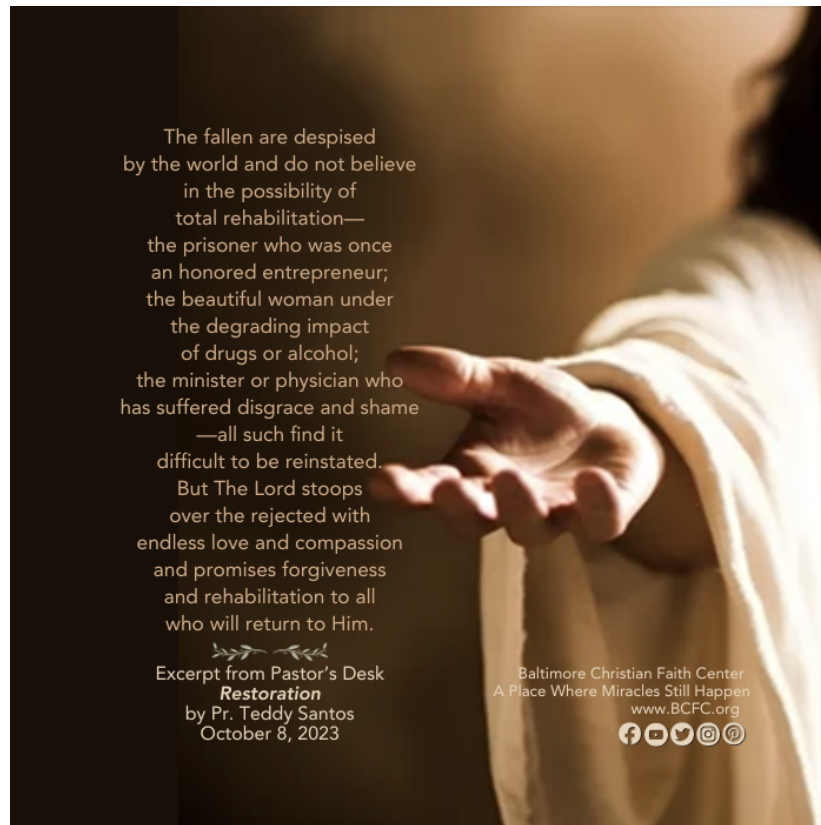


RESTORATION

Pastor's Desk – October 8, 2023



The fallen are despised
by the world and do not believe
in the possibility of
total rehabilitation—
the prisoner who was once
an honored entrepreneur;
the beautiful woman under
the degrading impact
of drugs or alcohol;
the minister or physician who
has suffered disgrace and shame
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But The Lord stoops
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Excerpt from Pastor's Desk
Restoration
by Pr. Teddy Santos
October 8, 2023

Baltimore Christian Faith Center
A Place Where Miracles Still Happen
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Hosea 14:2-4 “**2** Take words with you, And return to the LORD. Say to Him, "Take away all iniquity; Receive us graciously, For we will offer the sacrifices of our lips. **3** Assyria shall not save us, We will not ride on horses, Nor will we say anymore to the work of our hands, 'You are our gods.' For in You the fatherless finds mercy." **4** "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from him.”

The fallen are despised by the world and do not believe in the possibility of total rehabilitation—the prisoner who was once an honored entrepreneur; the beautiful woman under the degrading impact of drugs or alcohol; the minister or physician who has suffered disgrace and shame—all such find it difficult to be reinstated. But The Lord stoops over the rejected with endless love and compassion and promises forgiveness and rehabilitation to all who will return to Him.

Consequently, that's how our Lord dealt with Peter. The Lord Jesus knew that despite his unfortunate fall, there was a powerful undercurrent of sincere love, and He did not hesitate to entrust the care of His sheep and lambs to him.

A lovely marble statue was broken into hundreds of pieces in a museum. The pieces were carefully collected and, with limitless patience, fitted together.

An impossible task was accomplished, and the statue stands in all its beauty and completeness. So, God will take the damaged pieces of any life that will reach out to Him and remake them into something valuable and lovely in His service. This is the purpose of Redemption. The one thing Christ requests of us is that we follow Him. Whether life is youthful within us or lagging, let us heed Him, adore Him, obey Him, and He will turn back our backslidings and never mention them again.

At His service,
Pr. Teddy Santos