

REVIVAL: Experience Resurrection

EZEKIEL 37:1-14

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: Revival

Because Christ Lives Our Hope Never Dies

1. Examine Resurrection **Possibility** (1-3, 11).

2. Embrace Resurrection **Preaching** (4-9).

3. Expect Resurrection **Priorities** (6, 10-14).

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know."

⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live."

¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord." (ESV).

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

These questions are for further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help your fight for life change. One of the best ways to grow in the body is discussing the answers to these questions in a small group. Find one here: www.centralchurch.com/groups

1. This sermon confronts the hopelessness around those needing revival. The need for revival can take many shapes and forms. It can be a church, a person, or a nation that needs revival. It might be experienced by people recommitting to Christ, experiencing new closeness to God, or altogether new people being saved, growing in number. For Israel, resurrection seemed impossible, and they were too far gone. What's the impossible spiritual situation before you that needs revival? A person, a personal feeling, a national burden?
2. **Read 2 Timothy 4:2 & 1 Corinthians 1:21.** In Pastor Matt's second point, we see the priority of preaching. Why is it important to emphasize the importance of the preached Word in your life? How will you make a habit of this?
3. **Read the G. Campbell Morgan Quote below.** As you read this passage, what are God's priorities and goals in revival? How does this differ from and reorient our priorities? How do God's priorities inform our next steps to "set our sails to catch the wind from heaven?"



Quote for the Week. . . by G. Campbell Morgan

"We cannot organize revival, but we can set our sails to catch the wind from Heaven when God chooses to blow upon His people once again."