

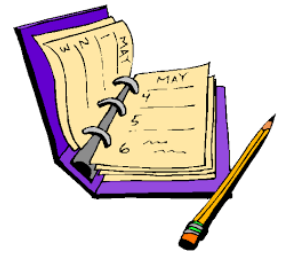
# What Will Tomorrow Bring?

By: Lenny Chapman

Calendars and planners are “hot items” around this time of year. Time management is so important, that for many, they cannot operate calmly through the course of the day without their planner and phone by their side. Perhaps you are not one that plans each minute of every day as carefully as others. Maybe you are one of the many who only marks the calendar for certain events such as vacations, birthdays, or other significant appointments. Well, even if you fall into this category, you are still considered a “planner” but just to a lesser degree.

It has been proven that planning, and looking forward to certain things, can have a very positive effect on our attitudes and overall health. However, we must realize that we do not know what tomorrow might bring. James (the brother of Jesus) tried to teach this very lesson when he said, *“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’”* (James 4:13-15).

The teaching of James should have us realize that we can plan travel and other events, just as we see in the biblical records (i.e. Paul’s journeys); however, we should never lose focus regarding our purpose and goal in life. We should include God at every turn, and plan our days to coincide with His will. We never know when opportunities of the spiritual nature will come before us, but it is our duty to be ready with eyes open wide to see them before they pass right by. Jesus taught this, and Matthew recorded it for us this way, *“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ... ‘Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ ‘Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life”* (Mat. 25:31-46).



I do feel sorry for those who try to do so much. I do not believe that God intended for us to ever be so busy that we would no longer choose to have time for Him. It was Bill Gates who is quoted saying, *“Just in terms of allocation of time resources, religion is not very efficient. There is a lot more I could be doing on a Sunday morning.”* Today, there are many who take this same approach and choose to allow just about anything to get in the way, neglecting their service to God.

We must always remember that our life is but a vapor and that we will not live forever here on earth. If it is the goal to be with the Lord in heaven after a while, then in this “little” time that we are given by God, we must make the most of every day. Let us now go forth and seize the day for all that it is worth, glorifying, and pleasing God along the way, for we do not know what tomorrow might bring (Pro. 27:1)!