

Dry Bones & Sticks

Lesson 9

Ezekiel 37

Dry Bones - Ezekiel 37:1-14

The valley of dry bones vision of Ezekiel is one of the more familiar passages in the Bible. A song was written about, "*The hip bone connected to the thigh bone,*" that most people have heard if not sung. Today we will look at this vision in its context and discover what the Lord was revealing through this vision.

1. Once again the Spirit of the Lord lifted Ezekiel up. Where was he set down? (Ezekiel 37:1)
2. As he was led back and forth, what did he observe? (Ezekiel 37:2)
3. What do you think the dryness of the bones was pointing out to Ezekiel?
4. The Lord asked, "*Son of man, can these bones live?*" How would you have answered the Lord?
5. How did Ezekiel answer the Lord? (Ezekiel 37:3b)
6. Ezekiel was then given a command. What was he told to do? (Ezekiel 37:4) Please comment.
7. Ezekiel was to speak on behalf of the Lord. What was he to say? (Ezekiel 37:5)

8. What two-part process would take place causing this to happen? (Ezekiel 37:6a)

9. Why does the Lord say He will do this? (Ezekiel 37:6b)

10. What would this have brought to mind for Ezekiel? (Genesis 2:7)

11. Ezekiel did as the Lord commanded; then while he was prophesying what happened? (Ezekiel 37:7 & 8)

12. What was Ezekiel to prophesy to next? (Ezekiel 37:9a)

13. What was he to say? (Ezekiel 37:9b)

14. Ezekiel obeyed the Lord again; now what took place? (Ezekiel 37:10)

15. After this part of the vision was completed, the Lord explained to Ezekiel the meaning of what he had just seen. Who did these bones represent? (Ezekiel 37:11a)

16. What was the significance of the dryness? (Ezekiel 37:11b)

17. Therefore, Ezekiel was to deliver another prophecy. So far he has spoken to bones (vs. 4) and breath (vs. 9). Using verse 12 - 14:
 - Who is the message to be delivered this time?

 - What is the prophetic message?

- What is the purpose for doing this?
- How will this be accomplished?
- Who will do this?

18. Take a moment to reflect on this story of the dry bones. What can we learn about the character of God through this story?

- Is there a lesson here for us today?

Sticks - Ezekiel 37:15-28

19. *"The word of the Lord came to me: 'Son of man, take a stick of wood and write on it.' "* What was he to write? (Ezekiel 37:16a)

20. *"Then take another stick of wood and write on it."* What was he to write on the second stick? (Ezekiel 37:16b)

21. What was he to do with these two sticks? (Ezekiel 37:17)

22. What did these two sticks represent? (1 Kings 11:9-13 & 29-36)

23. When the people asked what the sticks meant, what was to be his answer? (Ezekiel 37:21-23)

24. There is a heavy emphasis on "I will" in the explanation. List the action words connected with the "I will's" in verses 20-23.

25. The Lord is the one who will bring all these things to pass. Why do you think it was important for the exiles to know this?

26. Verse 24 says, "My servant David will be king over them..." David died around 970 B.C.; this event is taking place sometime after 586 B.C. What did the Lord mean when He said, "David will be king"? (2 Samuel 7:8, 9, 11c-13 & 16)

27. What was the Lord looking for in Israel's kings? (1 Samuel 16:7)

28. In 1 Samuel 13, the prophet Samuel was speaking to Israel's first king, Saul. He told Saul he had acted foolishly because he did not keep the commands the Lord had given to him. Because of Saul's disobedience, the Lord would give the kingdom to someone else. History tells us that God's choice was David. How did the Lord describe David to king Saul? (1 Samuel 13:14)

29. When Israel has the Lord's servant "David" as their king, list the results for the people. (Ezekiel 37:24-27)

30. What will be the result among all the nations? (Ezekiel 37:28)

31. Review verses 24 - 28. How long did the Lord say this would last?