Coming Back From A Setback

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Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because brother you need the word.

We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us at Brothersoftheword.com. Stay tuned to today’s message. We’re doing part two of something we begin on last week entitled, Coming Back From A Setback, Coming Back From A Setback Part II. I would like to just share a little humor that I came across and this was in Divorce Court the judge staring down from the bench to announce the terms of the divorce decree and the judge turned to the husband and said, “I’m going to reward her alimony and the amount of $750,000 a month” to which the woman’s about to be ex replied, “That’s mighty kind of you judge, I will try to help her all of I can too.”

Open your Bible if you will to the Book of Job Chapter 42. The Book of Job Chapter 42 and we begin by reading verse 10, verse 12 and verse 13, when you there say Amen.

The Book of Job Chapter 42 verse 10, 12 and 13. Let’s read together verse 10, “And the Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed for his friends, also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.” So the Lord blessed the latter end Job more than his beginning for he had 14,000 sheep and 6,000 camels and 1,000 yolk of oxen and 1,000 donkeys and also he had seven sons and three daughters. And so we’re talking about coming back from setbacks, coming back from setbacks and we see here Job who increase in the latter end he had twice as much as he had before and you know the book of Job talks about everything he lost in Chapter 1. He lost all of his children, all of his wealth, his health, he lost everything, but yet God shows us a picture of Job at the end and not only was he back, but he had twice as much as he had before to let us know that we can come back from a setback. Setbacks are normal to life, setbacks are normal to life, they are normal to success.

The Bible says, think it not strange that these things you know the fiery trials of happen to you, isn’t that strange? Setbacks are normal to life, repeat that after me. Setbacks are normal to life. Setbacks are normal to life and success is nothing strange, is nothing out of the ordinary. Setbacks are normal to life. Setbacks are also normal to success. Setbacks are normal to success. You’ll find that every successful person has had setbacks. I love reading some of the life story of Erma Bombeck, she’s had a very interesting life, but I just want you to hear some of the setbacks and she became one of the most well-known authors and columnist and humorist and so forth in her life. And she said I speak at college commencements and I’ll tell everyone I’m up there and they’re down there not because of my successes, but my failures or setbacks, then I’ll proceed to spend all of them off, a comedy record album that sold two copies in Beirut. A sitcom that lasted about as long as a donut in our house, a Broadway play that never saw Broadway. Book signings where I attracted two people, one who wanted directions to the restroom and the other who wanted to buy the desk.
What you have to tell yourself is I'm not a failure. I failed at doing something but I'm not a failure. There’s a big difference. Personally and career wise has been a corduroy road. I've buried babies, I've lost parents, I had breast cancer, I had my breast removed, I had kidney failure, I’ve been on dialysis everyday, I've been worried over the kids. But yet the trick is to put it all in perspective and that’s what I do for a living. And so, I just wanted you to see that successful people have setbacks, successful people have setbacks. Setbacks are normal to life, setbacks are normal to success.

Mozart one of our greatest musical legends in history he was told by Emperor Ferdinand that his opera, the Marriage of Figaro, was far too noisy and contain far too many notes. That was a setback, but yet he bounced back and become one of our great composers. Artist Vincent van Gogh. He only sold one painting and he was told that he was a failure, and that he would never make it as an artist and his paintings today are some of the highest grossing paintings that are sold in auctions today, setbacks. Thomas Edison, who was one of the most prolific inventors in history. He was considered unteachable as a youngster. And Albert Einstein, the greatest thinker of our time. He was told by his school master that he would not amount too much in life. Those are all setbacks. Setbacks are normal to life, setbacks are normal to success. So setbacks happen to all of us at one time or another in our life we all suffer setbacks.

I was reading an interesting story from a lady and she said that she had lost her job and she was just about to begin drinking and she was a strong Christian woman and she was just about to give herself to the bottle. And she said her pastor gave her just a certain word of encouragement that just reminded her of her destiny and the plans that God have for her and what she was to be doing with her life. And she said that saved her and that allowed her to comeback from that setback. And she went on to start her own organization to help rehabilitate drug addicts and alcoholics. She wrote several books and she was a guest on several television shows and even the great Coretta Scott King summon for her to help her, to write her memoirs in life.

