

Reflections with Sharon

Your time will come

Read 1 Chronicles 10:7-14

I believe if we think hard enough, most of us can recall a time – or two – when we so badly wanted to get out of a difficult situation that we ended up jumping into another that turned out to be far worse than the one we got out of.

We hate spending time in the “frying pan” especially if it means being there for a prolonged period of time. We hate discomforts; we hate problems; we hate suffering; we hate trials; we hate set backs; we hate inconveniences; we hate trouble; we hate disappointments; we hate stress, and that’s why when we’re in the frying pan, we are always preoccupied with finding relief.

No one disputes that being in the frying pan is a serious matter. After all, it sits over the fire and that makes it an extremely hot place to be. In fact, it is so hot that the only place the heat is more intense is in the fire itself. Fancy making one desperate attempt to escape the frying pan and landing plump in the middle of the fire. The very thought makes us want to cringe. But it is a reality that we will all experience at some point in our lives.

Think of the person who has to wake up every day to go to a job he absolutely loathes: The hours are long, the pay is small and the working conditions are intolerable. When someone offers him the opportunity of a better job, he can’t believe his good fortune. What an answer to prayer! But before long, he discovers that what seemed on paper like a dream come true was in reality harder work, longer hours and fewer benefits.

A couple is having marital problems. The wife says she is not happy; she wants out of the relationship. Divorce follows and husband and wife go their separate ways. Soon enough the wife remarries. But what she envisioned would be heaven on earth turns out to be her worst nightmare.

Whether it’s a case of moving from a bad environment to an even worse one or finding yourself being victimized once and again, when the move we thought was our dream come true turns out to be a living hell, it may offer us a measure of consolation to know that we are not alone. People every day struggle to deal with the ramifications of having gone from a bad to a worse situation.

But disillusionment does not have to rob us of our faith and expectancy. We don’t have to become faint-hearted and lose hope. I have learned that things will oftentimes get worse before they get better. So hang in there and no matter how tempting it is, never repay evil for evil. Stay strong, do the honorable thing and be the better person. Deal with the problem, learn from your mistakes, focus on the positive and keep on believing that everyone will eventually get what he or she deserves. Your time will come.