

## Heads You Win, Tails You Lose II

The Head in Tail Circumstances

Pastor Carl Toti

January 15-16, 2022

**MAIN IDEA:** Living up to my spiritual status in 2022 as “the head” and not “the tail” will require me to think and talk differently, which will result in taking charge of my life and choices. We have the power to choose “blessing” or “bitterness.”

*Deuteronomy 28:13 (NKJV)*

*13 And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.*

*Genesis 25:7-8 (NLT)*

*7 Abraham lived for 175 years, 8 and he died at a ripe old age, having lived a long and satisfying life. He breathed his last and joined his ancestors in death.*

*Ruth 1:19–21 (NLT)*

*19 So the two of them continued on their journey. When they came to Bethlehem, the entire town was excited by their arrival. “Is it really Naomi?” the women asked. 20 “Don’t call me Naomi,” she responded. “Instead, call me Mara, for the Almighty has made life very bitter for me. 21 I went away full, but the LORD has brought me home empty. Why call me Naomi when the LORD has caused me to suffer and the Almighty has sent such tragedy upon me?”*

### HEAD MEANS VICTOR, TAIL MEANS VICTIM

“This world is to all, in some measure,  
a vale of tears.”  
—A. Thomas D.D

In dire situations, the most important thing to do is maintain the will to live and help others do the same.

Accept what you can’t change, and change what you can’t accept by reframing your circumstances.

All freedoms can be taken from you except the freedom to choose how you will respond.

Either your situation can define you, or you can define your situation.

*Genesis 25:8 (NLT)*

*8 and he died at a ripe old age, having lived a long and satisfying life. He breathed his last and joined his ancestors in death.*

## **TWO IMPORTANT TAKEAWAYS**

1. It's not what \_\_\_\_\_ to you, but how you respond to what happens to you that matters.
2. It's not the \_\_\_\_\_, but how we respond to the trauma that traumatizes us.

“Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.”  
—Dr. Viktor Frankl, (Holocaust survivor, psychiatrist)

**ANSWERS:**  
1. HAPPENS  
2. TRAUMA