

**General Topics :: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED****GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by shibu (), on: 2005/9/21 0:50**

Matthew 13:58 says "He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief." Only in eternity, some of us wake up to see that, because of our unbelief God couldn't do mighty work in us. I see many young believers in-Christ, often live in the sense of guilt that, the Lord will not use him/her because he/she missed up their lives so much before or after conversion. That stop them from coming to Lord Jesus with radical repentance with weeping then to believe that Lord can use rest of his/her life for His glory and be in the center of His will.

I, myself gone through this struggle for few years but God in His rich mercy delivered me from this deception. Now my hidden in-depth failure gives me fervent hatred toward satan, world and sin. God has renewed my youth like the eagle's. There is a pure and fervent devotion to Lord Jesus having more delight to obey and please Him in every walks of life.

For those who are going through same struggle, please read the article "GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED" by Zac Poonen, which is appended. Pray that Lord will deliberate your soul from that bondage. Finally, what the Lord had done for me, will do for you too. Amen!

In Him,
Shibu

GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED : Zac Poonen

Peter could become a compassionate apostle only after he had blundered and fallen into the sin of denying the Lord three times. It was certainly not God's perfect will for Peter to sin like that. But yet we see that God allowed it in order to do a work in Peter. It made him tender and sympathetic towards those who had failed in life.

Jesus never sinned even once, and yet He was infinitely compassionate and merciful towards sinners. But with the rest of Adam's race, that has not been the case. Those who have never fallen into gross sin usually end up being hard and unmerciful and haughty towards sinners.

When we look at the circumstances through which Peter fell into this gross sin, we see that God could have easily prevented him from even facing the temptation to deny the Lord. Yet God chose not to protect him from those moments of temptation.

In John 18:15-18 we see that John and Peter followed Jesus to the court of the high-priest. Since John knew the high-priest, the doorkeeper let him in. But Peter could not go in. So John came and spoke to the doorkeeper and gained admission for Peter too. That looked like a good thing at that moment. But notice the fact that Peter would not have sinned that night, if John had not got Peter into that courtyard - for it was only inside there that Peter was questioned, and that he denied the Lord three times (See John 18:17,25,27).

So we could ask the question, "Why did God allow that to happen? Why didn't He prevent Peter from gaining entry into the courtyard?" Was that a mistake on God's part? No. God in His sovereignty permitted John to get Peter inside, so that Peter could get an education through his failure. He could not have become the leader of the apostles and the leading evangelist of the early church without having completed this course in his education.

Satan had his agents ready to tempt Peter, but he had to get God's permission to do that. But Jesus was praying for Peter that his faith would not fail in that moment of utter failure (Lk.22:31,32). And Jesus' prayer was answered. Peter came out of that experience a broken, compassionate man. Never again in his life would he be able to denounce sinners with harshness. Every time he was tempted to do that, he would remember his own failure and tone down his denunciations.

God can make the very worst things that ever happened in your life to work for your very best, if you have faith. During the seven weeks before Pentecost, Peter may have wished many times that John had not gotten permission for him to enter the courtyard that fateful night, so that he would not have denied the Lord. But then he would not have been broken either, and he would have been unfit to preach the gospel to sinners on the day of Pentecost.

We know that Peter still preached against sin, for he writes in his letter about following in Jesus' steps "who did no sin", and of "ceasing from sin" (1 Pet.2:2,22; 4:1,2). But now he preached with compassion. This was why he was given the privilege to open the door of the gospel to the Jews on the day of Pentecost, and also to the Gentiles in the house of Cornelius. God could have used James or John in either of those instances. But he didn't. He used Peter - the one who had failed miserably - for he could speak with greater compassion to wayward sinners than those others.

David was another one like Peter. Once when he avoided going to the battlefield through laziness, he slipped up badly and fell into sin - a sin that became like a black mark against him for the rest of his life and for centuries thereafter (2 Sam .11:1-5). The Holy Spirit records, "David did what was right in the sight of the Lord, and had not turned aside from anything that He commanded him all the days of his life, except in the case of Uriah the Hittite." (1 Kings 15:5).

Yet God used David's failure to break him and to make him write Psalm 51 - a portion of inspired Scripture that has blessed millions for many centuries, more than any other writing of David's. David could never have written that psalm if he had fallen into a lesser sin. His failure had to be great and deep and known publicly, so that he might be thoroughly humbled and broken. He was a broken man for the rest of his life.

And Jesus even calls Himself the Son of David!!

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED, on: 2005/9/21 2:49

Good shibu.

Don't we all fail daily, if we come right down to it ?

If "His Image" is the goal ... then each day I fail Him.

