

BREAKING POINT

FROM DESPAIR TO NEWNESS OF LIFE



MELANIE BAZILE

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Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the *Amplified Version* of the Bible.

Breaking Point: From Despair to Newness of Life

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Introduction

The Sin Problem

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

John 15:13

You were created in the image and likeness of God. Created as one who is to have dominion in every aspect of life. As one who has the same creative ability as God. One who is to have constant fellowship or relationship and dependence on Him. You may be thinking, that is far from the reality of my life. That is ok and we will start right where you are at. It is the truth that you learn and accept that will set you free and shift your life!

(John 8:32) ***“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”***

What is the truth? The most important truth that you can ever know and accept is the love of God. You were never created to live a life of separation from God. But, because of sin, man experienced a separation from God. To understand this, it is necessary to go back to the book of Genesis and look at how the serpent deceived Eve in the Garden of Eden. The story of the history of mankind entering a sinful nature is found in Genesis 3:1-19:

The fall of Man

“Now the serpent was more crafty (subtle, skilled in deceit) than any living creature of the field which the LORD God had made. And the serpent (Satan) said to the woman, “Can it really be that God has said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’?” And

the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees of the garden, except the fruit from the tree which is in the middle of the garden. God said, 'You shall not eat from it nor touch it, otherwise you will die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You certainly will not die! For God knows that on the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened [that is, you will have greater awareness], and you will be like God, knowing [the difference between] good and evil." And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was delightful to look at, and a tree to be desired in order to make one wise and insightful, she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of the two of them were opened [that is, their awareness increased], and they knew that they were naked; and they fastened fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool [afternoon breeze] of the day, so the man and his wife hid and kept themselves hidden from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to Adam, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of You [walking] in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten [fruit] from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" And the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me—she gave me [fruit] from the tree, and I ate it." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent beguiled and deceived me, and I ate [from the forbidden tree]."

The LORD God said to the serpent,

*"Because you have done this,
You are cursed more than all the cattle,
And more than any animal of the field;
On your belly, you shall go,
And dust you shall eat
All the days of your life.*

*“And I will put enmity (open hostility)
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed (offspring) and her Seed;
He shall [fatally] bruise your head,
And you shall [only] bruise His heel.”*

To the woman He said,

*“I will greatly multiply
Your pain in childbirth;
In pain you will give birth to children;
Yet your desire and longing will be for your husband,
And he will rule [with authority] over you and be responsible for
you.”*

Then to Adam the LORD God said, *“Because you have listened
[attentively] to the voice of your wife, and have eaten [fruit] from the
tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’;
The ground is [now] under a curse because of you;
In sorrow and toil, you shall eat [the fruit] of it
All the days of your life.*

*“Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;
And you shall eat the plants of the field.*

*“By the sweat of your face
You will eat bread
Until you return to the ground,
For from it you were taken;
For you are dust,
And to dust you shall return.”*

So, in this, we see that the devil used a serpent or snake to deceive the woman. You must know that deception is a tactic that the devil uses to turn hearts away from God. Instructions were given to Adam concerning the commandment not to eat of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. Whenever God gives a commandment, it is not to restrict or take anything from us. His commandments are for our protection and our obedience opens the door to receive all that He has for us. The serpent questioned the

very thing that God told Adam. The instruction and purpose for following the instruction is found in Genesis 2:16-17, *“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may freely (unconditionally) eat [the fruit] from every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but [only] from the tree of the knowledge (recognition) of good and evil you shall not eat, otherwise on the day that you eat from it, you shall most certainly die [because of your disobedience].”*

Despite receiving the instruction and the consequences, Eve believed the deception of the devil and convinced Adam to eat the forbidden fruit. John 10:10 says, “The thief comes to kill, steal, and destroy.’ A divine relationship was interfered with and the goal of the devil was to bring eternal separation from God. He did not want mankind to have what he had lost. Adam and Eve immediately experienced the consequences of their disobedience. Separation from God, fear, sorrowful childbearing and laboring in a cursed ground. And worst of all, death. But God had a plan that would redeem mankind from their sinful nature.

Genesis 3:15, *“And I will put enmity (open hostility) between you and the woman, and between your seed (offspring) and her Seed; He shall [fatally] bruise your head, and you shall [only] bruise His heel.”*

The seed of the serpent spurs all that is evil and against God. Through the seed of the woman would come the redemption, Jesus Christ, whose heel was bruised on the cross. The sacrificial act of Jesus crushed the head of Satan or destroyed his kingdom.

