



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

EZEKIEL 37:1-14

LESSON: EZEKIEL BRINGS HOPE TO ISRAEL — July 24, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

36:22-23 God wants the house of Israel to know the reason He will bring them back again. It's not because they deserved it, for they had disrespected Him; defiled His name; disobeyed Him. It is because God will sanctify; will bring honor to the holiness of His great name; He will vindicate the holiness of His great name. He's the only One who can! His creation has profaned His great name when they went into the midst of the heathen territory. But God says the heathen shall know that He is Lord. And they will see this when He is sanctified before their eyes.

36:24-27 He will take Israel from among the heathen, the very ones He scattered and dispersed them to. Then He alone will gather them out of all countries, and then bring them into their own land. He then will now sprinkle clean water upon them, thereby cleansing and purifying them from all their filthiness and idols that were attached to them. God is not through yet for He will give them a new heart and spirit which He will place within them, thereby removing the stony heart (the hard nature) out of their flesh. By God putting His Spirit within them, it causes them to walk (live) in His statutes (Laws), keep and do His judgments (respect and observe His ordinances).

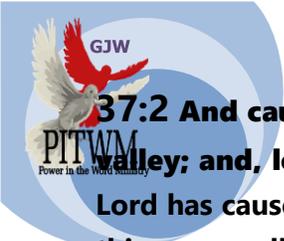
36:28-32 The land that God gave to Israel's fathers will be the land they will dwell in. Now that's symbolic because there is hope! They will be His people and He will be their God. God knows the wickedness of man, but He gives hope, for He will still save them from all their uncleanness. At this moment all their impurities that defile them will be cleansed away. God will call for the corn, that is, send His Word to the harvest of increase, and allow no famine to come upon them. There will be a multiplication of their fruit trees and an increase of their fields so that they will no longer bear or suffer the disgrace of famine among the heathen nations. When God does all this, Israel should be very repentant. They should loathe themselves in their own sight for their iniquities and for their abominations and have a grateful heart for God's response. God does all of this not for the house of Israel's sake, but for His sake, for He says, "*Be ashamed and confounded for your own ways.*"

LESSON: I. REVIVED BONES EZEKIEL 37:1-6

37:1 The hand of the Lord was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones,— When the exiles heard of Jerusalem's fall, they were deeply distressed, and had nearly given up hope for future blessings as a nation. This chapter with the vision of the "*Dry Bones*" was a message of hope and encouragement to illustrate the promise of chapter 36. We see that Ezekiel tells us that the hand of the Lord was upon him, and he was carried away in the Spirit of the Lord, and he was sat down in the midst of a valley full of dry bones. If you're looking at any bones, that means there is no flesh, and they've been dead for a long time. The dry bones are a picture of the Jews in captivity—scattered, no hope, and representing the people's spiritual dead condition. They wasted away in this valley because of their choices against God, and He sent them there.

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37:2 And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. Ezekiel began this chapter with the vision of the "Dry Bones." The Lord has caused Ezekiel to pass among these bones. This is what Ezekiel saw in the spirit: many bones in this open valley. The situation of these bones was hopeless, dead, and dry. But we're not to stand on what we see, but we are to declare what we don't see. Your church may seem like a heap of dry bones, spiritually dead with no hope of vitality. But God!

37:3 And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord God, thou knowest. And the Lord asked Ezekiel a question, "*Son of man, can these bones live?*" Ezekiel's answers: "*O Lord God, thou know; meaning you know the answer*" because you know everything! By saying this, it meant that only God's power could bring these bones to life.

37:4 Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Ezekiel knew that it would take God's power to bring forth life to these bones, so God is using him as His instrument as He tells him what to say; what to prophesy unto these bones. Our words are life or death. As a church we are to speak the Word, and God looks after that Word to perform it to fruition. We speak the promises, and God is the answer to the Promise! Yes, it is the Lord who uses our Words. And He will use the Words Ezekiel will speak. God tells him: "*Say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.*" These dry bones don't have ears! No, but because God is the Creative God, He speaks the Word, the Word becomes what He speaks in Jesus' Name by the Power of His Spirit! That Word is quick, powerful, active, and alive to hear the Word of the Lord through the prophet of God. There are moments God will use us, but we have to be ready to obey the Word of the Lord. Go here...Do this... Say this... It's about our obedience. Can God trust us, without us saying '*they won't hear me?*' No, they won't with that attitude. God uses who, what and how anytime He chooses.