And so she just relayed how she had a setback, but she was able to comeback because somebody encouraged her and it was just that word that saved her life because she was at the point of despair from losing her job, but just a word of encouragement just reminded her of her destiny. Say the devil, he tries to, he intends on taking our setbacks to destroy us, to devastate us, to throw us off from our destiny, to keep us from God’s plans for I saw the devil thrives. He thrives in setbacks because he knows that people are destroyed because of setbacks, people give up and quit because of setbacks. Dreams are lost because of setbacks.

And so the devil he tries his best to take advantage of setbacks because he knows people are in vulnerable positions, vulnerable states of minds. And so we have to be
so careful when we encounter setbacks or we have to be extremely vigilant because those moments where the enemy really seeks to destroy us when we have a setback. Now we have setbacks in all areas of life, we can have setbacks in our dreams, you know that Joseph in the Bible, you know he had a dream. He had a dream, but you know he had a setback to his dream? He had a setback he was sold in the slavery that wasn’t a part of his dream that was a setback. And then he was falsely accused wrongly in prison about 13 years, how many of you know that’s a setback. That was a setback so that wasn’t part of the dream. That wasn’t part of the dream, but I want you to know, even with all of those setbacks, Joseph made a comeback. And so God let’s us know that even when we suffer setbacks in our dreams, we can comeback.

Now you notice something about Joseph even though he spent 13 years in prison wrongly accused, falsely accused. He was still, he was in a situation where he could have been negative, he could had live bitter, he could had live upset but you know Joseph learned to make the best of a bad situation. He learned to make the best of a bad situation. I like something that John Wooden said. He says, “Things turn out for the best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out.” And so you have to be so careful when you’re in setbacks not to allow them to rob your dreams and to stop you from your divine destiny. So we can have setbacks in all areas of life, in our finances, you can have it. Every time you go get gas, you know that’s a financial setback. That’s a financial setback. When there’s a death of a love one that can be a setback. We have our member here who just recently lost her mother and a few months later she lost son, that’s a setback, that’s a setback. And if you’re not careful you can be destroyed under that type of pressure.

We have our former member who lost one son one year and she lost her other son the next year. Folks those are devastating setbacks, those are devastating setbacks. I have a friend who lost his father one year, a couple of years later he lost his wife then a couple of years later he lost his son. Those are devastating setbacks and all of us are susceptible to the setbacks no matter how good you are. You know Job was perfect, do you realized that, the Bible says that Job was upright and perfect before God, yet he was devastated in his life due to setbacks. So it doesn’t matter how good you are, setbacks come to all of us, setbacks comes to all of us, but you know I believe God made us like a rubber ball. You know the harder you slam a rubber ball to the ground the higher it bounces up. Turn to your neighbor and said, “Hello rubber ball.” And so we have to picture ourselves as rubber balls. We have to -- when we hit rock bottom, we have to pull ourselves together and bounce back coming back from a setback.

This is a brother point. This is something I heard Bishop Dale say, he says it quite often and it’s a powerful statement. I want you to get this. He says, “I’m only in two positions in life. I’m either up or I’m getting up.” Those are only two positions in life I’m either up or I am getting up. And let us know that God has innately built
something within us a resilience. The spirit of God, the presence of God, the gift of God there is something that is in us folks that when we suffer setbacks in life, it allows us to bounce back. It allows us to comeback, it allows us to have another chance. And so I want you to realize that when you encounter a setback in life there are basically three options. There are basically three options. Number one, you’re destroyed by the setback, number two, you survived the setback, number three, you comeback and you thrive after the setback. And so have to make up in your mind which option you’re going to choose when you encounter a setback in life. Am I going to be destroyed? Am I going to just survive it or am I going to comeback and thrive after this? I don’t know about you, but I want to come back and thrive after a setback. I want to bounce back stronger than I was before. See when you bounce back there’s something, when you bounce back you’re not the same person that went down, because it takes more to comeback. And so have gained in your comeback.

So you know even Albert Einstein said, he’s got a problem is not solve on the same level that it was into. You don’t solve a problem on the same level that’s you’re into a problem so you comeback, you run a different level because you have overcome something, you’ve mastered something and you comeback you are different person so that’s why we have the ability not to just survive a setback, but to comeback and thrive to be better than we were before. Ain’t that a wonderful news? We can thrive, we can comeback and thrive. Let me show you what the scripture says turn over to the Book of Proverbs Chapter 24. Proverbs Chapter 24 verse 16. Notice what, this is a biblical concept Proverbs Chapter 24 verse 16. Notice this, for a just man falleth seven times and rises up again. So you can’t keep a good man down. That’s what the Bible is saying or just -- there is something God has innately put in us, we should be like the weeble wobbles. You remember the weeble wobbles?

