

# SECOND CHANCE, SECOND ACT

TURNING YOUR MESSSES INTO SUCCESSES

THE CURTAIN DOESN'T COME DOWN WHEN YOU MESS UP!

Selected Scriptures

January 17, 2016 | DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

**INTRODUCTION:** F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote, “There are no second acts in American lives.” Fitzgerald was wrong. Our failures do not have to be fatal or final. Today, as we begin our new series SECOND CHANCE, SECOND ACT, we are going to discover three Biblical principles about mistakes that are foundational to enjoying the “second act” God wants us to experience.

## I. Mistakes Are Inevitable

### Three Categories of Mistakes

#### A. Slip-ups

#### B. Mess-ups

James 4:13-15 “<sup>13</sup> Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow, we shall go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.’ <sup>14</sup> Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. <sup>15</sup> Instead, you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that.’”

Proverbs 22:26-27 “<sup>26</sup> Do not be among those who give pledges, among those who become sureties for debts. <sup>27</sup> If you have nothing with which to pay, why should he take your bed from under you?”

#### C. Screw-ups

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Matthew 26:31-36 “<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to them, ‘You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL BE SCATTERED. <sup>32</sup> But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee.’ <sup>33</sup> But Peter answered and said to Him, ‘Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away.’ <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I say to you that this very night, before a cock crows, you shall deny Me three times.’ <sup>35</sup> Peter said to Him, ‘Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You.’ All the disciples said the same thing too. <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to His disciples, ‘Sit here while I go over there and pray.’”

Matthew 26:69-75 “<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a certain servant-girl came to him and said, ‘You too were with Jesus the Galilean.’ <sup>70</sup> But he denied it before them all, saying, ‘I do not know what you are talking about.’ <sup>71</sup> And when he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and said to those who were there, ‘This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.’ <sup>72</sup> And again he denied it with an oath, ‘I do not know the man.’ <sup>73</sup> And a little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, ‘Surely you too are one of them; for the way you talk gives you away.’ <sup>74</sup> Then he began to curse and swear, ‘I do not know the man!’ And immediately a cock crowed. <sup>75</sup> And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, ‘Before a cock crows, you will deny Me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly.”

## II. **Mistakes Are Forgivable**

Romans 5:12 “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—”

Romans 5:15-16 (NLT) “<sup>15</sup> But there is a great difference between Adam’s sin and God’s gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and His gift of forgiveness to many through this other Man, Jesus Christ. <sup>16</sup> And the result of God’s gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man’s sin. For Adam’s sin led to condemnation, but God’s free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins.”

Isaiah 1:18 “‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ says the LORD, ‘Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow;’”

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## III. Mistakes Are Redeemable

Isaiah 61:3 (NLT) “...He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair...”

Conclusion: