

# Your Flaws Are Not Fatal

Submitted by Dr. Anthony Brown

**Matthew 26:75(NIV)**

*Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: “Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.*

“Your flaws are not fatal.” I was introduced to this frequently heard statement over 20 years ago when I read my first book from someone who would become one of my favorite authors, Max Lucado. With the cross as his backdrop, Lucado walks through an array of scenarios which highlight Jesus’ compassion, humility, and commitment to His assignment. In reflecting on the life of Peter, Lucado takes us to one of the most crucial moments in Peter’s life – his denial of Christ. Jesus had made the prediction, even giving Peter a direct, advance warning of his denial and restoration, but Peter’s confidence pervades, “never he suggests.” By the time of our text, the rooster has crowed and Peter’s memory kicks in – we then see him outside, crying.

Can anybody relate? Not necessarily choosing to disown Jesus directly but missing the mark on your commitment to follow Him, trust Him, turn away from sin --- this is a road we have all found ourselves on. But here is our HOPE – “our flaws are not fatal.” Peter survives these tears and goes on to preach and impact the lives of thousands. His life is a testament to COMMITMENT, FORGIVENESS, and the process of allowing GOD to use YOUR FLAWS as building blocks for YOUR FAITH. It could be suggested that Peter’s mistake resulted in the life-changing recognition of what he couldn’t do – live a life of purity and confidence – without the leading, direction, and DIVINE STRENGTH of a forgiving Savior. Have you embraced that reality? You can’t do it without Him. In fact, He has possibly predicted some obstacles, mistakes, wrong turns and flaws that consistently remind us how much we need Him. And the Word of God is filled with scriptures that not only keep us on track, but also "get us BACK on track." Your flaws are not fatal. The Lord still has an assignment with your name on it. And as He told Peter, when you get back up, strengthen your brothers (and sisters).

The enemy relishes in the reality that when we fall, make mistakes, or choose the wrong direction when we have a crisis of belief, we OFTEN EXPERIENCE feelings of regret, hopelessness, and, most dangerously, a belief that GOD IS FINISHED WITH US, BECAUSE WE ARE DAMAGED GOODS. Be encouraged today because your flaws are not fatal - if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.