



April 19, 2020

“... set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones ... and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry.”

I. The Prophet and the Place (Eze. 37:1-2)

- A. Ezekiel the Prophet
- B. A man of many visions
- C. The Babylonian captivity and hope of restoration
- D. The presence and power of God “Hand ... on me” “... by the Spirit of the Lord”
- E. The place – “a valley” – “full of bones” – “very dry” – What happened?

II. The Problems – A Picture of a Dry Soul

- A. Dead – disconnected and purposeless – Unconfessed sin causes disconnection
Reviving: Repent & Confess known sins
- B. Dry – lifeless and empty – Dull duty stuck in a rut – empty spiritual practices
Reviving: Return to the basic faith and love you started with
- C. Defeated – hopeless and deserted – physical, emotional pain – grief and stress
Reviving: Take a sabbatical or retreat with the Lord to heal
- D. Despised by God and men – exposed and left alone – loneliness and self-hate
Reviving: Spend time with encouraging friends and pray with each other
- E. Disciplined by God – Israel is being “cleansed” & “Pruned” (Eze. 37:11)
Reviving: Accept God’s discipline as a “child of God” and expect a breakthrough

III. The Perspective – (Q & A) (Eze. 37:3)

- A. “Son of man” (93 times) – refers to the weakness of humanity (Jesus – 88 times in the N.T.)
- B. “I am the Lord” (92 times) - again the Lord is asking the question
- C. Key Question: “Can these bones live?” – Is there still hope?
‘etsem chayah – can ordinary bones be revived?
- D. Impossible to humanity – but very possible with God
- E. Perfect answer: “O Lord” – ‘Adonay
“God” – Yahweh
“You Know” – Yada’