Now, you know the origin of sin. Most importantly, you know God’s plan to free you from sin. Sin has consequences. Romans 6:23, *“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God [that is, His remarkable, overwhelming gift of grace to believers] is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Everyone must decide to choose God and accept the gift that God has provided.

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 instructs,

Choose Life

“Listen closely, I have set before you today life and prosperity (good), and death and adversity (evil); in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk [that is, to live each and every day] in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments (precepts), so that you will live and multiply, and that the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you will not hear and obey, but are drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you will certainly perish. You will not live long in the land which you cross the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you today, that I have set before you, life and death, the blessing and the curse; therefore, you shall choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding closely to Him; for He is your life [your good life, your abundant life, your fulfillment] and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD promised (swore) to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

God created you with a free will and does not force anyone to serve Him. I admonish you to choose life!

Breaking Point

The heart of God is for all men to be saved. *2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord does not delay [as though He were unable to act] and is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is [extraordinarily] patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.*

He is providing mankind time and opportunity to repent and make a conscious decision to serve Him. The only way for mankind to be reconciled with God is through Jesus Christ.

John 14:6, *"Jesus said to him, "I am the [only] Way [to God] and the [real] Truth and the [real] Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."*

This is a reality in which some may not know and one in which others know but have not surrendered. We were created to serve and have fellowship with God. No one can occupy the space that is meant for God. Often when things in life feel shaky or nothing seems to go right, there will be discontent. This discontentment is often expressed in statements like, I cannot live my life like this any longer; there must be more to life than this; or I know it is not time for me to die and I have a purpose to fulfill. This is a point in life where one is at a crossroads or what I call a breaking point. The breaking point is a clarion call to surrender to God which can only be done by receiving His love. It is the point at which much despair or hopelessness is felt because of a life void of a relationship with God.

At some point in every man or woman's life, there is a breaking point in which he or she must realize the empty void that only the love of our heavenly Father can fulfill. I remember in my life when I was engulfed with feeling of despair, uneasiness, hopelessness and a troubled spirit, having a cry of desperation and the realization of knowing that the way I was living life was not working. That was

my breaking point and I knew that I needed to make a change. That change was the fact that I needed to run to the Father and surrender to His will for my life.

Life without acknowledgement of the need for God can often lead you down a road where you will reach a breaking point. This breaking point is the point in your life when you know that the life of sin that you are living must stop. The point where you realize that you need the savior, Jesus Christ. Have you reached your breaking point? Only the restoration back to God can bring the peace in your heart that is lacking. Gratification from people, sex, drugs or all that the world offers is a temporary fix. But, from the beginning, God provided the answer to the breaking point. **John 3:16**, *“For God so [greatly] loved and dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] only begotten Son, so that whoever believes and trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life.”* God loved His creation so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for sin. Accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior opens the door to connect with God. It is the cure for the breaking point.

The Invitation

The ultimate love is the love that God has for mankind in that He did not want His creation to spend eternity separated from Him.

Song of Solomon 8:6, “*Put me like a seal on your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death, Jealousy is as severe and cruel as Sheol (the place of the dead). Its flashes are flashes of fire, [A most vehement flame] the very flame of the LORD!*”

This is an invitation to open your heart to receive the love of God. If something is sealed in the heart and arm, it is not easily forgotten. The reason that we need to do this is because there is a love that is as strong as death. Christ loved us so much that He died for our sins. Jealousy is as cruel as Sheol or the grave. In his jealousy, God desires to have a relationship with you. He will not compete with anything or anyone placed before him.

Exodus 34:14, “*for you shall not worship any other god; for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous (impassioned) God [demanding what is rightfully and uniquely His]—*”

God prepared a ransom or substitute for sin. Sheol is a place that has flashes of fire that are extremely hot in which the flame comes from the Lord. Often people like to talk about the grace and mercy of God and never talk about the judgement or wrath of God. The Bible clearly tells us the truth, remember, it is the truth that you know, believe, and receive that will set you free. Yes, He is loving, gracious and we are living under His grace. But He will not force anyone to accept the gift of salvation.

At this point, you are in one of two categories:

1. The one who does not know that Jesus has paid the price for sin and needs to accept what he has done and accept the reality that you are dead to sin.
2. The one who knows and has somehow gotten off track and needs to awaken to the fact that he/she is dead to sin and return to God. **Romans 6:1-2**, *“What shall we say [to all this]? Should we continue in sin and practice sin as a habit so that [God’s gift of] grace may increase and overflow? Certainly not! How can we, the very ones who died to sin, continue to live in it any longer?”*

Remember, there is no in-between. You either serve God or you do not. **Revelation 3:6**, *“So because you are lukewarm (spiritually useless), and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth [rejecting you with disgust].”*

The good news is that today is the perfect day to choose salvation and make Jesus Lord and Savior of your life or return to him. No matter what situation your life may be in today, He is the avenue to make all things new and bring about restoration and healing.

