

Breath for Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

Introduction: *That old gospel song – “Dem Bones, dem bones, dem dry bones”*

- I. THE PROPHET EZEKIEL, IN A VISION, WAS IN A VALLEY OF DRY BONES (**Ezekiel 37**)
 - A. The vision was that of the utter destruction & hopelessness of Israel
 - B. Imagine yourself in one of the large military cemeteries with all the white crosses...
 - C. The voice of God asks – **“Can these bones live?” (v. 3)**

- II. CAN ‘DRY BONES’ LIVE... CAN DEFEAT & HOPELESSNESS TURN INTO VICTORY & HOPE?
 - A. Ezekiel says – **“O LORD God, You Know...” (v.4)**
 - B. We would say – *“I don’t see a way, God... maybe You know a way.”*
 - C. In his vision, Ezekiel saw the ‘dry bones’ come back to life with flesh & blood
 - D. There was hope for Israel & there is hope for us...even when all seems hopeless

- III. WHAT IS GOD’S ‘DRY BONES’ MESSAGE TO US TODAY?
 - A. Who of us have not “stood beside the grave” of our hopes & dreams?
 - B. We cry out with Ezekiel- **“Can these ‘bones’ live?”**
 - C. Along with Ezekiel, we are realistic – sometimes, humanly speaking, there is no hope.
 - D. But with Ezekiel we hope in God – **“O LORD God, You know...” (Matt. 19:26, Luke 1:37)**
 - E. And with Ezekiel, we do what God asks & watch Him take care of all the details (**vv. 5-10**)

- IV. GOD INDEED PROVIDES ‘BREATH FOR DRY BONES’!
 - A. He gives us ‘breath’, ‘spirit’... *“a second wind”!*
 - B. In the death & resurrection of our Lord Jesus, we ‘dry bones’ are given new life! (**Rom. 8:11**)
 - C. Our God specializes in hope, in new life, in *“second winds”*

Conclusion: **“Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones.... hear the Word of the LORD!”**