

# The Valley of DRY BONES

Ezekiel 37

*The hand of the LORD brought Ezekiel in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.*



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“There were a **great many bones** on the floor of the valley, bones that were **very dry.**” *The house of **ancient** Israel had become systemically spiritually sick and they died.*

“Son of man, can these bones live?” *What is the chance that these ancient people could be resurrected for a second opportunity to choose life?*

“Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life.’” *The Almighty God announces that He will resurrect them back to life.*

So, Ezekiel prophesied as he was commanded. “There was a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone... Tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.” *The ancient house of Israel is resurrected back into their physical bodies.*

“Prophecy to the breath and say to it, ‘Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these **slain**, that they may live... they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army’” *Ezekiel did as he was commanded and before him breath entered these **slain**. These people were killed for they were at war with their God. Their heart began to beat, their lungs inhaled then exhaled and they opened their eyes. They stood up and before Ezekiel millions appeared!*



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Conscious of their spiritual state, they say, **“Our bones are dried up.”** *They know they have been resurrected back into their physical bodies and they admit defeat—they are spiritually dead and have been for many generations.*

**“Our hope is gone.”** *They understand that there is no hope of eternal life for them, for they are both the divorced house of Israel—the faithless and the unfaithful house of Judah.*

**“We have been cut off.”** *Both houses of Israel exasperated the Almighty God with their perpetual rebellious and treasonous ways. He gave the house of Israel a bill of divorce, severing them from His covenant people and sent them away forbidding them from returning to the Promised land.*

Yet, despite what these people have done, His timeless love for them endures. **“I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them.”** *In God’s great mercy and enduring love for His people, He announces their resurrection and promises to bring them back home. The return to the land is God announcing and accepting their repentance at this resurrection. Israel is God’s first-born son—first-born nation. This resurrection could take place at the first resurrection. Will it be the fulfillment of a promise? Or, a witness to the nations watching—the beginning of similar things to come?*

**“I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it,”** declares the LORD.” *Christ’s sacrifice paid the penalty for all of our sins. This vast number of people have now the opportunity again*

*to choose, but with the help of God's Holy Spirit their choices will be different from their destructive choices of the past.*

**"No longer will Jacob be ashamed; no longer will their faces grow pale. When they see among them their children, THE WORK OF MY HANDS, they will keep my name holy; they will acknowledge the holiness of the Holy One of Jacob, and will stand in awe of the God of Israel. Those who are wayward in spirit will gain understanding; those who complain will accept instruction"** (Isaiah 29:22-24). *The resurrection of the ancient house of Israel will be their great awakening to the magnitude of their God—His mercy, His grace, His longsuffering, His generosity, and His enduring love will finally be visible for all to witness. Their hearts will melt at the sight of their repentant descendants who matured through the work of God's hands and walk among them resurrected into their glorious bodies. Who would have known that that could be possible? That—these angry, rebellious people could give birth to children many, many generations later who mature into humble, God-fearing and God-serving people. They turn to their God in awe, fall to their knees and worship their God.*

**"I will put my Spirit in you and you will live."** *These ancient Israelites will receive God's Holy Spirit for the first time. Now, they will live.*

That is just the beginning! "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim's hand—and of the Israelite tribes associated with him, and join it to Judah's stick and the Israelite tribes associated with him, making them a single stick of wood, and they will become one in my hand.'" *A reunification of the two houses will take place—still a future event.*

"This is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel.'" *God will gather the repentant people, forming one united government of Israel and bring them home.*

"There will be one king over them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms. They will no longer defile themselves with their idols... vile images... their offenses, for I will save them from all their sinful backsliding, and I will cleanse them. They will be my people and I will be their God." *Finally, after approximately 4,000 years of rebellion and treachery, the people of Israel will sincerely and deeply repent and follow the instructions of the God of Israel, the Almighty—the Creator.*

**"My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd.** They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees." *Jesus Christ will rule as King of kings and Lord of lords and David will rule over the kingdom of Israel. This is a millennial setting. The saints, at this time, will be resurrected and ruling with Christ. Israel fulfills their calling as a holy nation of royal priests. The law of God is carefully kept and grace extended as they mature*

*into humble, God-fearing and God-serving people, looking forward to the second resurrection when they will become glorified.*

“I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant... My dwelling place will be with them; **I will be their God, and they will be my people.** Then the nations will know that I, the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever.” *The Millennium will begin with the reuniting, re-establishing of a holy kingdom of royal priests. These people will teach the world the way of God. That was God’s plan from the beginning. What He sets out to do, He will accomplish. It may not seem clear at first. Too much trickery from wicked heavenly beings and suspicion will linger after the events of the Great Tribulation. But truly, the nations will be amazed with the character change of thirteen nations who behaved badly for generations.*

“The sun will no more be your light by day, nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you, for the LORD will be your everlasting light and your God will be your glory” (Isaiah 60:19). *When God arrives, the international news reporters will go wild. He will set himself over Jerusalem; all of the nations will watch in awe. They will know that the Almighty God has set the kingdom of Israel apart from other nations to be His servants—a kingdom of humble teachers putting the needs of others before themselves, peacemakers taking the loss to bring reconciliation, and loving their brothers and sisters—all of mankind as themselves.*

“Then will **all your people be righteous** and they will possess the land forever. They are the shoot **I have planted, THE WORK OF MY HANDS, for the display of my splendor.** The least of you will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation. I am the LORD; in its time I will do this swiftly” (Isaiah 60:21-22). *It seems unlikely today that there are righteous people or a nation of righteous people, never mind thirteen nations, but under the dark robes of their national leaders, are people who acknowledge God. Though some are weak, the upcoming trials will strengthen them. This millennial picture describes a people who have come out of the Great Tribulation—the work of God’s hands as He purifies them of their misunderstandings and misconceptions of God’s truth. Their leadership will be God-fearing people. No longer will they be seeking superpower status, control over global economics, and making war. They will respond to God’s correction; they will repent and overcome. God will use them to correct the wicked governments in other nations.*

“Do not be afraid, O worm Jacob, O little Israel, for **I myself will help you,**’ declares the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. See, **I will make you into a threshing sledge, new and sharp, with many teeth. You will thresh the mountains [governments] and crush them, and reduce the hills [lesser governing bodies] to chaff.** You will winnow them, the wind will pick them up, and a gale will blow them away. But you will rejoice in the LORD and glory in the Holy One of Israel” (Isaiah 41:14-16). *Satan is the prince of the power of the air. He will do all he can to keep the nations in rebellion against God, but as hard as he may try, he will fail. God*

*Almighty will prevail, using His people as a tool to bring the nations to Him. Wickedness will be crushed; the people will be saved. Righteousness will triumph.*

“Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases” (Psalm 115:3).



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“To whom, then, will you compare God? He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, then he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff” (Isaiah 40:18, 22-26).

God our Creator—the Almighty God asks, “To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal? Lift your eyes and look to the heavens. Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing” (Isaiah 40:25-26).

“I am the LORD, your Holy One, Israel’s Creator, your King” (Isaiah 43:15).

“Gog, of the land of Magog... ‘I am against you Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal... Persia Cush and Put will be with them... After many days [1,000 years Revelation 20:8] you will be called to arms.

“In future years you [Gog] will invade a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and now all of them live in safety. You and all your troops and the many nations with you will go up, advancing like a storm; you will be like a cloud covering the land... You will say, ‘I will invade a land of unwalled villages. I will attack a peaceful and unsuspecting people—all of them living without walls and without gates and bars. I will plunder and loot and turn my hand against the resettled ruins and the people gathered from the nations, rich in livestock and goods, living at the center of the land... This is what will happen in that day: When Gog attacks the land of Israel, my hot anger will be aroused... In my zeal and fiery wrath, I declare that at that time there shall be a great earthquake in the land of Israel... all the people of the face of the earth will tremble at my presence. The mountains will be overturned, the hills will crumble and every wall will fall to the ground. I will summon a sword against Gog... I will execute judgment upon him with plague and bloodshed; I will pour torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him. And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD’” (Ezekiel 38:2, 8-23). “On the mountains of Israel you will fall, you and all your troops and the nations with you” (Ezekiel 39:4). *The blessed kingdom of royal priests may appear to be an easy target in the millennial reign of Christ, but they have learned to trust in their God, the Almighty. They know God will protect them and He does with a fervor that will be witnessed by all of mankind. Gog and his armies come from the far north [the heavenly far north]. He is what is left of the rogue sons of God and he has an army. In time, God brings all of His enemies into judgment by using them as a tool to test the loyalty and faithfulness of His people and to show the nations that He is supreme and He will not tolerate rebellion and wickedness.*

*God has a plan for every nation on earth and an inheritance for those who repent. Turn to God now, **do not wait**. Repent, **do not linger**. Come into God’s shelter and **rest**.*

*Compiled by Janette Andrejowich*



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