JAMES – LESSON 9

IX. PRACTICAL FAITH: REFRAINS FROM PRESUMPTUOS JUDGING AND PLANNING (4:11-17)

A. Speak not against or judge a brother (4:11-12)
   1. Presumptuous judging speaks against and judges law.
   2. Presumptuous judging manifests one as judge instead of doer of law.
   3. Presumptuous judging places one in position of dethroning God.
      a. Only God is lawgiver and judge.
      b. Only God is able to save and destroy
      c. Who are you that judges neighbor?

B. Plan not your activities without consciousness of God (4:13-17).
   1. Planning – Today or tomorrow travel to city – spend year – get gain.
      a. Presumptuous – *"We will"*.
   2. Presumptuous planning does not consider man's limitations.
      a. Man does not know what shall be on the morrow.
      b. Man's life is a vapor – appears for a little time then vanishes away.
   3. We ought to consider God in our plans.
      a. We should say, *"if the Lord will, we shall both live, and do this or that."*
   4. Presumptuous planning can be both sin of commission and omission.
      a. Boasting (without God) of what one will do is evil.
      b. Knowing to do good (include God in plans), and doing it not is sin.

QUESTIONS:

1. Does the condemnation of judging a brother mean that a Christian must not speak against a sin that a brother has committed? Explain your answer.

2. Why is judging a brother the same as speaking against or judging the law?

3. In presumptuously judging our brother, what do we foolishly ignore?

4. Does God condemn future planning for our lives? Explain your answer.

5. What two facts about life should never be ignored?
   What blessings come when not ignored?

6. What ought we to say in regard to our plans?
   Is it necessary to say these exact words? Explain your answer.

7. Do men sin by only “doing” evil? Explain your answer.