

Life's Railway to Heaven



Verse 1: Life is like a mountain railroad,
With an engineer that's brave;
We must make the run successful,
From the cradle to the grave;
Watch the curves, the fills, the tunnels;
Never falter, never quail;
Keep your hand upon the throttle,
And your eye upon the rail.

Refrain:

Blessed Savior, Thou wilt guide us,
Till we reach the blissful shore,
Where the angels wait to join us
In Thy praise forevermore.

Verse 2: You will roll up grades of trial;
You will cross the bridge of strife;
See that Christ is your conductor
On this lightning train of life;
Always mindful of obstruction,
Do your duty, never fail;

Keep your hand upon the throttle,
And your eye upon the rail. [Refrain]

Verse 3: You will often find obstructions,
Look for storms and wind and rain;
On a fill, or curve, or trestle
They will almost ditch your train;
Put your trust alone in Jesus,
Never falter, never fail;

Keep your hand upon the throttle,
And your eye upon the rail. [Refrain]

Verse 4: As you roll across the trestle,
Spanning Jordan's swelling tide,
You behold the Union Depot
Into which your train will glide;
There you'll meet the Sup'rintendent,
God the Father, God the Son,
With the hearty, joyous plaudit,
"Weary pilgrim, welcome home."

Refrain:

Source: African American Heritage Hymnal #472
cc 1880s poem by Eliza R. Snow or
"The Faithful Engineer," by William Shakespeare Hays
cc 1890s Adaptation of poem by M. E. Abbey
Music by Charles Davis Tillman
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