

“Son of man, can these bones live?”



# THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

## SUMMARY

**Chapters 1-35:** Warnings to Jerusalem, the house of Judah and Israel about their destruction due to their sins, as well as judgement on the all of the heavenly beings given rulership over the nations who turned against God.

### PUNISHMENT ISSUED

**Chapter 36:** Survivors of the great tribulation

### THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

**Chapter 37:** Resurrection of the whole house of Israel and the reunification of the two houses under the rule of King David.

### END OF THE MILLENNIUM

**Chapters 38-39:** Destruction of rebels in heaven and earth in one final battle.

### THE NEW

**Chapters 40-48:** The NEW—temple, the priests, the people of Israel, and the nations.





## EZEKIEL Chapter 37

:1 “The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones”





## VERSE 1: Imagery

**Valley** = Lowest  
place ON earth =  
far from God

**Bones** = core of  
mortals is  
spiritually dead

**Full of bones** =  
everyone





## EZEKIEL Chapter 37

:2 "... led back and forth over them...great many... very dry bones"





## VERSE 2: Imagery

**Ezekiel was led  
over them** = he  
was their  
watchman

**A great many** = a  
countless many

**Very dry bones** =  
an ancient people





## EZEKIEL Chapter 37

Keil and Delitzsch note: “They were **lying upon the surface** of the valley, i.e., not under, but **upon the ground**, and not piled up in a heap, but **scattered over the valley**, and they were **very dry**.”





## VERSE 2: A Spiritual Story

**Scattered bones** = the whole house of Israel was scattered among the nations.

The dry bones **not buried** = a description of a spiritually dead but redeemable people—not in the grave

Bodies **separated** into bones = a broken people.





## VERSE 3: A Spiritual Story

:3 “Son of man, can these bones live?”

Keil and Delitzsch note, “**The question** asked by God, whether these bones could live, or come to life again, **prepares the way for the miracle.**”





“Son of man, can these bones live?”





## VERSE 4: A Spiritual Story

:4 “O Sovereign LORD,  
you alone know.”

Keil and Delitzsch note,  
“Ezekiel's answer implies  
that according to human  
judgement, it was  
inconceivable that they  
could come to life any  
more, and **nothing but  
the omnipotence of God  
could effect this.**





# VERSE 5 AND 6: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

:5 “This is what the Lord GOD says to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you will come to life”

:6 “I will attach tendons to you and make flesh grow upon you and cover you with skin. I will put breath within you so that you will come to life. **Then you will know that I am the LORD.**”





## VERSE 7: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

:7 “So I prophesied as I had been commanded. And as I prophesied, there was suddenly a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to bone.”





# VERSE 7: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

## IMPORTANT POINTS now coming to light:

- Ezekiel, the Watchman, prophesied as commanded
- The bones listened to his voice and obeyed, unlike when they were alive previously
- Bones moved, rattled, shook, began searching for all the parts of the whole body





## VERSE 7: Not a spiritual resurrection

**The FIRST RESURRECTION is initiated by:**

- The angels sent out with a loud trumpet call and people are gathered
- **The dead in the graves will hear CHRIST'S VOICE**
- The first resurrection will be done in order:  
The dead in Christ are raised first  
Then those who are alive
- Both groups will be caught up in the clouds.





## VERSE 7: Not a spiritual resurrection

**“Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed” (I Corinthians 15:52).**





# VERSE 7: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

## GOD'S OBJECTIVE:

- These people will listen to the warnings of His watchman, Ezekiel
- Ezekiel foresaw the fruits of his labour and the future resurrection back into mortal bodies of his people—all 12 tribes who will **finally LISTEN and OBEY.**
- Ezekiel, through the power of Almighty God will likely perform this resurrection.





# VERSE 8: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

## GOD CLOTHES THEM SO THEY ARE PROTECTED

:8 “As I looked on, tendons appeared on them, flesh grew, and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them.”