John 10:9, *“I am the Door; anyone who enters through Me will be saved [and will live forever], and will go in and out [freely], and find pasture (spiritual security).”*

To find pasture means to find rest and all that you need.

John 10:10, *“The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows].”*

The alternative is to let the thief, the devil, bring chaos by stealing, killing, and destroying.

It is decision time! Make a conscious decision to live by the plans that God has for your life and walk in integrity and righteousness. Jesus will put you back into the right relationship with God and give you the ability not to sin.

The start to changing your life is simple. The King James Version of **Romans 10:9-10** says:

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart, man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation.”

Follow these steps:

1. Ask God to forgive you of your sins.
2. Confess that you are making Jesus Christ your Lord and Savior declaring his power, authority, and majesty. Your confession leads you to salvation.
3. Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Your belief leads you to righteousness. The point of knowing that Jesus Christ justified you or has erased all your sins and restored you to be in a relationship with God. Also, believe that his body was broken for you giving you the covenant right to abundant life. Meaning freedom in every aspect of your life.

Pray this prayer with a sincere heart and receive the gift of salvation.

Heavenly Father, I repent of my sins and ask you to forgive me. I believe that you love me and gave your son as a ransom to pay the price for my sin. Through your power, you raised Him from the dead and He now sits at your right hand in power and authority. His blood has washed me clean and His body was broken for me. I confess that Jesus is Lord of my life and receives abundant life.

Thank you for saving me. I ask for your divine wisdom and grace to live a life that is holy and pleasing to you.

Amen

If you have prayed this prayer, then you are born again and all of Heaven is rejoicing. I look forward to sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with you in the months and years ahead. Remember, Jesus will give you the ability to live upright.

Steps after Salvation

You have been saved by believing in the work that Jesus did on the cross and activating your faith by believing in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You may be wondering, what is my next step after accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior? **Philippians 2:12 (NLT)** provides a pattern of referential fear of God and obedience to his commandments.

Dear friends, you always followed my instructions when I was with you. And now that I am away, it is even more important. Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear.

Matthew 22:36-40 (NLT) gives the commandments which leads to a life that pleases God:

“Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?” Jesus replied, “‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’¹ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’¹ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, “*Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].*” You have a new life now! Your life has changed for the better. Here are some next steps to assist you on your new journey.

1. Fear and worship only God and keep His commandments. The fear of God is a holy reverence or respect for God. King Solomon sums it up in *Ecclesiastes 12:13*, “*When all has been heard, the end of the matter is: fear God [worship Him with awe-filled reverence, knowing that He is almighty God]*”

and keep His commandments, for this applies to every person.”

2. Grow your relationship with God by praying daily, and reading and studying the Bible for yourself.
3. Walk in love. Loving your neighbor as yourself gives you the ability to honor the other nine commandments. God loves us so much that he gave His only son. In return, our love for God prevents us from doing acts that are not pleasing to Him.
4. Find a church that teaches the word of God without compromise. Do not be alarmed if the word of God convicts you and shows you things in your life that need to change. It is not for condemnation, but is a process of sanctification. Sanctification is the process of becoming holy. You may have years of sin that need purging. Allow the Holy Spirit to take you through the sanctification process. This does not mean that you continue in sin. But, have no known sin in your life and live a repenting lifestyle. Ask God to help you in the areas that he shows you where change is needed.
5. Get baptized as it symbolizes identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Believe that you have received the gift of the Holy Spirit. He is your comforter or helper with your new life in Christ Jesus. The scripture reference for this point is Romans 6:3 and John 14:26 from the King James Version.

Romans 6:3

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

John 14:26

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Forever Changed

The grace, love, and forgiveness of God are immensely powerful!

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

But all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ [making us acceptable to Him] and gave us the ministry of reconciliation [so that by our example we might bring others to Him], that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting people's sins against them [but canceling them]. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation [that is, restoration to favor with God]. So, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His appeal through us; we [as Christ's representatives] plead with you on behalf of Christ to be reconciled to God. He made Christ who knew no sin to [judicially] be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God [that is, we would be made acceptable to Him and placed in a right relationship with Him by His gracious lovingkindness].

Reconciliation can only occur through Jesus Christ. To reconcile means to settle or bring into agreement. You have been reconciled or placed back in right standing with God.

