

Ruin to Restoration



By **heatherfl22** on 20/03/2026

What do you think of when you hear the word Restoration?

I think of bringing an old picture back to its original glory, perhaps finding features long forgotten; I think of National Trust properties where the tasks of preservation and restoration go on endlessly. In fact, I am reminded of that when I drive through West Wycombe and see the restoration works repeated every few years.

In our more everyday lives, the restoration might be repairing a leak in a roof after all the rain we have experienced recently (certainly there have been several roof leaks lately in my house) , and then re-painting once the damaged area has dried out.

The word implies a process of repairing, renewing or returning something – whether it has been damaged or broken, or even lost.

I'm reminded of the BBC Repair Shop programme where we are invited, through our screens, to enter a workshop filled with a range of crafts people , experts in their own areas, who bring loved pieces of family history, along with the memories they hold, back to life. I notice that 346 episodes are currently available to watch, so that amounts to a great many restored objects.

We may think of health and wellbeing: recovering from sickness, a new hip or knee, recovery and restoration after long medical treatments. Or perhaps a restoration of a broken relationship where we have fallen out with a friend and now have forgiven and put the past behind us, and we are friends again.

Life has a way of leaving us feeling worn down. Sometimes we might wonder if things can ever truly be repaired. But Jesus offers a powerful answer to that question. He speaks of restoration, and not just survival after hard things have happened, but real renewal and restoration.

In the Bible, restoration offers more than fixing what is damaged. It means bringing something back to the purpose God originally intended. The Christian message is about healing our hearts, restoring hope in the face of hopelessness, sometimes physical healing, and rediscovering meaning and purpose in our lives.

One of the most comforting and well-known verses in Scripture comes from Psalm 23, where David declares “He restores my soul.” That short phrase demonstrates the heart of God’s work in people’s lives.

Many of us experience brokenness. It may be carrying regret over past choices or a struggle with repeated disappointments, grief, or loss. Sometimes the damage we experience is felt in our spiritual lives and we might feel distant from God after drifting away from faith or after a season of doubt.

Thankfully, the Bible does not hide these struggles and God uses the principles and truths to help us in our difficult times even now. Many of the Bible characters we read about, such as Daniel, Joseph, and David, went through deep failure or pain. And yet God was always there, supporting, sometimes correcting, and always renewing or bringing good out of difficult times.

As we are approaching Easter and the events that led up to Jesus' death and triumphant resurrection, we might recall Peter the Apostle. He was one of Jesus' closest followers, and had seen amazing miracles during his three years alongside Jesus, yet he repeatedly denied even knowing Jesus when He was arrested, overcome by fear. For many people, a failure like that would define the rest of their life but remarkably the story did not end there.

After the resurrection, Jesus Christ met Peter again and restored him. Instead of rejection, Peter received forgiveness and a renewed calling. The fearful man who three times denied Christ later became one of the early church's boldest and most fearless leaders.

Failure by us does not cancel God's plan, as we see in Peter's life.

God is in the business of restoration – and that is why He sent Jesus Christ to offer forgiveness to all who believe, and restoration of what is very best – a relationship with the Living God.

And many small restorations in our lives day by day and week by week along the way,



perhaps even this very week.