

Killing What's Killing Me: Headwinds

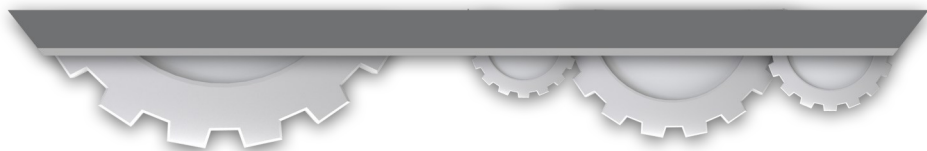
Acts 27:9-12, 18-25, 30-37

The Storms of Professional Life

- **The Storm of Toxic Leadership:** According to the Development Dimensions International *Frontline Leader Project*, 57% of employees quit because of management, not the company. Bad management is a massive headwind that young professionals are often forced to navigate without warning.
- **The Storm of Corporate Restructuring:** As highlighted in the Deloitte Gen Z and Millennial Survey, widespread economic anxiety and sudden layoffs have created a national trend where young professionals are caught in the whiplash of shifting corporate priorities and downsizing that they had no hand in creating.
- **The Storm of Office Politics:** A recent Brightmine HR report found that 64% of workers experienced workplace conflict in the past year, while Gallup notes that frequent office politics and blame-shifting actively disengage 42% of employees, turning a good job into a daily battle.

1. **THE REALITY:** One of the most demoralizing milestones for a professional is coming to the realization that leaders of corporations often choose higher earnings and stock prices over safety and wisdom (vv. 9-12).
2. **THE ASSIGNMENT:** When you are confronted with the adverse consequences of bad decision making, do not abandon the assignment that God has given you. Rather, in times of difficulty, maintain your work ethic and professional integrity (vv. 9-12).

(over please)



3. **GOD'S PURPOSE:** The antidote for human pessimism is God's purpose. When life is life'n and matters have gone from bad to worse, knowing that God has a purpose for your life will motivate you to keep moving forward (vv. 18-25).
4. **GOD'S MASTERPIECE:** Never forget that our God is the master at creating masterpieces on dark canvases (vv. 18-25)!
5. **YOUR INFLUENCE:** When you are confident in God's ability to bring you through crises, the Lord will often expand your sphere of influence, so that those who are connected to you can get through the crises as well (vv. 30-37).
6. **YOUR FAITH:** When you cannot see how to get to where you are going, it is your faith in God that will bring you safely to your destination (vv. 30-37).

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