

IF IT IS THE LORD'S WILL

James 4: 13-17

I. If we think we are in control, we are mistaken.

A. Life is uncertain

James 4:13-14a "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.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow."

B. Life is brief

James 4:14b "What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."

C. We are not in control, but God is.

James 4:15-16 "Instead you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' As it is you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil."

Deo Volente (D.V.) God Willing

II. The effect of yielding to God's will in everything is that we are "lifted up" and receive "more grace."

James 4:10 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

James 4:6 "But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"

III. Surrender to God's will and take action.