



# Your Time To Rise And Shine

**“Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth.... I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert” (Isaiah 43:18-19).**

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Life is not only full of varieties but also vicissitudes, which sometimes leave us in a state of despondency thinking all is lost. When the Israelites were saying “...Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts” (Ezekiel 37:11); God gave Ezekiel a vision of their future - a valley of dead dry bones coming alive and becoming a mighty invincible army. God delights in putting songs in the mouth of their children and bringing them to a point of jubilation, when they can say “When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, The LORD hath done great things for them. The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad. Turn again our captivity, O LORD, as the streams in the south. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him” (Psalms 126:1-6).

Many, both in Bible days and in contemporary times have experienced such divine turnarounds that are truly amazing. Let's learn from these examples for our grand turnaround.

## Moses

“Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?” (Exodus 3:10,11). Moses perceived the will of God for his life, but out of impatience, he ran ahead of God, killed an Egyptian and went into exile for 40 years. The steps that led to his recovery included:

- 1) Maintaining his relationship and love for God.
- 2) Facing the facts of his new situation with sobriety and started afresh from where he was.
- 3) Faithfully serving Jethro, before and after becoming his son in law.

**“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” (Numbers 23:19)**

4) Sensitivity to the works and voice of God.

5) Obedience to God's second call

## Peter

- ♦ “And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly” (Matthew 26:75).
- ♦ “But go your way, **tell** his disciples and **Peter** that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you” (Mark 16:7).

Anybody could have written off Peter after He denied Jesus three times, but God gave him a second chance and used him because he:

- 1) Repented with bitter tears.
- 2) Repaired and maintained a healthy relationship with Jesus.
- 3) Forgave himself, pulled himself together and responded to the angel's message.
- 4) Laid aside the past to focus on the future.

Now, it is your turn to have a second chance:

- 1) Isaiah 43:25 I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.
- 2) Isaiah 3:10 Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. (see Ezekiel 18:21-31).
- 3) Psalms 37:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. (+ Isaiah 60:1)
- 4) Romans 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

When the prodigal son arose and went to the father, he accepted him and gave him a second chance. And you too will have a second chance when you arise and come to your heavenly father.