

A.M. OUTLINE
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THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

(Ezekiel 37:1-14)

INTRODUCTION

Ezekiel - (Ezek. 1:1, 2:2-3) a prophet and priest to the Hebrew people in exile in Babylon; given visions and a message from God; sent to the children of Israel with this prophesy.

(Ezekiel 37:1-2) "... in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones ... they were very dry"

1. (v3) "**He said to me, Son of man, can these bones live?**"

Ezekiel replied rightly, "O Lord God, You know."

(v4) "He said to me, Prophesy to these bones, and say, **O dry bones, hear the word of God**"

(v5-6) God says He would put breath, life, sinew, flesh, and skin on them.

(v7) "So I prophesied as I was commanded" - there was noise, rattling, and the bones began connecting.

(v8) The bones came together; however, "there was no breath in them."

(v9) "He said to me, Prophesy to the breath ... Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live."

(v10) "So I prophesied as He commanded me" - it worked!
"breath came upon them, **and they lived**, and stood upon their feet ... "

2. (v11) "**He said to me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel**"

Israel, in captivity, said to themselves, "Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off." - they are thinking, "We've been taken captive, we're in a foreign land, and we'll never see Jerusalem again."

(v12) God answers, "... **I will bring you into the land of Israel.**"

(v13-14) "... **you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it, says the Lord**"

It happened just as the Lord had spoken it - (Ezra 2:1; Nehemiah 2:5, v6, v11)

APPLICATION (LESSON) FOR US

1) **KNOW THAT UNCOVERTED SOULS ARE LIKE DRY BONES**

The good news of the gospel is that in conversion **the spiritually dead come to life:**

(Eph. 2:1) "you **He made alive**, who were **dead** in trespasses and sins"

(Eph. 2:4-5) "we were **dead** in trespasses, made us **alive** together ... "

(1 John 5:11-13) "God has given us eternal life, and **this life** is in His Son ... "

2) **KNOW THAT PREACHING IS GOD'S WAY TO AWAKEN US**

(2 Timothy 2:24-26) "... so that they may know the truth ... having been taken captive ... "

CLOSE - Can these bones live? Yes! (John 6:63) "The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life." (Mark 16:15-16) "preach ... will be saved ... "