#### **SERMON OUTLINE - SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018**

## **Can Dry Bones Live?**

(Ezekiel 37:1-14)

INTRODUCTION: That old gospel song -"Dem Bones, dem bones, dem dry bones"

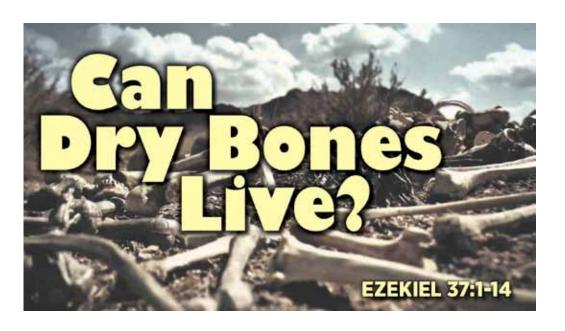
# I. THE PROPHET EZEKIEL, IN A VISION, WAS IN A VALLEY OF DRY BONES (Ezekiel 37)

- 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..."** (Matthew 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! (Romans 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!"