

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 a similar situation before their breakthrough emerged.

I'm reminded of an entrepreneur who invented a computer program to monitor traffic flow in big cities. When it failed to attract enough buyers, the company collapsed. Nonetheless, it didn't deter him because his next program was a huge success...it was called Microsoft.

Another, Thomas Edison, conducted some 10,000 light bulb trials, viewing each, not as failure but as a possible solution that didn't work...and in the end, one did work!

For both, their end was better than the beginning.

And yes, I understand that sometimes in life the end can turn out to be worse than the beginning!

My counsel for business owners:

Realistically, how do you see your business future?

If you believe you're in the right place, and things aren't going to plan, be patient - you could be one idea, one marketing strategy, one mentor suggestion from seeing an amazing opportunity that leads on to a great business.

Or it may be that the Lord is using your current business as training to test you and your patience and humility before revealing His preferred plan...ensuring you won't become arrogant when it succeeds! So, what direction have you sought & received from God?

Here are 3 life principles to mediate on:

- 1: *Failing doesn't make you a failure* - rather a student because failing is a great teacher, so long as you're prepared to learn
- 2: *Out of the deliberate comes the emerging* - Your future Plan B may not emerge and become obvious until your current 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 16:9, "A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps"

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..."

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

Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find..."

James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally..."