Thank God He works on us and when we cry out, "Lord, I'm drowning" ... He can be trusted to reach down and pull us up out of the rushing stormy waters.

Thank You Love of God.

I need thee every hour, most precious Lord.....

I need thee, Lord, I need Thee, every hour I need Thee, Oh Bless us now our Savior, we come to Thee.

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by shibu (), on: 2005/9/21 3:54

Sis. Annie as you mentioned, it is true. As the Holy Spirit shows more and more the glory of Lord Jesus Christ, the more we will see our own inner corruption. That is the mark of a true spiritual man/woman, his/her conscience becomes more sensitive to sin as he/she draw closer to God. What he/she couldn't see one more month or year back, now see it as black and white. Proverbs 4:18 "But the path of the just is like the shining sun, that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day ."

There is lot difference between continuing in sin and falling into sin. The best example is difference between a pig and white cat. However best shower you give to pig, it will finally return to its own vomit. White cat may fall into mire accidentally or because of pressure of temptation. But it will not stay there for weeks or months. So with those who genuinely walking with the Lord. We may fall into sin (due to many reasons: pressure of temptation, lack of quality with the Lord, lack of prayer, lack of feeding on God's word, lack of faith, etc.) but will immediately come to the fountain of blood and washed in it and striving to keep a good conscience before God and man by restitution if needed. He/She will not be satisfied with this, they will come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. This person will move from one glory to another glory. Amen!

In Him,
Shibu

General Topics :: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by _Disciple_ (), on: 2005/9/21 10:04

wow thanks shibu!

this is so true, God is rich in mercy, and i can't understand why God uses me even though i make mistakes and fail.

God is Faithful, i'm so thankful :-)

great article, very encouraging!

be very blessed!

William

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by shibu (), on: 2005/9/21 10:40

Few years back, I had read Zac Poonen's book titled "The Purpose Of Failure." It had brought tremendous liberty in my walk with God from the guilt of messing up life after knowing the Lord. Those who want to read that book on-line, use the following link http://poonen.org/zac/the_supreme_priorities.html and for downloading same e-book, the link is http://www.cfcindia.com/cda/books/ebooks/The_Supreme_Priorities.pdf

After reading the above mentioned book, the following scripture fulfilled in my life by the grace of God. 2 Corinthians 7:10-11 "For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter."

Praise God! for His rich mercy and love towards us. Genuine revelation of God's nature will lead us into genuine repentance but not to a license for committing deliberate sins.

In Him,
Shibu

Re: - posted by Eli_Barnabas (), on: 2005/9/21 11:33

Zac Poonen's awesome!

Re: - posted by _Disciple_ (), on: 2005/9/21 11:43

Hi Shibu

thank you so much (again), for the links! :-)

i will read it soon

be very blessed, keep looking at Jesus...facedown!

in His Grace

William

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by Nellie, on: 2005/9/21 13:08

Thanks for posting this.

I needed to read this today.

Lord knows I have failed Him, but He has never failed me.

He is the only One, who has never failed.

God Bless you.

Nellie :-)

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by dullrainbow (), on: 2005/9/21 13:16

Quote:

----- God has renewed my youth like the eagle's.

Shibu this passage came to mind, thought I would share it here, and express my happiness for you, and gratefulness for sharing this message with us. This is a message I need to hear myself.

Ps. 103

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.

He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by ccchhrrriiss (), on: 2005/9/21 13:41

Hi Shibu...!

This is a very timely message! I'm so glad that the Lord uses those who have failed. In fact, the Word is filled with stories of God using failures! David, Abraham, Moses, Solomon, Samson, Peter, etc... It is encouraging that God includes such stories in the Word -- because it gives us hope, and a greater understanding of the grace and mercy of God.

Now, we should pray that such things will be understood by the rest of the Church. Unfortunately, many believers self-righteously reject and discard those who have fallen. May God give all believers a strong compassion for those who have fallen, and a realization that God is able to use anyone that calls upon Him in truth. I also pray that any person who has fallen will understand that the "*book*" of *his/her life* is still being written. The last pages have not yet been completed.

Quote:
-----"Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD shall be a light unto me." *Micah*
7:8

Thank you for sharing, Shibu!

:)

Re:, on: 2005/9/21 17:37

Quote:

-----by _Disciple_ on 2005/9/21 11:43:03

be very blessed, keep looking at Jesus...facedown!

I like that Disciple.

Thank you for those links Shibu.

Thanks to the posters to this too.
The posts have been just as beautiful to read.

I'm glad we see 'that' for ourselves and for others, because like Chris brings out also ... most of the great men in our Bible failed.

We all do, but some 'really' lose it and I'm glad there are those who understand, that other's can "come back" after the falls and still be used by God, in ways that we (or they) never imagined. Amen, I've seen it with a few great men of God. And seen other's do 180's that No One expected could ever happen.

