

Our Handbook for Business, the Bible

Beginning and ending

I appreciate for some business owners, times are tough; but my encouragement is, be patient, don't give up just yet. Others have found themselves in the same situation before their breakthrough emerged.

I'm reminded of an entrepreneur whose first invention was Traf-O-Data, a computer program to monitor traffic flow in big cities. When it failed to attract enough buyers, the company collapsed. Not too proud to fail, his next program was a resounding success ...it was called Microsoft.

Another, Thomas Edison, conducted some 10,000 light globe trials, viewing each, not as failure but as a possible solution that didn't work...each one moving him closer to success; and in the end, one did work! What a vision; what an attitude - no pride...and lots of patience!

For both, their end was better than the beginning!

My counsel for business owners:

Realistically, how do you see your business future?

Do you believe you're in the right place, even though things may not be going to plan? If so, be patient - you may be one idea, one marketing strategy, one mentor or one Handbook session from creating a great business destiny.

Or it may be that the Lord is using your current business as training to test your patience before revealing His preferred plan for your future.

Here are three life principles to mediate on:

- 1: *Failing doesn't make you a failure* - rather a student because failing is a great teacher
- 2: *Out of the deliberate comes the emerging* – Your Plan B may not appear until Plan A fails
- 3: *When the horse is dead, dismount* - Despite giving it your all, maybe the best option is to take a loss and move on.

The Bible, our Handbook counsel for today, Ecclesiastes 7:8, New International Reader's Version...

"The end of a matter is better than its beginning. So, it's better to be patient than proud"

Other Scriptures (NKJV):

Proverbs 16:3, "Commit your works to the LORD, and your thoughts will be established"

Proverbs 24:10, "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small"

Proverbs 24:16, "For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again..."

Proverbs 13:19, "A desire accomplished is sweet to the soul..."

Ecclesiastes 3:3, "...a time to break down and a time to build up"

Psalms 138:8, "The LORD will perfect that which concerns me..."

Hosea 14:2, "Take words with you and return to the LORD...for we will offer the sacrifices of our lips"

Galatians 5:22, "...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering [patience]..."

Ephesians 2:10, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works..."