

Light at the End of the Tunnel

We have all heard the phrase “the light at the end of the tunnel.” I hear it most often when a person is going through a particularly difficult time. It is said to encourage them that better times are ahead. The cliché provides wishful thinking about a better tomorrow. As human beings, when experiencing difficulty, we want to have the hope that things will get better and everything will be OK. But, is that realistic?



I saw a “Murphy’s Law” poster that said, “The light at the end of the tunnel is the headlamp of an oncoming train.” In general Murphy’s Law statements take a negative outlook on life and are anything but encouraging.

Sometimes we think life is only what we make it. We have to solve every problem on our own because we often think we are on our own. Given that train of thought we often feel like there is no escape, because another issue is bearing down on us just ahead.

The analogy of walking on the track of a darkened tunnel makes us feel trapped.

Murphy’s Law takes a tunnel vision view and

places us on a collision course with the next issue. We can be assured that it will come. And, the train can outrun us so retreating won’t solve the problem. We’ll just get run over from behind.

There is a far better alternative. To put you on the right track, place your trust and hope in the Lord. Having the Lord at your side gives you strength so you can rise above the issues you face. *But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint (Isaiah 40:31).* Going to the Lord in prayer will often reveal new solutions to the issues at hand. *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight (Proverbs 3:5-6).* Trusting in God is the path to peace. You need not worry. Jesus said, *I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)*

Facing the issues with God at your side puts a new perspective on the light at the end of the tunnel. *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).* You can follow Him because He lights your path. *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. (Psalm 119:105)*

The oncoming train may come, but together with God at your side, you have nothing to fear. *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1)*

Question: During the tough times do you bring God into the discussion, asking for His guidance and strength?

Prayer: Heavenly Father. Life seems to hit us again and again. Difficult times leave us weary and afraid. With you we have hope – a hope for peace, strength, guidance and a future with You. Amen.