37:5 Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:— The Lord continued to feed Ezekiel the words to the dry bones, for he is to say what the Lord will do— "*I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live.*" God is Creator of breath and life.

37:6 And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.

"Sinews" also called tendons. A Tendon is a fibrous connective tissue found throughout the body that attaches muscle to bone, and is capable of withstanding tension. There are over 900 sinews, tendons, ligament, and cartilages in the human body.

Can you see all the things that God is saying that "**He**" will do, and all Ezekiel has to do is prophesy? When the Lord breathe (v.5) strength will come in the muscles, then flesh upon the bones, and He covers these bones with skin. God's breath, His Spirit will come upon these bones, upon these muscles and flesh, and upon the skin that will cause them to live so "*they will know that I am the Lord.*" He's Creator and Ruler!

II. RESURRECTED BODIES EZEKIEL 37:7-10

37:7 So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. So, Ezekiel prophesied as he was commanded by God. All of a sudden there arose a noise as he prophesied, and behold a shaking to the bones, and the bones





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came together, bone connecting to the right bone. It's unexplainable! It's a sight that can only be seen the spirit that...

- the foot bone connected to the ankle bone,
- the ankle bone connected to the leg bone,
- the leg bone connected to the knee bone,
- the knee bone connected to the thigh bone,
- the thigh bone connected to the hip bone,
- the hip bone connected to the back bone,
- the back bone connected to the arm bone,
- the arm bone connected to the shoulder bone,
- the shoulder bone connected to the neck bone,
- the neck bone connected to the head bone.

They all came connecting to the right bone.

37:8 And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them. But, when Ezekiel got through prophesying, he looked and saw that the muscles and flesh and skin had covered these bones, but he noticed something was missing in them. They couldn't talk. They couldn't perform.

37:9 Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. God took Ezekiel step by step. After he had prophesied to the dry bones, it was time for him to "*prophecy unto the wind—prophecy son of man to the wind.*" If Ezekiel didn't understand it, God said it twice. The wind represents the Spirit and breath. Then God said, tell the wind to "**Come from the four winds** (north, south, east, and west). **NOW, O breath, breathe upon these slain, that they may live.**" The wind and the Spirit is to blow to resurrect the dry bones; give breath to those slain that they may live!

37:10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army. Again, Ezekiel prophesied as he was commanded by God. And breath came, life came, hearing came, movement came, obedience came; they LIVED, and STOOD UP upon their feet as an exceedingly great army. An army lives to obey the Commander. These people were dead to God. In other words, they had no reverent relationship whatsoever with God. But God said He will sanctify; will bring honor to the holiness of His great name (36:26) and even the heathen shall know that He is Lord (36:24). God made them alive, and they have become a strong army for Him.

III. RESTORED BLESSINGS EZEKIEL 37:11-14

37:11 Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. The point to Ezekiel prophesying life back into these dry bones was for Israel is to see what God desires: Restoration: God's Spirit in them. Yes, they said that

- They said that they were like dry bones. They had been dead for a long time. They had lost the life (relationship) that they had with God. In other words, they were dead in their spirits.
- They said that they had no hope. There is no hope for people who have turned away from God. Israel had refused to obey God. They could not expect anything from God. Israel could not hope to become a nation again. Only God could give real hope to people who are in a hopeless situation.





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- **They said** that they had no future. However, in God alone there is life after death.

These bones are the whole house of Israel. The Israelites included the families from both parts of the divided nation, called Israel and Judah. What we're seeing in the land today 2022 is not falling apart, but it's all coming together according to the Word of God. He's showing us that we can prophesy to our situations. We can stand on the Word of God and believe. We can obey when God speaks and see life come forth. We can let others see that God is honored in our lives! But nothing can work without God's Spirit.

37:12 Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. Ezekiel gives a Prophetic message from God of hope, encouragement, and future blessings to a people of no hope, coming up out of Babylon because of Israel's disrespect and disobedience toward God. Therefore, Ezekiel is to prophesy, telling the nation that they will rise from their "graves"; *come up out of*, and be brought back into their own land because the Lord God will open the graves and cause this.

"Graves" refer to the nations in which they were dispersed and will be regathered as living Israelites at the Lord's return. And graves could also mean the actual physical resurrection spoken of in ...

Daniel 12:1-2 *1At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered. 2Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.*

and **John 5:28-29** *28Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.*

37:13 And ye shall know that I am the Lord, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves— God is willing to do all of this for His people, no not for their sake, but for His holy Name's sake (36:22). He is the only One who can. He is the only One who can revive dry bones. He is the only One who can restore what was He had scattered and judged (36:19). He is the only One who can sanctify His Name (36:23). He is the only One who can cause the heathen to know who He is (36:23). He is the only One to keep the promise to restore His nation (36:24). He's ready for the people to come out of their graves; out of their deadness; out of their dryness; out of their rebellion; out of their disrespect of Him. And He can restore any church no matter how dry or dead it may be. He just needs someone to prophesy to the dry and deadness before them! God's power and Spirit is always ready!

37:14 And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord. Nobody can give life except God. Therefore, when God places His Spirit into these skeletons, they shall live. Repentance and regeneration shall take place. Regeneration is through the Spirit. The Lord will place His Spirit in them and they shall live. They will no longer be in another land. The Lord will place them in their own land, and they will know that it was Him who had spoken and performed this for His people! God says, then you will know that I am the Lord who speaks this, and performs this! Through Ezekiel, God was able to bring hope, assurance, belief in Him, and life demonstrated and performed only by God. Hope spoken is powerful!



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SUMMARY:

¹Ezekiel records what he saw in a vision. God gave him this vision about the future of Israel. In the vision, the Spirit of the Lord brought Ezekiel to a large valley. He saw that the valley was full of bones and were very dry. They had been dead for a long time. The situation of these bones was hopeless. They could do nothing. And the Lord asked him a question, *"Son of man, can these bones live?"* Ezekiel answers the Lord, *"O Lord God, thou know; meaning you know the answer."* Only God's power could make them alive again. The Lord told Ezekiel to prophesy; speak to the bones. So, Ezekiel spoke the powerful words of God to them. *"These bones will live again. God will cause breathe to enter into these bones and they will become alive again. Strength will come in the muscles, flesh in the bones, and skin to cover the bones. And they will know that I am the Lord."* All the things that God is saying that He will do, Ezekiel will prophesy(**37:1-6**).

Ezekiel spoke the Word of God to the bones. As he spoke, there was a strange noise. The bones shook and they began to move. Then bones joined to bones and joined in the correct order. The bones formed the proper structures for the bodies. Then the Lord covered the bones with muscles. He made the bodies complete with skin. But they were still dead. They couldn't talk. They couldn't perform. In this vision, the dead bodies refer to the Jews (verse 11). They will return to the country called Israel. This is starting to happen even before they believe in Jesus as their Messiah. God tells Ezekiel to *"Prophecy unto the wind."* The four winds mean the four directions, that is, north, south, east, and west. In other words, the whole world. The Jews will return to the country called Israel from all countries. Wind, breath, and spirit are all one word in the Hebrew language. So, the Lord told the wind, breath, spirit to blow on these dead bodies. It came into them, and they became alive and stood up. God's power had turned the dry bones into a powerful army. These people were dead to God. In other words, they had no reverent relationship whatsoever with God. But God made them alive, and they have become a strong army for Him (**37:7-10**).

The bones in this vision referred to the whole nation that is called Israel. The Israelites included the families from both parts of the divided nation, called Israel and Judah. God tells Ezekiel what they had been saying: (1) Their bones are dried. (2) Their hope is lost. (3) They are cut off from God. God wants us to speak to the deadness in our situations, prophesy against the deadness to bring life. He will bring life and resurrection to that deadness! Ezekiel tells the nation that they will rise from the *"graves"* and be brought into their land. And they will know who the Lord is, when He opens their graves. God will put His Spirit into these skeletons, and they will live, and the Lord will place them in their own land, and they will know that it was Him who had spoken and performed this for His people! (**37:11-14**).

¹ <https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/ezekiel25-39-lbw.htm>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>

