

## **Revive Us Again!**

### **Part 4 – Reviving Dry Bones**

Scripture – Eze 37:1-14 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup> The LORD took hold of me, and I was carried away by the Spirit of the LORD to a valley filled with bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around among the bones that covered the valley floor. They were scattered everywhere across the ground and were completely dried out. <sup>3</sup> Then he asked me, “Son of man, can these bones become living people again?”

“O Sovereign LORD,” I replied, “you alone know the answer to that.”

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, “Speak a prophetic message to these bones and say, ‘Dry bones, listen to the word of the LORD! <sup>5</sup> This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again! <sup>6</sup> I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.’”

<sup>7</sup> So I spoke this message, just as he told me. Suddenly as I spoke, there was a rattling noise all across the valley. The bones of each body came together and attached themselves as complete skeletons. <sup>8</sup> Then as I watched, muscles and flesh formed over the bones. Then skin formed to cover their bodies, but they still had no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “Speak a prophetic message to the winds, son of man. Speak a prophetic message and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breathe into these dead bodies so they may live again.’”

<sup>10</sup> So I spoke the message as he commanded me, and breath came into their bodies. They all came to life and stood up on their feet—a great army.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones represent the people of Israel. They are saying, ‘We have become old, dry bones—all hope is gone. Our nation is finished.’ <sup>12</sup> Therefore, prophesy to them and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O

my people, I will open your graves of exile and cause you to rise again. Then I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> When this happens, O my people, you will know that I am the LORD. <sup>14</sup> I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live again and return home to your own land. Then you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken, and I have done what I said. Yes, the LORD has spoken!”

### 1. **Reality check (v1-2)**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD took hold of me, and I was carried away by the Spirit of the LORD to a valley filled with bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around among the bones that covered the valley floor. They were scattered everywhere across the ground and were completely dried out.

- Israel depicted as dry bones
- Bones described – Dry  
– Scattered
- Psa 137:1-4 (CEV) – Israel in Babylon

<sup>1</sup> Beside the rivers of Babylon we thought about Jerusalem, and we sat down and cried. <sup>2</sup> We hung our small harps on the willow trees. <sup>3</sup> Our enemies had brought us here as their prisoners, and now they wanted us to sing and entertain them. They insulted us and shouted, "Sing about Zion!" <sup>4</sup> Here in a foreign land, how can we sing about the LORD?

### 2. **Re-activate faith (v3-8)**

<sup>3</sup> Then he asked me, "Son of man, can these bones become living people again?"

"O Sovereign LORD," I replied, "you alone know the answer to that."

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Speak a prophetic message to these bones and say, 'Dry bones, listen to the word of the LORD! <sup>5</sup> This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again! <sup>6</sup> I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'"

*7 So I spoke this message, just as he told me. Suddenly as I spoke, there was a rattling noise all across the valley. The bones of each body came together and attached themselves as complete skeletons. 8 Then as I watched, muscles and flesh formed over the bones. Then skin formed to cover their bodies, but they still had no breath in them.*

- V3 – God's question to Ezekiel and his response
- "Sovereign Lord" – Jehovah Adonai
- V4 – Ezekiel commanded to prophesy to the bones
- Differentiate "Logos" and "Rhema"
- 2 Cor 4:13 (TNIV)

*13 It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak,*

- V7 and 8 – Bones rattling and reconnecting

### 3. Release the wind of the Spirit (v9-10)

*9 Then he said to me, "Speak a prophetic message to the winds, son of man. Speak a prophetic message and say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breathe into these dead bodies so they may live again.'"*

*10 So I spoke the message as he commanded me, and breath came into their bodies. They all came to life and stood up on their feet—a great army.*

- "Breath" – Ruach
- The wind of the Spirit – John 20:22 (NCV), Gen 2:7 (NLT), Acts 2:2 (TNIV)

John 20:22 (NCV)

*After he said this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.*

Gen 2:7 (NLT)

*7 Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.*

Acts 2:2 (TNIV)

*2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

- The results of reviving:

- Mighty army (v10b)

*...They all came to life and stood up on their feet—a great army.*

- Rise up (v12b)

*O my people, I will open your graves of exile and cause you to rise again. Then I will bring you back to the land of Israel.*

- Know God (v13)

*13 When this happens, O my people, you will know that I am the LORD.*

- Abiding spirit (v14a)

*...I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live again and return home to your own land.*

- Settled (v14b)

*...Then you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken, and I have done what I said. Yes, the LORD has spoken!"*