

April 25, 2021

# Scott's Thoughts



*“Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble.” (Proverbs 3:23, ESV)*

To be safe, I wear a seat belt every time I get into a vehicle, not just because it's the law but because they work. The first car I had with seat belts, I fastened them only when I was driving for a long distance. It took a really long time for me to develop the habit of putting that belt on every time, but now it's just second nature and I know I am safe.

On many mornings as I drive through town here in Newkirk before daylight, there are individuals walking or jogging not on the sidewalks but in the streets. I applaud them because the exercise is good for their health, they are setting a great example for others, and they are taking responsibility for their own health. However, when I see them, I wonder if they really understand how hard it is to see them in the dark so I drive way below the speed limit as I would not want to have a very unfortunate accident. I know why they are in the street. Many of our sidewalks in town are in disrepair and it would be easy to trip in the dark and injure ones-self. It seems most of them have on dark colored clothing that, while it is most certainly well suited to exercise, is extremely hard to see. I did notice one day one person who had tiny reflectors in the heel of the shoes, but it was still awfully hard to see. Today I encountered someone who was holding up their

cell phone as a safety precaution.

I applaud these folks on so many levels, but for the sake of safety, I wonder why they are not wearing a high visibility safety vest. I know they may not be much of a fashion statement, but it really beats getting a statement from the hospital. A quick check on-line found several products in a wide range of prices, all the way from \$4.95 up to around \$50.00. The price varies with features. They have plain vests with what is classified as a class 2 vest which is the minimal amount of reflective material on the vest. The next step up is a class 3 vest which has much larger strips of reflective material. Each of those is available in many different configurations, with or without pockets and other options. But they all have one thing in common. When the headlight gets close to them, those vests scream safety. When you are walking or jogging in the dark your eyes may have adjusted to the darkness but not everyone driving by you is able to discern your presence as easily as you can the headlights on their car.

Yes, there is a spiritual application as well. Don't take your spiritual safety for granted. Look in The Book, carefully, and find the best safety ever made available to mankind.

*“Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.” (Philippians 3:1, ESV)*

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott