



LINKS PLAYERS DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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The Three Great Rebellions

...they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise, we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth." (Genesis 11:4, NIV)

Was LIV a rebellion against the traditions of golf? What is clear is that LIV attempted to introduce significant changes—team competition, shotgun starts, players wearing shorts, music on the course, and shorter tournaments—all of which challenged many of golf's long-standing norms. Whether some of these changes represent healthy innovation or a departure from the game's heritage depends largely on one's perspective.

Rebellion against the established order, however, is not unique to golf. It is a pattern woven throughout human history and Scripture. The Bible tells the story of an infinite God who created beings who chose to rebel against His design.

From Genesis onward, we encounter a recurring tension between God's good order and the creature's desire for autonomy. The opening chapters of Genesis reveal three great rebellions.

The first takes place in Genesis 3, in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve desired to determine good and evil for themselves rather than trust God's wisdom. The temptation was to "be like God"—to possess the privileges of deity without the dependence of creatures. At its core, sin was an attempt to redefine reality apart from the Creator.

The second rebellion appears in Genesis 6, when the "sons of God" transgressed the supernatural boundaries established by the Creator and took the daughters of men as wives.

If Eden represents humanity's rebellion, Genesis 6 reveals a supernatural one. Spiritual beings rejected their appointed place within God's created order, crossing boundaries they were never intended to cross to satisfy their own desires.

The third rebellion occurs in Genesis 11 at Babel, where humanity united to build a tower-temple that would reach the heavens, compel the presence of God, and make a name for itself.

Rather than approaching God in humble dependence, they sought greatness, security, and identity on their own terms. If Eden represents independence from God, Babel represents self-exaltation that makes demands of God.

The pattern behind all three rebellions is the same: creatures refusing to remain creatures. Whether human or divine, the temptation is to reject God's authority, transcend the boundaries of His created order, redefine reality on their own terms, and grasp for what belongs to God alone.

Yet the greater story of Scripture is not humanity's rebellion, but God's relentless pursuit of rebels.

What is remarkable is that God's answer to rebellion was not judgment from afar, but incarnation—a divine reversal of Babel. Humanity sought to climb its way to heaven; God chose to descend to earth.

The eternal King moved from the highest position to the lowest, crossing the divide to serve and to save. In Jesus Christ, God entered a world morally confused by rebellion and willingly embraced its consequences, bearing its curse to restore what had been lost.

The impulse to rebel still resides within every human heart, and its effects can be seen in every institution, culture, and generation. As C.S. Lewis observed, "Fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement; he is a rebel who must lay down his arms."

One of the clearest marks of genuine conversion is surrender. The Christian life begins when rebels lay down their arms, abandon their quest for self-rule, and return in trust to the Creator who made them, loves them, and alone can restore their lives.

Prayer: You have shown me, a mere man, what is good and what You require of me, O Lord: to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with You, my God.

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