So I it don’t matter we -- you can push a weeble wobble over and it will come right back up. Well that’s the way God has made us, so just made him fall seven times, but he rises up again folks that’s comeback power. That’s comeback power that we as a children of God we have comeback power.

I don’t care what you have suffered in your finances. You might had lost many in investments, you might have lost many in your business might had go and belly up, you might had lost relationships in divorce. Folks I don’t care what is you’ve lost, I want you to know that you can comeback from a setback. You can comeback from a setback, coming back from a setback. Coming back from a setback. I like something that Anna Lander she says, “If I were ask to give what I consider the single most useful bit of advice for all humanity it would be this, expect trouble as an inevitable part of life and when it comes hold your head high, look at squarely in the eye and say, I will be bigger than you, you cannot defeat me.” I just love that, “Look trouble straight in the eye, hold your head up high and let it know you will not defeat me. I cannot be defeated I will be bigger than you.”
Here are three truths I want you to know about making a comeback from a setback. Number one, always realize God is your helper. God is your helper even when you feel like you’re all alone when you can’t sense God. Know that God is with you even when you can’t feel him. God is your helper and then sometimes you feel so isolated, sometimes you feel so all by yourself, you feel like God has forsaken you, but that’s natural. It’s normal to feel that way, but here’s the truth you got to have down in the recesses of your soul, God is my helper. God is my help and he is in me, he is the power that will help me to comeback. God is with me even when I don’t feel it. Number two, you have to realize these truth situations are temporary. Situations are temporary. And I know when you’re in the middle of one it feels like it is on eternity, it feels like it would never end but always remind yourself of these truth, situations are temporary. These truth shall pass. Situations are temporary.

Number one, God is your helper. Number two, situations are temporary. Number three, a setback is a setup for a comeback. Always remind yourself of that. That’s a popular little cliché but a setback is a setup for a comeback. Now here’s what something you got to realize and understand that now comeback is process. Now setbacks are normally instant. You know normally you lose your job just like that. You fall in you know you have a setback just like that. Normally, setbacks are instant, but comebacks are a process. Everybody say that, comebacks are process. And so normally you don’t just comeback instantly. There’s normally a process that you have to go through to comeback. Now the setback is instant. You can lose it overnight, you can lose it overnight, but the comeback is not normally over night this is a process, comebacks are a process.

I want to give you four things to help you in this process of coming back from a setback. Number one, acknowledge the pain, acknowledge the pain. It is okay to say, “Hey, I’ve been hurt.” This hurt is bad losing that money, hurt losing my business, hurt, losing our relationship. I am hurt. So it’s okay to acknowledge the pain because you are in a state of shock when this first happens so, you have to acknowledge the pain, acknowledge the pain. Number two, grieve the loss. It’s alright to cry. It does hurt when you invested into something, when you put your life in something and you lost it and then you have to cry. It’s okay grieve the pain, cry, grieve. Acknowledge the hurt, grieve the pain. That’s part of the process, that’s a part of the part process before you can comeback. Acknowledge the pain, grieve the loss. Number three, forgive yourself and others. Forgive others if they hurt, if they’ve been a part of your setback, also forgive yourself if you messed up. Forgive others and yourself. Number four, you have to release the situation and move on. You begin to release the situation and move on.

Now in a setback, it takes a lot of prayer. You have to be connected to God. You have to stay under a saturation of God’s word because you’re in a very vulnerable time in life and so you have to stay connected to God. You got to stay in prayer, you
got to stay under the word, listen to CDs, go to brothersoftheword.com and just listen all day, all night. You got to stay, you got to keep yourself because that keeps your sanity. That was going to -- God’s word is going to give the fortitude and the backbone to be able to withstand the pressure that you’re under all that’s a part of the process.

Let me give you this brother point. When you messed up, admit it, repent of it, quit it, put it behind you, bury it, learn from it, get up and move on. Thank you for joining us today at Brother of the Word because brother you need the word.

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