

Title: All Was Not Lost

*“Then all the disciples left Him and fled.” [Matthew 26:56](#).*

What were the disciples thinking? Earlier in [Matthew 26](#) Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, ‘I will strike down the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered.’ But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee. But Peter said to Him, ‘Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away. Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I say that this very night, before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times. Peter said to Him, ‘Even if I have to die with you, I will not deny You.’ All the disciples said the same thing too.” [Matthew 26:31-35](#).

We know the rest of the story. They would fall away. They would flee. Peter did deny Him three times. Can you imagine the pain and guilt they felt?

- They left the one who called them to be apostles, [Luke 6:12-13](#).
- They left the one who sent them out in [Matthew 10](#).
- They left the one who had taught with authority and not as the scribes, [Matthew 7:29](#).
- They left the one who had demonstrated His power over the physical and spiritual realm with the miracles He performed.

They were scattered. They deserted Him. I can only imagine the pain they felt that Friday night after Jesus died. I can only imagine the pain they felt on the Sabbath day. I could only imagine the pain they felt as the first day of the week came. But there was good news!

Back in [Matthew 26:31-35](#), Jesus told His apostles that while they would be scattered, He would be raised and go ahead of them to Galilee. The apostles would receive news that not all was lost! While they had fled, Jesus had been faithful with what He said would happen! He would be raised from the grave.

*“Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. And his appearance was like lightening, and his clothing as white as snow. The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold I have told you.’ And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him.” Matthew 28:1-9*

There was hope! All was not lost! The Messiah was alive. The apostles would get another opportunity to worship Him, serve Him, and to go and do His work. Despite how bad the situation looked, there was hope because of His resurrection. Jesus told them in Matthew 28:19-20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” This time they would listen. They would trust! They would obey. The world has never been the same since the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. The apostles would proclaim these facts to both men and women. Lives would be changed forever. All was not lost.

There is still good news in the midst of a pandemic. There’s still good news even in the midst of a slow economy. There’s still good news even when doubt continues to rise in the hearts of men. Jesus is raised! All is not lost. Let us therefore listen to Him, trust in Him, and obey Him!

- Benjamin Lee