

# SECOND CHANCE, SECOND ACT

TURNING YOUR MESSES INTO SUCCESSES

## ENJOY YOUR INTERMISSION

Selected Scriptures

February 21, 2016 | DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS

**INTRODUCTION:** Between our “first-act” failures and our future success, God often imposes an “intermission” in our life story. Intermissions are not always pleasant but they are absolutely essential to experiencing a “second act” success in life.

### I. Understanding “Intermission”

#### A. By Definition

Intermission is that period of time between our **failure** and our **future**.

#### B. By Examples

- A divorce and the beginning of another meaningful relationship.
- A job termination and new employment.
- A bankruptcy and financial solvency.
- A revelation of your immorality and the restoration of your reputation.

Acts 7:21-22 “<sup>21</sup> And after he [Moses] had been exposed, Pharaoh’s daughter took him away, and nurtured him as her own son. <sup>22</sup> And Moses was educated in all the learning of the Egyptians, and he was a man of power in words and deeds.”

Acts 7:23-25, 29 “<sup>23</sup> But when he was approaching the age of forty, it entered his mind to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel. <sup>24</sup> And when he saw one of them being treated unjustly, he defended him and took vengeance for the oppressed by striking down the Egyptian. <sup>25</sup> And he supposed that his brethren understood that God was granting them deliverance through him; but they did not understand. <sup>29</sup> ...MOSES FLED, AND BECAME AN ALIEN IN THE LAND OF MIDIAN...”

Exodus 2:15 “When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.”

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Acts 7:30-33 “<sup>30</sup> And after forty years had passed, AN ANGEL APPEARED TO HIM IN THE WILDERNESS OF MOUNT SINAI, IN THE FLAME OF A BURNING THORN BUSH. <sup>31</sup> And when Moses saw it, he began to marvel at the sight; and as he approached to look more closely, there came the voice of the Lord: <sup>32</sup> ‘I AM THE GOD OF YOUR FATHERS, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM AND ISAAC AND JACOB.’ And Moses shook with fear and would not venture to look. <sup>33</sup> BUT THE LORD SAID TO HIM, ‘TAKE OFF THE SANDALS FROM YOUR FEET, FOR THE PLACE ON WHICH YOU ARE STANDING IS HOLY GROUND.’”

### II. Three Characteristics Of Intermissions

- A. Intermissions Are **Imposed**, Not Chosen.
- B. Intermissions Come at Various **Times** in Life.
- C. Intermissions Are of Varying **Lengths**.

### III. Five Principles For Enjoying Your Intermission

- A. Resist the Urge to **Skip** Your Intermission.
- B. Refresh Your Physical and Emotional **Batteries**.
- C. Reflect on Where You've **Been** and Visualize Where You Want to **Go**.

- What three things would I like to accomplish before I die?
- Am I in the job that I want to be doing ten years from now?
- What do I feel passionate about in life?
- What do other people seem to think I'm gifted to do?
- Who is the one person who knows me best and loves me most with whom I could have a heart-to-heart talk about my situation?

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D. Renew Your **Relationship** with God.

1 Kings 19:11-13 “<sup>11</sup> So He said, ‘Go forth, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.’ And behold, the Lord was passing by! And a great and strong wind was rending the mountains and breaking in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of a gentle blowing. <sup>13</sup> And it came about when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And behold, a voice came to him and said, ‘What are you doing here, Elijah?’”

1. Allow God to speak to you through His Word.
2. Read a good Christian book that emphasizes the character of God.
3. Allow God to speak to your particular situation by asking Him these questions:
  - What am I doing in my life that is displeasing You?
  - What do You want me to do that I am not now doing?
  - Am I more interested in pleasing You, or pleasing others?
  - Am I defining success and failure by Your standards or other people’s standards?

E. Remember, the Curtain Will **Rise** Again!

Conclusion