

# Luke 22:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

## Analysis

Jesus' intercession: 'But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.' Despite Satan's attack, Jesus assures Peter: 'I have prayed for thee' (έγώ δεεομένην περὶ σοῦ, egō edeoēthēn peri sou). The verb is aorist, suggesting Jesus had already prayed. The petition: 'that thy faith fail not' (ἴνα μὴ ἐκλίπῃ ἡ πίστις σου, hina mē eklipē hē pistis sou). Peter would deny Christ, but his faith wouldn't utterly fail because Jesus prayed for him. The command: 'when thou art converted' (σύ ποτε ἐπιστρέψας, sy potē epistrepsas, when you have turned back), 'strengthen thy brethren' (στήρισον τοὺς ἀδελφούς σου, stērison tous adelphous sou). Restoration leads to ministry—Peter's failure and recovery would equip him to strengthen others.

## Historical Context

This verse provides profound comfort and theology. Christ's intercession for believers ensures genuine faith survives testing. Peter's three denials (vv. 54-62) were devastating failures, but Jesus' prayer preserved his faith. The command to 'strengthen thy brethren' was fulfilled as Peter became the early church's leader, boldly preaching at Pentecost (Acts 2), standing before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4-5), and writing epistles encouraging persecuted Christians (1-2 Peter). His restoration demonstrates that failure isn't final for believers—God uses even our worst moments for His purposes. The principle extends to all Christians: Christ's ongoing intercession (Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25) ensures genuine believers persevere.

Church history confirms—many who stumbled badly were restored and used powerfully.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus' intercession for Peter ensure genuine believers persevere despite failures?
2. What does 'when thou art converted' mean—was Peter not yet saved, or is this referring to restoration after denial?
3. How should your own failures and restoration equip you to strengthen other believers?

## Interlinear Text

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ἐγὼ	δὲ	ἐδεήθην	περὶ	σου	ἴνα	μὴ	ἐκλείπῃ	ἡ	πίστις
I	But	have prayed	for	thee	G2443	G3361	fail	G3588	faith
G1473	G1161	G1189	G4012	G4675			G1587		G4102

σου	καὶ	σύ	πότε	ἐπιστρέψας	στήριξον	τοὺς	ἀδελφούς
thee	and	thou	when	art converted	strengthen	G3588	brethren
G4675	G2532	G4771	G4218	G1994	G4741		G80

σου

thee

G4675

## Additional Cross-References

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**Romans 8:34** (Parallel theme): Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

**Hebrews 7:25** (Parallel theme): Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

**2 Peter 3:14** (Parallel theme): Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

**1 Peter 1:5** (Faith): Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Luke 8:13** (Faith): They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

**Acts 3:19** (Parallel theme): Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

**Hebrews 12:15** (Parallel theme): Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

**Matthew 18:3** (Parallel theme): And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

**1 Peter 1:13** (Parallel theme): Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

**1 John 2:19** (Parallel theme): They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