The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross settled the sin account in your life and brought you into agreement and restoration with God. You now have a new life with a divine connection. Your old sinful nature is dead and forgiven by God. Never forget the moment in which the crossroads of your breaking point turned you to the direction of God. Now, tell others so that at their breaking point, they can choose life and not death.

Newness of Life

Walking with God

Now that you are saved, you may be wondering how to live as a believer. First, continue to believe that you have received a new life.

2 Corinthians 5:17, *“Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], he is a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].*

Even if your circumstances seem the same and you are tempted to go back to old behaviors, continue to believe. A temptation is an “enticement or allurements.” Remember, there will be temptations, but that does not mean that you must cave into them. Living a life that is pleasing to God is a daily decision. It is not an impossible task. The Holy Spirit is here to assist and lead you in every step of the way.

John 14:18, 26-27 says:

“I will not leave you as orphans [comfortless, bereaved, and helpless]; I will come [back] to you. But the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you. Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every

challenge.]”

Before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He gave a promise that He would not leave you comfortless. Meaning that He would not leave us without providing the help needed. You should never have a troubled heart or be afraid because you have divine assistance.

To understand this better, let us define the word comforter.

Comforter means:

- counselor,
- intercessor,
- helper,
- one who encourages and comforts.
- advocate

That means when you need sound advice, you can ask the Holy Spirit for guidance. When you do not know what to pray, he is your intercessor who goes to the Father on your behalf. He is your helper and encourager.

One thing to remember about the Holy Spirit is that he will not violate your will. This means that you must allow him to be your comforter. How do you accomplish this? By abiding in his presence.

John 15:4 says,

“Remain in Me, and I [will remain] in you. Just as no branch can bear fruit by itself without remaining in the vine, neither can you [bear fruit, producing evidence of your faith] unless you remain in Me.”

The word abide means to live or dwell. When you live in the spirit that means that you are being led by the Holy Spirit. If you live in the flesh and think worldly thoughts, you get a worldly response.

One key thing to remember as you walk with God is that Jesus is your ultimate example of how to live. Let us look at His temptation and learn how to respond.

Luke 4:1-3

Now Jesus, full of [and in perfect communication with] the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they ended, He was hungry. Then the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to turn into bread.”

After Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist, He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where He was tempted by the devil for forty days during a time of fasting.

Here are two powerful truths found in scripture that you should never forget.

John 10:10, *“The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows].*

1 John 2:16(KJV) says,

For all that is in the world—the lust and sensual craving of the flesh and the lust and longing of the eyes and the boastful pride of life [pretentious confidence in one’s resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father, but are from the world.

Remember, your life is now one of consecration and dedication to God and what is holy. The devil will always come against what is holy.

Let us look at the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life for a greater understanding.

Lust of the Flesh

The lust of the flesh is an attack on human weakness. To overcome the lust of the flesh, you must walk in the spirit. Walking in the spirit

is a matter of faith, staying in agreement and obedience to the word of God, and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead and be your helper.

Galatians 5:16-21

“But I say, walk habitually in the [Holy] Spirit [seek Him and be responsive to His guidance], and then you will certainly not carry out the desire of the sinful nature [which responds impulsively without regard for God and His precepts]. For the sinful nature has its desire which is opposed to the Spirit, and the [desire of the] Spirit opposes the sinful nature; for these [two, the sinful nature and the Spirit] are in direct opposition to each other [continually in conflict], so that you [as believers] do not [always] do whatever [good things] you want to do. But if you are guided and led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the Law. Now the practices of the sinful nature are clearly evident: they are sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality (total irresponsibility, lack of self-control), idolatry, sorcery, hostility, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions [that promote heresies], envy, drunkenness, riotous behavior, and other things like these. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

The lust of the flesh is manifested by the works of the flesh. Works of the flesh do not glorify God because they are acts of sin. Let us take some time to understand the works of the flesh.

- Adultery: Violation of the marriage vows.
- Fornication: Illicit sexual intercourse
- Uncleaness: defilement
- Lasciviousness: disregardful of law and principle of morality
- Idolatry: the worship of idols or images
- Witchcraft: the practice of sorcery or black magic.
- Hatred: sustained hostility of feelings
- Variance: disagreement or strife
- Emulations: jealousy
- Wrath: great anger
- Strife: bitter conflict
- Seditions: rebellion

- Heresies: a belief contrary to those commonly accepted or maintained by authority. These beliefs oppose the word of God.
- Envyings: Covetousness
- Murders: to kill a person unlawfully with malice forethought
- Drunkenness: intoxication
- Revellings: to engage in riotous festivities.

