



#### **A Mighty Army**

<sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

37 The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

- Judah exiled to Babylon in 597 BC
- Ezekiel: part of the remnant exiled to Babylon
- Eze 33-38: Oracles of consolation for nation of Israel
- Eze 37: prophet brought to a valley

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Eze 37.11 Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.'

#### Consider...

- Are we also feel like this sometimes?
- Are you feeling like this now? Try something?
- Is this the final condition?

<sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! <sup>5</sup> This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. <sup>6</sup> I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'"

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

<sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

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- New life!
- Why army? Battle!

## 3. An army to know the King and make him known (Eze 37.11-14)

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13 Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. <sup>14</sup> I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD."

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- They will know that I am the LORD (vv.6 & 14. 65 times in Ezekiel)
- *The Sovereign LORD* (vv.3, 5, 9, 12)

# 3. An army to know the King and make him known (Eze 37.11-14)

covenant. I will establish them and increase their numbers, and I will put my sanctuary among them forever. <sup>27</sup> My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>28</sup> Then the nations will know that I the LORD make Israel holy, when my sanctuary is among them forever."

Cf. Rev 21.3?

- Study of Matthew: Experiencing the King, Living out the Kingdom.
- Who is the King?



- Study of Matthew: Experiencing the King, Living out the Kingdom.
- Who is the King?
- Who is the army? Want to be the army?



- Study of Matthew: Experiencing the King, Living out the Kingdom.
- Who is the King?
- Who is the army? Want to be the army?
- Army with a mission focus and discipline
- Called to <u>active duty together</u>!



### **Conclusion & Response**

- Formed by the word, filled by the Spirit, focused on the mission?
- Let us arise!
- As a mighty army of the King!

