If the Lord Wills | James 4:13–17

Summary: God is in complete control of our lives and future. Therefore, we make allowances for God's sovereignty in our planning.

1. **The doctrine of God's providence.**

   Providence of God: The world and humanity are not ruled by chance or by fate but by God, who directs history and creation toward an ultimate goal. Providence therefore refers to God's superintending activity over human actions and human history, bringing creation to its divinely determined goal. (Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms, pg. 97)

2. **The example of arrogant, atheistic planning. (v. 13, 16)**

3. **The foolishness of disregarding God in our planning. (v. 14)**

4. **The marks of humble and wise planning. (v. 15, 17)**

   - We acknowledge that God is in control.

   - We acknowledge that we are not going to do anything without God's permission.