



A scenic landscape featuring a river flowing through a valley. In the background, there are mountains and a dense forest of evergreen trees. A large, semi-circular orange sun graphic is positioned behind the main title. The overall color palette is dominated by blues, greens, and oranges.

JAMES

LIVING
OUT
SALVATION
IN PRACTICAL
WAYS

Boasting About Tomorrow

James 4:13-17

JAMES

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit” — yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

JAMES

Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. (James 4:13-17)

JAMES

Q1: Who are the “such and such a town” people?

Q2: It appears that these people are planning, so is James saying that planning is boasting?

Q3: It appears that these people are making money, so is James condemning making money?

Q4: Can we just add “if the Lord wills” to everything and call it good?

Q5: How much damage can “boasting about tomorrow” really do?

JAMES

Q1: Who are the “such and such a town” people?

“Come now, you who say...”

JAMES

Q1: Who are the “such and such a town” people?

“Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”

JAMES



Q2: It appears that these people are planning, so is James saying that planning is boasting?

JAMES

“Today or tomorrow, I will set out with my truck and camper, and I will go to such and such a town in Colorado, stop at the airport, have lunch at Juan’s Super Pollo...



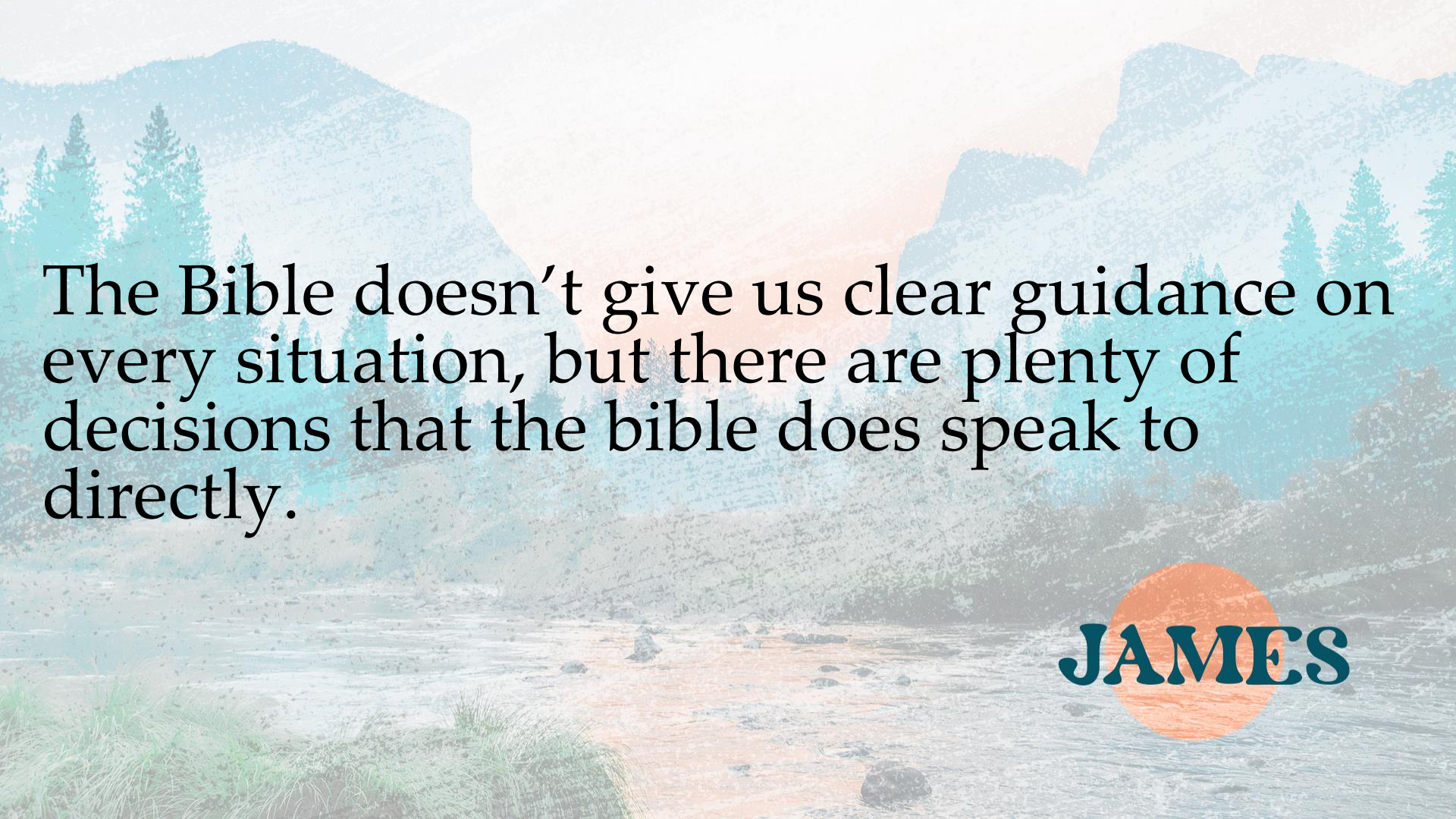
...then set out and go to such and such a town in Pennsylvania, and stay there for a few days. Then we will go to such and such a town in Ohio, where we will watch the total solar eclipse.”



JAMES



JAMES



The Bible doesn't give us clear guidance on every situation, but there are plenty of decisions that the bible does speak to directly.

JAMES

Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

(Proverbs 15:22)

The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance, but everyone who is hasty comes only to poverty.

(Proverbs 21:5)

JAMES

Q3: It appears that these people are making money, so is James condemning making money?

JAMES

... yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

JAMES

**Q4: Can we just add “if the Lord wills”
to everything and call it good?**

Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord
wills, we will live and do this or that.”

JAMES

James (ESV): Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” As it is, you boast in your arrogance.

JAMES

James (ESV): Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” As it is, you boast in your arrogance.

Commentary: Instead of saying ‘If the Lord wills,’ you are boasting **JAMES** in your arrogant schemes.

**Q5: How much damage can
“boasting about tomorrow” really do?**

As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

JAMES

Q: How much damage can “boasting about tomorrow” really do?



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The decisions you make today will affect people who have not even been born yet.

5:45 AM · Jan 13, 2014



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Q1: Who are the “such and such a town” people?

A: They are likely Christian Merchants, and we should see ourselves in the Christian Merchants.

JAMES

Q2: It appears that these people are planning, so is James saying that planning is boasting?

A: James is not condemning planning. James is condemning prideful arrogant confidence.

JAMES

Q3: It appears that these people are making money, so is James condemning making money?

A: James is not condemning making money. But James's inclusion of these merchants and their moneymaking is a reminder that these temptations come more easily when money is involved.

JAMES

**Q4: Can we just add “if the Lord wills”
to everything and call it good?**

**A: James is saying that if we have a
heart posture that acknowledges the
sovereignty of God, there will be hints
of it, when we speak.**

JAMES

Q5: How much damage can “boasting about tomorrow” really do?

A: Pride, arrogance, and boasting can affect our decision making and the direction of our life, and can hurt other people.

JAMES

How do we apply this?

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

JAMES



JAMES

Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand.

(Proverbs 19:21)

JAMES