

Bible Study 13 – Boasting about tomorrow – James 4:13- 17

Someone has said that tomorrow must be the longest day of the week, judging by the many things that we leave until tomorrow to do. Raphael thought that the next day he would finish his great painting. But on that next day that great painting followed him, unfinished, in his funeral procession. Charles Dickens thought that tomorrow he would finish his great novel. Setting his pen down, he turned his attention elsewhere for just a moment, and Dickens' life was taken away from him. Schubert would finish his 'Unfinished Symphony' tomorrow - but his tomorrow never ever came. Sir Walter Scott, whose diaries are so famous, wrote on the last day of his life these words: 'Tomorrow we shall...', and his life was taken.

The context	This letter was written to Jewish Christians who had been scattered by persecution. The theme is that Christian faith expresses itself in a life of godliness. It addresses: persevering through trials & temptations, obeying God's Word, discriminating against others, putting faith into action, controlling our language, the relationship between wisdom & behaviour, being in conflict with God & others, steps of repentance, and boasting about tomorrow.
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PART 1 Read & summarise each section – James 4:13-17

Bad attitude (v.13, 16)	
Consider life (v.14)	
Consider God (v.15)	
Sins of omission (v.17)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. **What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.**

2. **What I learnt about people like us.**

3. **Summarise a key verse in your own words.**

4. **In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?**

5. **Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?**

6. **How can we include God's will in our planning (v.15)?**

7. **Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?**

Let's include God in our plans, instead of making our plans independently.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