In addition to the works of the flesh you must also know the seven things that God hates and are repulsive to Him that are found in Proverbs 6:16-19:

- A proud look
- A lying tongue
- Hands that shed innocent blood
- A heart that devises wicked imaginations
- Feet that quickly run to mischief
- A false witness that speaks lies
- Sowing discord

If you find that you struggle with some of these things, know that this list is not to bring conviction. You have started on a new journey with God which requires your mind to be renewed.

Romans 12:2

“And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed and progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you].”

To renew the mind simply means that you are changing your mind. All it takes is a conscious decision that you will not live a life of sin. It is a daily

decision to change and commit to changing your mindset from the wicked thought patterns that led to sin to godly thought patterns that lead to holiness. Mind renewal occurs through the word of God. It requires you to read and study the Bible to discover your covenant rights. When you know what your life should look like and what you are entitled to, you will not settle for less. You will not believe the lies of the devil and live a defeated life.

Lust of the Eyes

The lust of the eyes causes many to fail by wanting and giving in to what the eyes see. This is what happened in the Garden of Eden with Eve when the serpent beguiled her. He appealed to her and got her to focus on what her eyes saw but he did it with deception. The lust of the eyes will cause the desire for power and authority. But, the danger in that is that you already have power and authority. You cannot relinquish the authority that God has given you to what the world offers. The lust of the eyes can pull you away from God and replace Him with people, things or prestige. God requires that we do not go after things and make them a god. The devil can make anything look good. You must discern his tricks and schemes that are meant to draw you away from God. Never let anyone or anything be in the place that belongs to God. He is a jealous God, serve Him alone and turn to Him in difficult times.

Pride of life

Satan appeals to pride and opposes the word and commandment of God. Pride is what caused him to fall.

Ezekial 28:14-15

“You were the anointed cherub who covers *and* protects, and I placed you there.

You were on the holy mountain of God;
You walked in the midst of the stones of fire [sparkling jewels].

“You were blameless in your ways
from the day you were created
until unrighteousness *and* evil were found in you.

In his iniquity and rebellion against God, he caused a third of the angels in Heaven to fall. There is nothing new under the sun and he uses pride as a weapon of mass destruction for men to fall and rebel against God. It is critical to have a spirit of humility and bear the fruit of God’s Spirit and not the works of the flesh.

Galatians 5:22-23

“But the fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting], kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such things, there is no law.”

Worldly pleasures are like Band-Aids, they are temporary and cover or mask the issues of life. No one or nothing can satisfy like God. It is wise to avoid seeking temporary happiness and search for what brings eternal joy and reward. A believer in Christ does not need to worry about the uncertainties of life. But it is necessary to know the covenant rights received from accepting his death, burial, and resurrection and living a life pleasing to God. Since we have a covenant, it is only befitting that we live as if we have one. Your covenant rights are found in the Holy Bible. Believing in the integrity of the Holy Scriptures is essential to living a victorious life.

Conclusion

Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death: that just
as Christ
was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so, we
also should
walk in newness of life.
Romans 6:4(KJV)

As you can see, your breaking point does not have to keep you in a place of despair or depression. Since the fall of man, God had a plan that provides freedom. All it takes is desire and a commitment to get your life back to God's original plan. His plan includes daily fellowship with Him. Every life has a purpose. If you are not sure of what yours is, seek God for the answer. Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans *and* thoughts that I have for you," says the LORD, 'plans for peace *and* well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." You cannot go wrong when following the plans that He has for you.

Remember, being a believer in Christ does not mean that you will never have a problem or face opposition. Many hardships *and* perplexing circumstances confront the righteous, But the LORD rescues him from them all (Psalm 32:19)." Never forget His love for you and that he fights for you.

I thank God and rejoice in the fact that you have changed your life for the better and will spend eternity with God. Make the decision everyday to walk in the newness of life. I will share with you a recipe to help you in your walk.

Recipe for Newness of Life

Step One: Salvation which can only come through Jesus Christ. It is a daily decision.

Step Two: Be quick to obey God and live a repenting lifestyle.

Step Three: Surrender to the will of God because he knows the way that you should take. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you.

Step Four: Have a lifestyle of prayer in which you cultivate your relationship with God. It is your covenant right to communicate with him.

Step Five: Read and study the Holy Scriptures to know your covenant rights.

Step Six: Have faith and put the word into action in your life.

Step Seven: Praise to remove heaviness.

Step Eight: Incorporate fasting to keep the flesh in subjection to the spirit.

When you mix all these together, the yield is Newness of Life!