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# Words of Life News

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## *If the Lord Wills ...*

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In the first chapter James touches on true religion, true faith and true wisdom.

James addresses us as his brethren in Christ. His concern is the interaction between our spiritual nature and our world. Pursuing the will of God requires focusing on what is Biblically true about our religious lives.

Jesus emphasizes the importance of true worship and holy living. God does not accept lip service. God reads our hearts, (Matthew 7:21-23).

James opens with a blunt assessment of the immediate future for his fellow Christians. He shocks us with the thought of looking for joy in every trial or temptation, every day.

He reminds us that trials cause us to choose; we either cave in to the pressure or our faith grows through it.

Peter slips into our thoughts an important promise from God. We have all the spiritual tools needed to resist the devil, (II Peter 1:1-11). At our baptism, The Holy Spirit of God came to live in us, (Acts 2:38; I Corinthians 6:15-20). He will guide us *when we ask for and yield to* His leading. We are free in Christ! We choose.

James (1:4) continues, “Let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” Wow! Trials cause growth which develops spiritual stamina which directs our thoughts toward God and His eternity!

When we *choose* to walk with Him and choose to eat from His table, He will feed us and exercise us *through continuing trials until* He calls us home. We need that constant focus on His coming for us, that constant reminder to be ready for His coming, and that reminder to discipline our bodies daily as we wait for His return! The joy in trials comes from anticipating eternity. What a day that will be when God calls all of His children to come home!

Reflect on the encouragement from James in the context of (I Corinthians 10:13), “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and

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God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” Rejoice that God trusts you as He did Job, to choose to trust Him!

God limits Satan's ability to tempt us. Satan must first get permission to try to break us! Pause and reflect on (Job 1:6-12, 20-22; 2:3-6; 42:10-17).

Think about this: *When God allows Satan to destroy our world*, Job encourages us to trust God. We will react as Job did or, as his wife suggested that he do, (Job 2:9-10). The devil doesn't make us do anything. We choose to act! That is our free will responsibility before God.

On the way to our text (4:13-17), James offers important teachings on living to please Jesus. Attitude toward God is basic. How should we perceive our relationship to our Redeemer Jesus? *Recognize Him* as Sovereign Lord. *Love Him* as Sovereign Lord. *Yield to Him* as Sovereign Lord!

James (4:13) We make specific plans as if we knew tomorrow. (14) God makes two pointed observations: We don't know tomorrow and we are like a moment in time. (15) Thus our attitude should recognize Sovereign God who numbered our days. “If the Lord wills, we will do ...”

God says an attitude of pretending to know tomorrow is arrogant and sinful.

My example:

My Mom's Cajun brogue always said, “Lord willin, we will ...” thus she expressed her faith in Sovereign God and her understanding of Him. He loved her. He was in charge. Her plans were secondary to His Master Plan.

She began every day with “Lord willin.” She accepted that He already knew what her day would be; in the garden, caring for live stock, washing clothes, or helping Dad with repairs. She was confident and happy as she lived her faith in His plan.

I pray that I draw strength from her example, to begin each day with that mind set. Lord willin I will strive to live my faith in His plan. Until He calls me home!

Does it make sense?; trusting God, finding Christian joy in trials, actually believing His promises given in the Bible message, the Book that has never been wrong! Never!

Check it out. For your sake, and for God's holy and righteous eternity!  
Amen. Come Lord Jesus !!!

Buford Smith

Africa Letters

Hello Mr. Johnson;

I thank God for you and your ministry. I was inspiring and I can stand up and testify the goodness of God through your program 101.7 FM.

Remember me in your prayers that God will help me to know Him for my own good.

Hahla Seriff, August 10, 2021, Monrovia, Liberia

Dear Mr. Johnson;

I must commend you for this program "Words of Life" that is being aired on your radio station. My father is an idol worshipper, but I don't want to be like him.

I thank God for this broadcast, it encourages me and is also building my hope in the Lord. I know God will continue to guide me as I always listen to you.

Murray Yard, August 8, 2021, Monrovia, Liberia

Dear Bro. David;

I thank God for your program "Words of Life".

I am kindly asking you to please pray with me so that God can transform my life. I have a problem, and need God's intervention. I am a man believing God., for a God fearing woman that I will marry.

Sackor Mulbah, August 16, 2021, Monrovia, Liberia.

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**Have You Remembered "Words of Life" in Your Will?**

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**HAVE YOU SENT YOUR MONTHLY GIFT FOR “WORDS OF LIFE”?**

**Radio Messages**

Speaker—David Johnson unless indicated otherwise.

Prog.#	Date	Title
2127	07/04/21	The Greatest Commandment
2128	07/11/21	But Some Doubted
2129	07/18/21	Listen to My Prayer
2130	07/25/21	Teach Me to do Your Will
2131	08/01/21	Attaining Wisdom and Discipline
2132	08/08/21	What is Right, and Just and Fair
2133	08/15/21	There is a Time for Everything
2134	08/22/21	For the Transgression of My People He Was Stricken
2135	08/29/21	A High and Holy Place
2136	09/05/21	Train for War
2137	09/12/21	Save What Was Lost
2138	09/19/21	Betray Jesus
2139	09/26/21	In All the Scriptures Concerning Himself
2140	10/03/21	Repentance and Forgiveness of Sins

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