

# When Believers Fall and Fail

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



We all know the account of Peter who miraculously walked on the Sea of Galilee (*Matt. 14:28-31*). When he took his eyes off the Lord and focused on the winds and the waves, he began to sink. Immediately the Lord Jesus responded to his cry for help. Jesus caught him before he perished and rebuked him for his “little faith.”

How we need to remember that when we fall and fail, the Lord Jesus is right there, ready and willing to help us. By His grace and merciful kindness, we can recover.

Peter had a terrible fall on the night that his Lord was arrested. He inexplicably denied his Lord three times. Yet, the Lord Jesus had a recovery plan beginning with a piercing glance (*Luke 22:61*), then a special resurrection appearance (*1 Cor. 15:5*), and finally a series of three convicting questions (*John 21:15-19*). Peter’s full recovery was evident on the Day of Pentecost when he boldly preached to thousands.

Sometimes believers fall, not due to sin, but because of trouble and persecution: **“For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief”** (*Prov. 24:16*) **“Cast down, but not destroyed”** (*2 Cor. 4:9*).

To use a boxing analogy, the believer may get knocked down, but he will never be knocked out. He will painfully get back up on his feet to continue the fight. “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with His hand” (*Psalms 37:23-24*).

In times of failure or trouble, God’s hand is right there to lift us up. **“The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down”** (*Psalms 145:14*). “He restoreth my soul” (*Psalms 23:3*).

~George Zeller: [www.middletonbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org)

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