



# THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of  
Ashley River Baptist Church

## RESURRECTION REALITIES: RESTORATION

### Luke 22:31-34, 54-62

**Luke 22:31-34** <sup>31</sup> "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." <sup>33</sup> But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

**Luke 22:54-62** <sup>54</sup> Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. <sup>55</sup> But when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. <sup>56</sup> A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him." <sup>57</sup> But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said. <sup>58</sup> A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." "Man, I am not!" Peter replied. <sup>59</sup> About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." <sup>60</sup> Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. <sup>61</sup> The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." <sup>62</sup> And he went outside and wept bitterly."

#### 1. SATAN PLANS TO SIFT YOU

<sup>31</sup> "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat.

Satan wanted to "sift" Peter to bring all his flaws and imperfections to the surface.

Satan has an agenda for your life but fear not for he is limited by the Lord Jesus and can do nothing without God's permission.

#### 2. JESUS PRAYS TO SAVE YOU

<sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail".

God allows the devil to sift us because the result of sifting can be beneficial.

"My prayer is not for them alone. But I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message." John 17:20

"Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them." Hebrews 7:25

Jesus prays the same thing for us that he prayed for Peter, that your faith won't fail.

#### 3. JESUS KNOWS ALL ABOUT YOU

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

Just as Jesus knew Peter better than Peter knew himself, so Jesus knows you and me better than we know ourselves and yet, He loves us.

#### 2 extremes to avoid:

1 – A prideful state whereby you think you are beyond failure or sin.

"Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18.

"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." 1 John 1:8

2 – A presumptuous state whereby I think I will have no problems since all my sins, past, present, and future are forgiven and Jesus knows all my future failures.

There will be earthly consequences to suffer for your sins. Strive to live a holy lifestyle.

#### 4. JESUS NONETHELESS RESTORES YOU

Failure does not have to be final or fatal. Life is full of failures. What really matters is what you do after you fail.

The path of Peter's Restoration:

##### 1. He sinned

Peter lied about knowing Jesus and denied Him. Peter cursed like the sailor he was and said, <sup>60</sup> Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!"

##### 2. He suffered and repented

<sup>61</sup> The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." <sup>62</sup> And he went outside and wept bitterly."

When you fail the Lord, it will break your heart, it will make you miserable.

"Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death." II Corinthians 7:10

Failure should break out hearts and lead not just to regret but to repentance that turns us from our sin and back to God!

##### 3. He stood up

Failure does not make you a "failure" unless you stay down. Peter fell but he didn't stay down.

"Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say". Acts 2:14

"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day". Acts 2:41

Peter met the RISEN Lord, got back on His feet and kept trusting Him!

##### 4. He strengthened his brothers.

<sup>32</sup> "... And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

Peter became one of the great leaders of the early church, strengthening Christians.

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." 1 Peter 5:10

#### CONCLUSION

The reality is that Jesus used His resurrection power to restore hurting people like you and me who have sinned and made mistakes. The Resurrection Reality is that Jesus restores and that failure is not final. If you will turn from your sins, and trust Him for life, He will forgive your mistakes and will make you a new person. Satan wants to sift you but Jesus is praying for you, so your faith won't fail. So even if you have failed the Lord before, don't quit! Run back to him and He will restore you and use you in even greater ways.