“If The Lord Wills”

Intro: James taught us that the faith that God grants ____________ right works. That’s why he wrote saying, “Faith without works is dead.”

A. Upon hearing such a truth, our response should be that we would ____________ ourselves, inspecting our works and words to see if we possess true ____________ in Christ.

1. James calls those who have fallen short to ____________ of their sin.

B. Church, those who have come to God in humble repentance have been ____________ by the saving grace of God, and will live a transformed life! Rom 8:29 tells us that those whom God foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, Jesus Christ!

1. If we have humbly repented of our sins, then we should no longer ____________ _______ each other (4:11).

2. Now, we come to today’s text. Not only will true humble repentance before God reveal itself in the way we speak about one another, but it will effect the way we ________ our ________.

James 4:13-17

I. Humble repentance before God brings us to a ____________ view of life - that our lives are in the ____________ of ________.

A. James says, “Come now!” That is to say, “Oh, come on, wake up, ________, you who say, “Today or tomorrow, we shall go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.”

1. James directs this to those who continually speak of their plans for the future ____________ the thought of God; who think their life is in ____________ _________. Which is foolishly arrogant - the opposite of humble repentance!

B. We don’t even know what our life will ________ tomorrow. And if not tomorrow, what about the next ________?

1. Proverbs 27:1 says, “Do not boast about tomorrow, For ______ _____ ______ what a day may bring forth.”

2. Proverbs 19:21, “Many are the plans in a man's heart, But the counsel of the LORD, it will stand.” Who knows what tomorrow holds? Only the ____________!

C. ________ is but a vapor, then it is gone.
1. The Psalmist wrote about the brevity of our life saying, “My days are like a lengthened ____________; And I wither away like grass.” (Ps 102:11).

2. Psalm 102:12, “But Thou, O LORD, dost abide ______________!” We are not discouraged but we praise God for we have heard this truth, and having one more breath to draw we now __________ ourselves under the mighty hand of the God who holds time and eternity, and our being in __________ __________!

D. In light of these truths, we ought to be a people of humble repentance who say, “____ _____ _______ ________, we shall live and also do this or that.”

1. Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In _____ your ways _________________ Him, And He will make your paths straight.”

   a. This is what James is calling us to - to acknowledge the Lord in all our ways by holding to a godly view of life - that ____ ____ the hands of God.

E. Those who make godless plans arrogantly __________ as if their life is in their hands. All such boasting is ______.

   1. All such boasting is evil for it __________ _______! James already said it, 4:6, "God is __________ to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

F. Because God’s holds our life in His hand, and because _____ _______ what God desires of us, if we do not do it, it is a sin.

   1. If we possess saving faith Christ, possessing an attitude of humble repentance, then right works and words must follow. And, if they do not, then it is a sin __________ ____________ us for we cannot claim ignorance!

Closing: You see, We are not our own for we have been ____________ with a price - the __________ of Jesus Christ! And the life we now live, we are to live by __________ faith in Christ.

The humbly repentant have a right view of life - a godly view. They know who’s in charge. Our life is in God’s hands! We must acknowledge _______ ________ in all our ways!