

THE POWER OF AGAIN

Proverbs 24:16 – NKJV - ¹⁶ For a righteous *man* may fall seven times
And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

I. Intro

A. ***Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player ever.***

1. 1985 Rookie of the year
2. Defensive player of the year 1988
3. 14 Time All Star
4. Six Time MVP
5. Six NBA Championships

a) *One would correctly say that he is the pinnacle of NBA success*

B. ***The Michael Jordan Failure commercial***

1. I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career
2. I've lost almost 300 games
3. 26 times, I've missed the game winning shot

4. I've failed over, and over, and over, in my life... and that is why I succeed

a) *The story of Michael Jordan is one filled with failure*

b) ***Cut*** from his high school basketball team

c) *But **the failure** is never final*

Clarence McCartney the late preacher of Pittsburgh Tabernacle once described the greatest words in the Bible.

- **Sin** is the saddest word
- **Forgiveness** is the most beautiful word
- **Tomorrow** is the most dangerous word
- **No** is the hardest word

There is a word that I feel is even more powerful than all of these other words.

A word that was not mentioned by Rev. McCartney. That word is **AGAIN!**

II. Again in the Bible

A. Consider with me that

1. **Sin** – 389 times
2. **Anger** – 234 times
3. **Hate** – 87 times
4. **Bitterness** – 22 times
5. **Envy** – 20 times
6. **Lust** – 18 times
7. **Again** is used 651 times

a) **Again** is a word that is extensively used throughout all of the Bible

B. God speaks again

1 Samuel 3:8 – NKJV - ⁸ And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. So he arose and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you did call me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord had called the boy.

1. Samuel - Understanding

- a) God kept calling to Samuel, until Samuel got understanding
- b) **God didn't give up**, but He patiently waited for Samuel to understand and respond

2. Samson – Confirmation

Judges 13:8-9 Then Manoah prayed to the LORD, and said, O my Lord, please let the man of God whom You sent come to us **again** and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born.

9 And God listened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came to the woman **again** as she was sitting in the field: but Manoah her husband was not with her.

- a) *Manoah's wife in the field receives an angelic visitor*
- b) *Gives her instructions about the son that she will soon have*
- c) **God came again**, to confirm His word

3. Gideon – Belief

- a) *Gideon received an angelic visitor as well*
- b) *Hail mighty man of valor*
 - (1) **God** if this is really you make the fleece wet and the ground dry
 - (2) **God** if this is really you, make the ground wet and the fleece dry
 - (3) **Again** God answered the request.

III. God moves again

God Moves AGAIN - - A Blind man healed at Bethsaida

Mark 8:22-25 Then he came to Bethsaida; and they **brought a blind man to him**, and begged him to touch him. 23 So he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes and put his hands on him, he asked him if he saw anything. 24 And he looked up, and said, I see men like trees, walking. 25 Then he put his hands on his eyes **Again** and made him look up. And **he was restored** and saw everyone clearly.

A. The blind man is **brought to Jesus**

1. Jesus touches him and asks him if he can see
2. I see men as trees walking
3. So Jesus touches him **again**

a) *It was the **admission of the man**, that I need more, that **caused Jesus to reach to him again**.*

Mark 3:1-3 - And he entered **again** into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. 2 And they watched him, whether he would **heal him on the sabbath day**; that they might accuse him. 3 And he said to the man which had the withered hand, Step forward.

B. The man with the withered hand was a regular attendee

1. Jesus came **again** to the Synagogue
2. **Why**, because someone there needed Him, and the only time He saw the man was on the Sabbath.

a) ***Only at church!!!!***

3. **Again**, Jesus came, **Again** Jesus moved, **Again** Jesus healed.

C. The woman caught in adultery

John 8:6-8 This they said, testing him, that they might have something of which to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground

with His finger, as though He did not hear. 7 So when they continued asking him, he raised himself up and said to them, He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first. 8 And **again** he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

1. **Taken in the very act**

a) *There is no doubt that **she is guilty***

b) *But **again** Jesus extends grace*

D. Jesus rose again

1. Jesus prophesied about **His own death**

2. But nine times He told the disciples that **He would rise “again.”**

a) *Just as He said He would, **He rose again** from the grave.*

IV. Again for the believer

A. Get back up again

1. **Isaac** dug the wells **again**

2. **Samson’s** hair grew **again**

3. **Elijah** was strengthened **again**

4. **Jeremiah** received the word of the Lord **again**

5. **Peter** received the rooftop vision **again**

6. **Paul** was given a second chance **again**

7. **Solomon** wrote – that **a just man falls seven times, but rises “again”**

1 John 2:1-2 - My little children, these things write I to you, so that you may not sin. And if any one sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

8. Come to the altar again

9. **David wrote** – Rejoice in the Lord always, and Again I say rejoice!

B. Born again

1. You must be born – **again**

a) *Because He died and rose **again***

2. He's coming back **again**.

a) *He left this world, but told us that He would be back **again***

V. Again and again

A. Again for you

1. You need a word – **God speaks again**

a) *You need confirmation – God speaks again*

2. You need a touch – **God touches again**

3. You've fallen down – **get back up again**

4. You've sinned – **repent again**

5. You're lost today – **be born again**

6. Everything is good with you? **Rejoice again**