foolishness

*“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: Trust God for your future

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

*“ We can gather our thoughts, but the Lord gives the right answer.” Prov. 16:1*

II. MISTAKE #2: Ignorance of the future is foolishness

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*"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)*

*"Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."*

**James 4:15**

THE SOLUTION: Trust God in the present

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

III. MISTAKE #3: Waiting till tomorrow to do what we should do today

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

THE SOLUTION: Turn intentions into actions today

*"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*