

A historical map of the world on aged parchment. The map shows the continents of Europe, Africa, and Asia. A compass rose is visible in the bottom left corner. The text "Deo Volente" and "God Willing" is overlaid on the map. The parchment has a yellowish-brown hue and shows signs of age and wear.

Deo Volente
God Willing

(James 4:13-16)

In his heart a man plans his course,
but the Lord determines his steps.

(Prov. 16:9)

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but
the Lord's purpose prevails. *(Prov. 19:21)*

Planning is **essential**; anticipation is **joyful!**

Planning establishes order
and springs from God's image!

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future. (*Jeremiah 29:11*)

God commends plans because they express a dream of the heart and this pleases him. (*1 Chron. 22*)

“WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?” (*vs. 14*)

We are **IGNORANT**... future is
unknown/unknowable

We are **VULNERABLE**... unexpected
or unwelcome change

We are **MORTAL**... no guarantee that
“the future” will even include me.

Our perspective must be UPWARD
as much as it is FORWARD!

“Come,” each one cries, “let me get some wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! For tomorrow will be like today, or even much better!”

(Isaiah 56:9)

I cannot predict the future; therefore, I must face its uncertainty honestly.

I cannot **control** the future, so I trust
God rather than make presumptions.

I cannot **guarantee** the future, so I do not “postpone” what God has told me to do today.

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, *“Come back later; I’ll give it tomorrow”* when you have it with you now.

(Prov. 3:27-28)

Do not take God's grace for granted. He said, *"In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you."* I tell you now is the time of God's favor, today is the day of salvation. (11 Cor. 6:1-2)