

If you have failed, are you a failure?

(I John 1:9)

God has provided a plan for your salvation, your future, your life both on earth and for eternity. When failures come into your path how do they effect your walk? Are you a failure, is there any hope when you fail? Can I repent and be all right? Lets take a look at three examples in the word of some very important people, who failed, or displeased God and lets see what happened.

David

II Samuel 11:1-26

- a. David should have been at war (II Sam. 11:1)
David was idle, idleness is the tool of the devil
David was not at his post
David was bored
- b. David saw Bathsheba from his rooftop (II Sam. 11:2)
- c. She looked good to the eyes (remember Gen.)
- d. He sent and took her from her home (II Sam. 11:4)
- e. He committed sin with her. (II Sam. 11:4)
- f. She became pregnant (II Sam. 11:5)
- g. David plotted to have her husband killed (II Sam. 11:15)
- h. He had her husband sent into battle to be killed (II Sam. 11:14-15)
- i. He was killed. (II Sam. 11:21)
- j. David sinned greatly, A price was to be paid
- k. God describes David's sin and punishment (II Sam. 12:9-19)
- l. War would not leave David's house. (II Sam. 12:10)
- m. Because of the sin God required the life of the child (II Sam. 12:19)
- n. David prayed and repented and worshipped God. (II Sam. 12:20)
- o. God forgave David and Solomon was born. (II Sam. 12:24)
- p. Solomon built God's temple at Jerusalem (I Kings. 6:1-14)
- q. God said David was a man after His own heart. (Acts 13:22)

Jonah

(Jonah - whole book)

- a. Jonah was called to do a work (Jonah 1:2)
- b. Jonah fled the call (Jonah 1:3)
- c. Jonah took a ship away and was thrown overboard (Jonah 1:15)
- d. God prepared a great fish and Jonah was 3 days/3 nights in the fish.
- e. What did Jonah do in the fish?
- f. Repented! (Jonah 2:1-9)
- g. Then the fish threw up Jonah on the beach. (Jonah 2:10)
- h. God called again. (Jonah 3:2)
- i. Jonah did what God said (Jonah 3:3-10)
- j. Jonah got angry, and went out and waited to see what would happen (Jonah 4:1-5)
- k. God's plan was done. (Jonah 4:10-11)

Peter

- a. Peter walked on the water (Matt. 14:28-29)
- b. Peter didn't understand a parable (Matt 15:15)
- c. Peter had great revelation (Matt. 16:16-17)
- d. Peter had no revelation (Matt. 16:22-23)
- e. Peter said he would not be offended (Matt. 26:33-34)
- f. Peter denied Jesus 3 times. (Matt. 26:69-74)
- g. Peter wept and repented (Matt. 26:75)
- h. Jesus forgave Peter (John 21:15-17)
- i. Peter was used on the day of Pentecost (Acts 21:14,41)
- j. Peter was recognized as being with Jesus. (Acts 4:13)
- k. People healed by Peter's shadow (Acts 15:15)
- l. Peter was chosen to carry the gospel to the Gentiles. (Acts 15:7)

Success and fulfillment is complete when you have done what God said to do. All three had found common ground, they all sinned, they repented, they humbled themselves, and they trusted God. God used them mightly!

What causes us to fail?

- a. No repentance (Luke 13:3) (Religion causes you to not want to repent)
- b. Disobedience (Eph. 5:6) (Doing your own thing)
- c. No faith in God (Heb. 11:6) (Trusting your own abilities and knowledge)
- d. Wrong Love (I John 2:15) (God becomes number 2 in your life)

What keeps us from failing?

- a. Repentance (I John 1:9) (instant, right now)
- b. Obedience (Joshua 1:8) (brings completeness in our lives)
- c. Faithfulness (Jude 20-24) (Standing)
- d. Right thoughts and words (see last lesson)
- e. God's love in us (I John 4:12) (brings His perfection)

What does God say about your Failures!

God has made room for your failures in His plan for your life! God has more confidence in you than you do in yourself! God intends for you to succeed.

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. (Jos. 1:5,8)

Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. (II Cor. 2:14)

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8:37-39)

For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. (II Cor. 1:20)

I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me. (Phil. 4:13)

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. (I John 4:4)

According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance; patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (II Pet. 1:3-8)

God made one profound statement in many places which guarantees our success over failure. God said "I am with thee". This alone should keep us on our knees before Him because He is always there to see us, help us, and take us through to His victory.

References: (I am with thee)

Gen. 26:3 - Gen. 31:3 - Ex. 3:12 - Deut.. 31:23 - Jos. 1:5 - Jos. 3:7 - Jud.. 6:16 - I Kings 11:38
Isa.. 43:2 - Heb.. 13:5 - Jn. 14:18