

September 16, 2018



JAMES 4:13-17; PSALM 23:1-6, (NASB)

TRUTH: Many never enjoy today because of worry about tomorrow.

I. TWO MISTAKES TO AVOID

Mistake #1: Planning without God (James 4:13)

TRUTH: Often our greatest failure regarding tomorrow is not what we do but what we fail to do... we forget God.

TRUTH: To formulate a business plan without prayer is presumption and practical atheism.

SOLUTION: Include God in your goal setting (v. 15).

INSIGHT: Life is "if-fy"!

TRUTH: We face the future without fear by praying, "God, what do you want me to do or not do?" (Proverbs 16:9).

Mistake #2: Presuming about tomorrow (vs. 14, 16)

Two reasons not to presume on tomorrow:

1. Life is uncertain.

TRUTH: There is no guarantee of perpetual success.

2. Life is brief (Proverbs 27:1).

II. THREE FACTS FOR BELIEVERS TO NOT FEAR THE FUTURE

1. God guards me (Psalm 145:20 NIV).

GOD'S PROMISE: I will charge my angels to protect you wherever you go (Psalm 91:11).

From his book *Angels Among Us*, Ron Rhoades teaches:

- a) Angels guard us against harm and injury (Daniel 6).
- b) Angels restrain evil around us (2 Kings 6).
- c) Angels protect us in dangerous circumstances (Acts 27).

Angel misnomers:

- a) Neither children nor adults become angels at death (Psalm 8:5).
- b) Angels are spirit beings.
- c) Many angels watch over individual children of God (Psalm 91:11).

2. God gives me what I need, not what I deserve.

TRUTH: We'll never face a day without God's goodness and mercy if we belong to Christ.

TRUTH: God's goodness takes care of the good days, and His mercy takes care of the bad days.

3. He guarantees heaven is waiting.

INVITATION: 1 Peter 1:4-6 (LB)

TRUTH: Everyone was created by God but not everyone is a child of God.