I know I posted this before and in all capitals, so hope no one minds if I do it again ...

NEVER GIVE UP ON ANYONE ! 8-)

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by shibu (), on: 2005/9/22 8:49

What I had posted was not to encourage license to sin more. My burden was to help a person who hit the rock-bottom. Though such a person may come back to Jesus through His precious blood. There is 99.9% chance that, such a person may lead a fruitless and joyless life, by thinking that Lord will not love him/her with the same first love (steadfast love) or use him/her for His glory. That stop him/her from pure devotion to Lord Jesus and burning desire to please Him, rest of his/her life.

There is a word caution for us. Galatians 6:7-8 "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." This portion speaks about "LAW OF REAPING," i.e., what we sow, that we will also reap. Those who backslide from their steadfast devotion to Jesus, will definitely reap its consequence.

Though God had forgave David for committing adultery and murder. But still he had to pay its consequence (his own daughter was raped before his eye, his own son chased him for throne). Praise God! that David learn to cast himself into God's mercy, that made him to come out as a refined vessel for His glory. Finally God could comment him as "Man after My own heart." It is interesting note that, David doesn't repeat same sin again in his life because learned how much his own sin grieved God's heart. Yes, it is true that, wise man learn from his mistakes. Fool keep repeating his mistakes.

It is same with me, I never wish any brother/sister should fall into same ditch I had fell after knowing the Lord. That made me to waste the grace of God and precious time, which can't get it back. But my fall made humble in my own eyes and whenever pray there is tears in my eyes because of the mercy and unconditional love I had received from Him though I had grieved Him so much. Now Lord is saying about me to the world "Therefore I say to you, his sins, which are many, are forgiven, for he loved much"

Now every day, I weep before God for His mercy and grace so that I will not fall into same ditch. I don't want to grieve my Savior heart more. Rather I want to love Him and be zealous for His kingdom more than what I had before my fall. Thanks be to His name that, He is answering my tears and loud cry. Last few years, by His grace I could walk consistently with the Lord. I firmly believe that He will take me to the every end without future backsliding, if I walk humbly before Him

Yes, brother/sister (who had failed God) what Lord had done for me, will do for you too. Neither give up nor doubt His steadfast love and also learn from your mistake. Never take God's grace in vain rather follow the example of Paul "For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me (1 Corinthians 15:9-10)." Paul learned from his mistakes.

In my last post, there was mistake in the link for Zac Poonen's book titled "The Purpose Of Failure." I am very sorry for the mistake. Those who want to read that book on-line, use the following link

http://poonen.org/zac/the_purpose_of_failure.html

and for downloading same e-book, the link is

http://www.cfcindia.com/cda/books/ebooks/The_Purpose_of_Failure.pdf

May God give us grace to walk consistently with Him and grow in His knowledge on daily basis.

In Him,
Shibu

Re: - posted by samkma, on: 2005/9/22 9:56

Hello Bro.Shibu

Greetings to everyone on this forum.

This is a great message. Indeed it is time the Church starts preaching to the ones who are at the bottom captivated by Satan, Jesus did go down to preach the gospel of LOVE and freedom to the captives. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." (EPH.4.8)

May the Lord enable us to bring the mankind out condemnation.

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by shibu (), on: 2005/9/22 12:16

Those who want to listen Zac Poonen's audio message(15 minutes) on "God's plan for those have failed". Please use the following

<http://www.cfcindia.com/cda/mainpages/bct.php>

This link will lead to "Basic Christian Teachings by Zac Poonen." In that, the above mentioned message is 72nd message by number. May bless you all.

In Him,
Shibu

Re: GOD USES EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE FAILED - posted by shibu (), on: 2005/9/23 8:28

I want to keep the following poem titled "His Plan For Me" very close to my heart as my prayer through out this earthly pilgrimage. I humbly encourage those who had been restored by God from their backsliding to read this poem often and renew their consecration before God. So that the following scripture portion will not take place again in their life by God's grace and mercy.

2 Peter 2:20-22 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

His Plan For Me

When I stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ
And He shows His plan for me,
The plan of my life as it might have been
Had He had His way - and I see

How I blocked Him here, and checked Him there,
And I would not yield my will,
Will there be grief in my Savior's eyes,
Grief though He loves me still?

Would He have me rich and I stand there poor,
Stripped of all but His grace,
While memory runs like a hunted thing,
Down the paths I cannot retrace.

Lord, of the years that are left to me
I give them to Thy hand
Take me and break me and mold me,

To the pattern that Thou hast planned!
-Author Unknown

In Him,
Shibu Clement