

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

EZEKIEL 37

Ezekiel 37

Ezekiel thirty-seven is a very well-known portion of the book, probably best known, and perhaps the most misinterpreted of all Ezekiel's prophesies. Ezekiel thirty-seven is the prophesy of the "Valley of Dry Bones" which Ezekiel experienced as God pulled back the curtain on the future of the nation of Israel. The prophet was taken to a valley filled with very dry bones, whitewashed, and obviously there for some time. God began to ask Ezekiel a question, "Can these bones live?" Ezekiel immediately replied, "O Lord God, You know." The Lord then proceeded to instruct Ezekiel to prophesy to the bones and things began to happen. Bone and bone connected, God began to put these bones together that lay scattered and soon, not just one man, but an army had been assembled from the scattered bones. God breathed life into these bones, and they lived. **"Then He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' 'Therefore, prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: 'Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves and bring you into the land of Israel. Then you shall,**

know that I am the Lord when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken it and performed it," says the Lord." (Ezekiel 37:11-14)

This is a prophesy about the "rebirth" of the nation of Israel. A prophesy with a dual fulfillment. The first fulfillment was in 538-535 B.C. during the days of King Cyrus. The king issued a decree in 538 B.C. that all the Jews in Babylon, who had been taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar, could go back to their homeland and Jerusalem, and rebuild the temple for a worship center for God's people, the Jews. But a greater fulfillment was to take place in the future. The present generation in which you are living has seen the final fulfillment of this prophecy in 1948 A.D. Modern day Israel became a nation in one day!

Prayer and Action Steps

Thank you, God, that you are still fulfilling Bible prophesy in this present day! Amen

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
