

## Ezekiel 37:1-14

### The Bones

*From skeletal remains ...*

#### I. Death Valley

- A. The Picture of Despair
- B. Can These Bones Live?

#### II. The Live-Giving God

- A. The Living Word
- B. The Breath of Life

#### III. Resurrection Power

- A. The Living Christ
- B. The Power of the Gospel

... an exceedingly great army.

Children, Listen ...

1. What did Ezekiel see in his vision in the valley?
  2. What comes to mind when you think of the scene he found there at first?
  3. What did God tell Ezekiel he should do?
  4. What happens when Ezekiel obeys God?
  5. How did the scene change by the end of Ezekiel's vision?
- What come to mind now?

### Dry-boned Desperation

“Dry-boned desperation” may sound like the name of a Punk Band from the 70's but it is really an apt description of the spiritual condition Israel had found itself in due to its defiance of God. While there were obviously godly individuals among the people, the overall condition of God's nation as a whole was desperate. Their lament is spot on: *'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'* It is against that backdrop that Ezekiel is given a graphic vision that certainly edges on creepy, but at the same time visualizes God's life-giving work of salvation. God gives life to the lifeless through the power of His Word and regenerating “breath” of the Holy Spirit. What a wonderful expression of the Gospel that comes to masses of sinners dead in trespasses and sins and through ministry of the Spirit makes them into a vast army of new creations in Christ Jesus the Lord. Can desperate dry-as-a-bone dead souls live? Yes! But only by the mighty work of God, through His resurrected Son, applied by the Spirit as declared in His Word.