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Viewpoints

Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.

Are You A Rebounder? ~ May 2, 2014

The Ultimate Rebounder knows how to work a comeback in your life.

[Online Version & Archive](#)

Rick Newman has studied the phenomenon of people who arise to triumph out of the ashes of tragedy. "Rebounders" is the name he uses for such people. Newman explains: "One of the surprising insights I gained from writing this book [on Rebounders] is that most successful people have struggled along the way. Whether your favorite role model is a CEO, an entrepreneur, a sports star or an entertainer, odds are he or she failed at something or endured some unforeseen hardship on the way to the top."

You may or may not believe Newman's rebounding phenomenon. But please don't doubt Jesus. He's the Ultimate Rebounder.

As true God, Jesus knew how he would be betrayed into crucifixion at the hands of the Romans. And as true man, Jesus foretold his suffering, death and resurrection to his followers. Thus Jesus allowed the worst tragedies this world would ever witness to fall upon himself: that a holy and eternally innocent person was fraudulently condemned as guilty, and that the Heaven's King was punished with the hell that all people deserve because of our sins.

But from these tragedies, Jesus made the greatest comeback in history when he took up life again in his body and left his tomb empty. Since Jesus is the Ultimate Rebounder, he knows a thing or two about helping us arise to triumph out of the ashes of tragedy. And while Rick Newman is able to write a book about the rebounding phenomenon observed in our physical world, Dr. Martin Luther helps us see the rebounding principal from Christ's point of view:

God humbles his people before he elevates them. He kills them in order to bring them back to life. He devastates them before honoring them. He knocks them down in order to pick them up. God's methods show the highest artistry and wisdom. We cannot understand how events like these are part of God's plan until we see his plan completed. When these events are happening, they can't be understood, except through faith alone.

Luther emphasizes the need for faith. Because without this faith that trusts in the love and mercy of the Ultimate Rebounder, I resent it when life brings me a tragic comedown. The fact that I **resent it** is the evidence—if I'm willing to be honest with myself—that I need to be humbled. My **resentment** reveals my sinful attitude of lording myself over God by telling him that I know better than he does how to run my life.

Hmmm... me a flesh and blood creature poisoned in sin and with less than 100 years of life experience telling the Eternal and Holy God who upholds the universe that he's wrong?

Perhaps you're experiencing a comedown right now. Instead of resenting it, will you listen to Rick Newman? But because Newman's observations are purely physical, will you listen to the spiritual analysis of Luther? And ultimately, will you believe the Ultimate Rebounder? He who came back from the dead and breathed on his disciples with the Holy Spirit's power to believe, is the Ultimate Rebounder who promises that you are already now sharing in his ultimate rebounding. So the Ultimate Rebounder promised through the apostle:

3) In his great mercy God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4) and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you... 6) In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7) These have come so that your faith... may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed [at the Last Day] (1 Peter 1:3-7). ✠✠✠

You might also like the sermon that compliments this Viewpoint, [delivered April 27th and available in audio or video format, by clicking here.](#)

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Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz