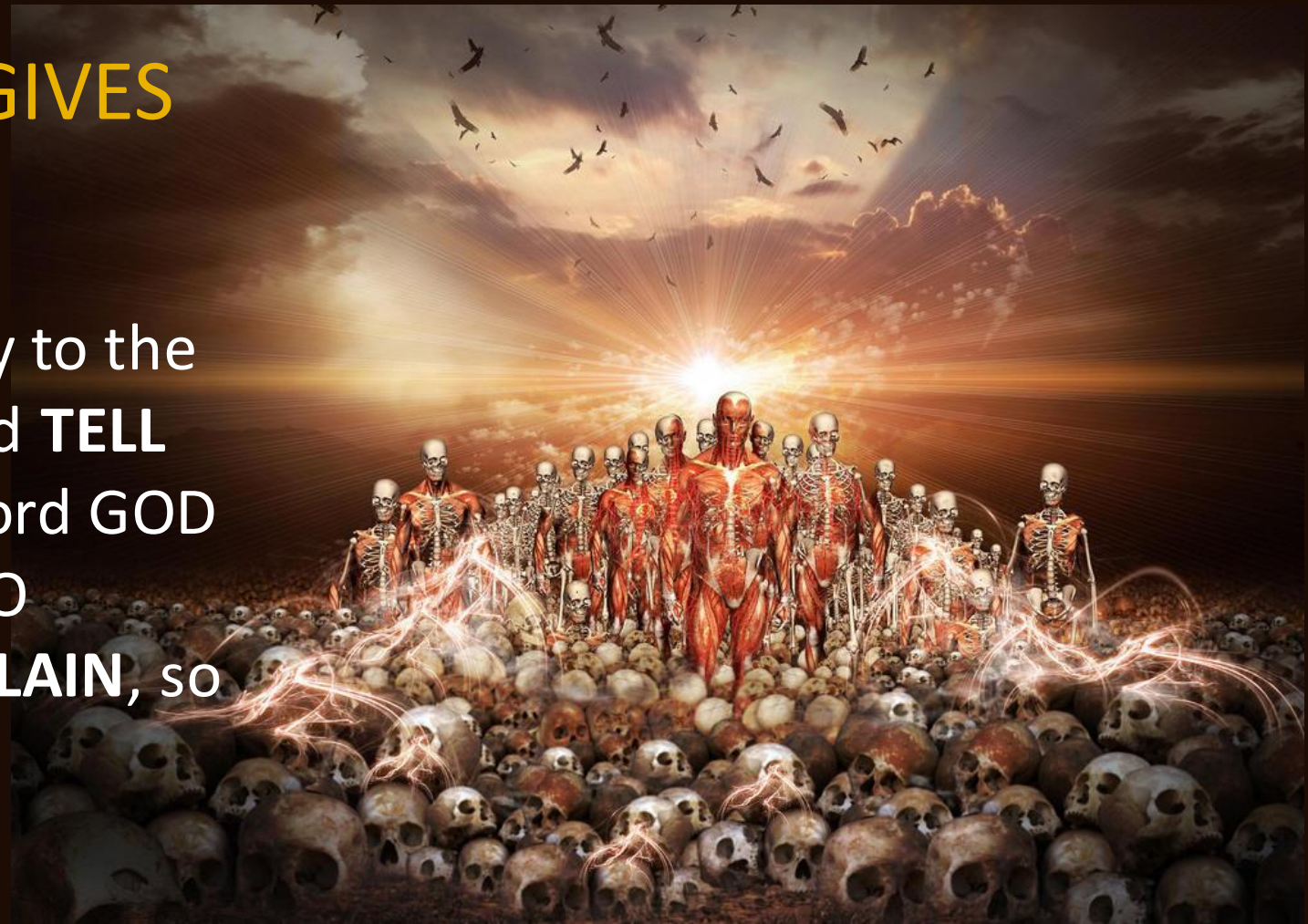




# VERSE 9: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

## THROUGH GOD, EZEKIEL GIVES THE BREATH OF LIFE

:9 “Then He said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and **TELL** the breath that this is what the Lord GOD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into **THESE SLAIN**, so that they may live!’”





# VERSE 10: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

THESE SLAIN, A VAST ARMY,  
STAND UP

:10 “So I prophesied as He had  
commanded me, and the breath  
entered them, and they came to life  
and stood on their feet—a vast army.”





## VERSE 10: Imagery

### GOD'S PEOPLE BATTLE AGAINST HIM

- **Slain** = killed in battle
- **Vast army** = a people armed against their God





# VERSE 11: A Spiritual story of coming to KNOW God

## CONFIRMED TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE—THE WHOLE HOUSE OF ISRAEL

:11 Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are **the whole house of Israel**. Look, they are saying, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope has perished; we are cut off.’





# VERSE 11: A Spiritual story of coming to KNOW God

**WITHOUT HOPE FOR  
FORGIVENESS, NO HOPE FOR  
LIFE ETERNAL—CUT OFF  
FROM GOD'S FAMILY**

:11 Then He said to me, “Son of man, these bones are **the whole house of Israel**. Look, they are saying, ‘**Our bones are dried up, and our hope has perished; we are cut off.**’





# VERSE 12: A Spiritual story of coming to KNOW God

## GOD WILL POUR OUT HIS GRACE ON THEM

:12 Therefore prophesy and tell them that this is what the Lord GOD says: 'O My people, I will open your graves and bring you up from them, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.'





## VERSE 12: Plain Language

- **O My people** = God's loves them
- **I will open your graves** = God will resurrect them
- **Bring them home** = back to His Holy Land - no longer to be a divided kingdom or scattered among the nations





# VERSE 13: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

**GOD AS LORD, GRACE GIVER**  
**NOT GOD AS KING, LAW**  
**MAKER**

:13 Then you, My people, will  
know that I am the **LORD**,  
when I open your graves and  
bring you up from them.





# VERSE 14: A Spiritual Story of coming to KNOW God

**GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT WILL  
POUR OUT INTO THEM AND  
THEY WILL LIVE SPIRITUAL  
LIVES**

:14 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 will do it, declares the LORD.’”





# ISRAEL: **God's Firstborn Son**

“Then tell Pharaoh that this is what the LORD says: ‘**Israel is My firstborn son**, and I told you to let My son go so that **he may worship Me**. But you have refused to let him go, so I **will kill your firstborn son!**’”  
(Exodus 4:22-23)





# ISRAEL: **God's Firstborn Son**

Israel is God's FIRSTBORN son. Along the timeline, ancient Israel will be first to be resurrected back into mortality, having lost the opportunity to be resurrected into immortality after they rebelled against God.

Families with only one son, refer to that son as their ONLY son. Families with multiple sons, identify the first son as their firstborn. The nations of the world are God's second, third... born sons.





# ISRAEL: God's Firstborn Son

## ONE OF GOD'S PRINCIPLES

“The first will be last and the last will be first” (Matthew 20:16).

Most of ancient Israel will not be the first to be resurrected into immortality, rather the many who are righteous in the latter days.





# THE GOD OF ISRAEL: **Great Designer, Engineer, Author**

## **WHO IS LIKE THE GOD OF ISRAEL?**

God, our Father in heaven, is the greatest designer and engineer. His penmanship takes the reader outside of time through multiple layers and dimensions. He uses imagery, mirroring, parables, stories, numbers and plain language to reveal every detail of His plan for mankind. It takes tenacity and an unrelenting explorer to find the hidden things woven carefully into the fabric of God's word. The story of the valley of dry bones is an exciting example of God's pen at work.





# THE NUMBER TWO: Imagery and plain language

## THE MIRACULOUS ONENESS OF NUMBER TWO

E. W. Bullinger states that the number “Two affirms that there is a **difference**—there is *another*... It is the first number by which we can *divide* another, and therefore in all its uses we may trace this fundamental idea of *division* or *difference*. This *difference* may be for good or for evil. A thing may differ from evil and be good; or it may differ from good and be evil. Hence, **the number Two takes a two-fold colouring**, according to the context.” <http://www.biblebelievers.org.au/number06.htm>



# THE NUMBER TWO: **Imagery and plain language**

## **EXAMPLES:**

- **God the Father** is the **author of law and the giver of grace**. Law and grace are different, but to be perfect they must be joined as ONE.
- The house of Judah and the house of Israel mirror law and grace. The two houses will be reunited into ONE kingdom mirroring the binding of law and grace into ONE lifestyle.
- God the Father is both **Highest Priest and Supreme King**. The roles and responsibilities of priest and king are different and presently divided on earth, but will be unified under the reign of Jesus Christ.
- National and religious leadership will have equal power and authority as a single institution.




2



# THE NUMBER TWO: **Imagery and plain language**

**EXAMPLES: The number 2 can make complete or divide**

- **First and second coming of Christ** brought forgiveness of sins and righteous rulership making our salvation complete.
- **Examples of division are apparent in the Two trees, two leaders:** Jesus Christ and Satan, in God's garden. One will be destroyed and One will reign eternal.
- **Wickedness and Righteousness:** Wickedness will be destroyed and righteousness will remain eternal.
- There are **two realms, one in heaven and one on earth**. Both realms will be made new once all things have been restored. To fulfill all of the work of God's great kingdom, both will operate as an intimate unity of equal value and honour. 

2

# “Son of man, can these bones live?”

The beginning of Christ's rule will be a riveting time. Resurrections and transformations will re-write history, family reunions will abound, desire to willingly obey God will increase like leaven across the planet. Righteousness will explode and light up life on earth.



## “Indeed, these bones will live!”





“Son of man, can these bones live?”

*Shalom*

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