

James 4:13-17

Week 9
Nov 8, 2020

James began chapter 4 talking about war with God, and he ended it talking about the will of God. But the two themes are related: when a believer is out of the will of God, he becomes a troublemaker and not a peacemaker.

That God would have a plan for each of our lives is an obvious truth. He is a God of wisdom and knows what ought to happen and when it should occur. And, as a God of love, He must desire the very best for His children. Too many Christians look on the will of God as bitter medicine they must take, instead of seeing it as the gracious evidence of the love of God.

In this section of his letter, James pointed out three attitudes toward the will of God. Only one of them is the correct one that every Christian ought to cultivate.

I. _____ God's will (4:13-14,16)

James presented 4 arguments that revealed the foolishness of ignoring the will of God.

- The _____ of life (14a)
- The _____ of life (14b)
- The _____ of life (16)

II. _____ God's will (17)

These people know the will of God but choose to disobey it! Why do people who know God's will deliberately disobey it?

- _____
- _____ of the _____ of God's will (It's NOT an option!)

What happens to believers who deliberately disobey the known will of God?

- They are _____ by their loving Father until they _____ (Heb 12:5-11)
- _____ of losing _____ (1 Cor 9:24-27)

III. _____ God's will (4:15)

"If the Lord wills" is not just a _____ on a believer's
_____. It's a constant _____ of his _____.

The believer's relationship to the will of God is a growing experience:

- We should _____ His will (Acts 22:14)
- We should _____ His will (Rom 12:2)
- We should _____ His will from the _____ (Eph 6:6)

The Christian who knows, loves, and obeys the will of God will enjoy God's blessing.
His life may not be easier, but it will be holier and happier.