

The apostle Paul made his plans again and again, wanting to go to Rome. But more than once, he was hindered. After writing the words in today's Scripture verse, he tried again, and this time was delayed for 4 years as a prisoner, and ended up coming to Rome in chains. (Acts 28) Yet he was, through all the delays and detours, still in the perfect will of God. He was an illustration of Proverbs 16:9: "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."

It is so reassuring to know God loves us enough to have a plan for us. He expects us to plan too, but as we learn in James 4:15, we say: "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." Don't be discouraged if your plans don't always materialize as you had hoped. Yield them all to God. Learn to say: "If the Lord wills, I will do this or that." Always let the Lord direct your steps because His delays can become your delights, and His detours can lead to blessed destinations.

Romans 1:13 "I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now)...I also have been much hindered from coming to you."