Breath of Hope: Revival from the Valley of Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel 37:1–14 (NIV)

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. ² 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. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

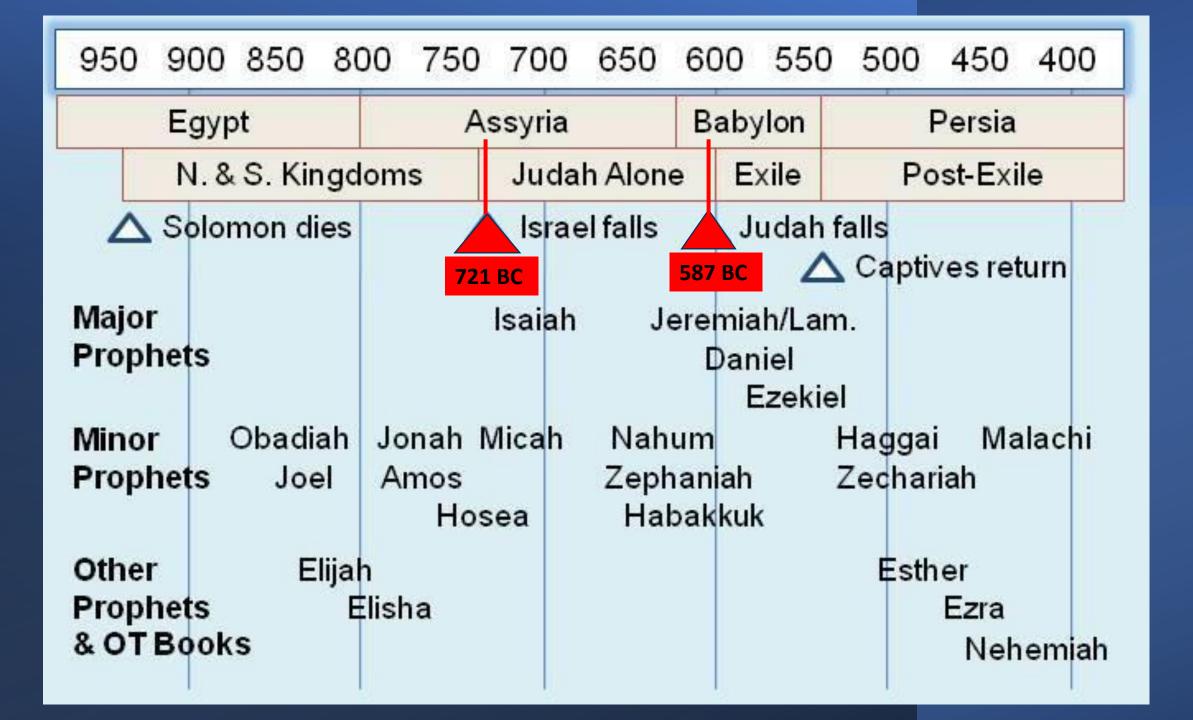
⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I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

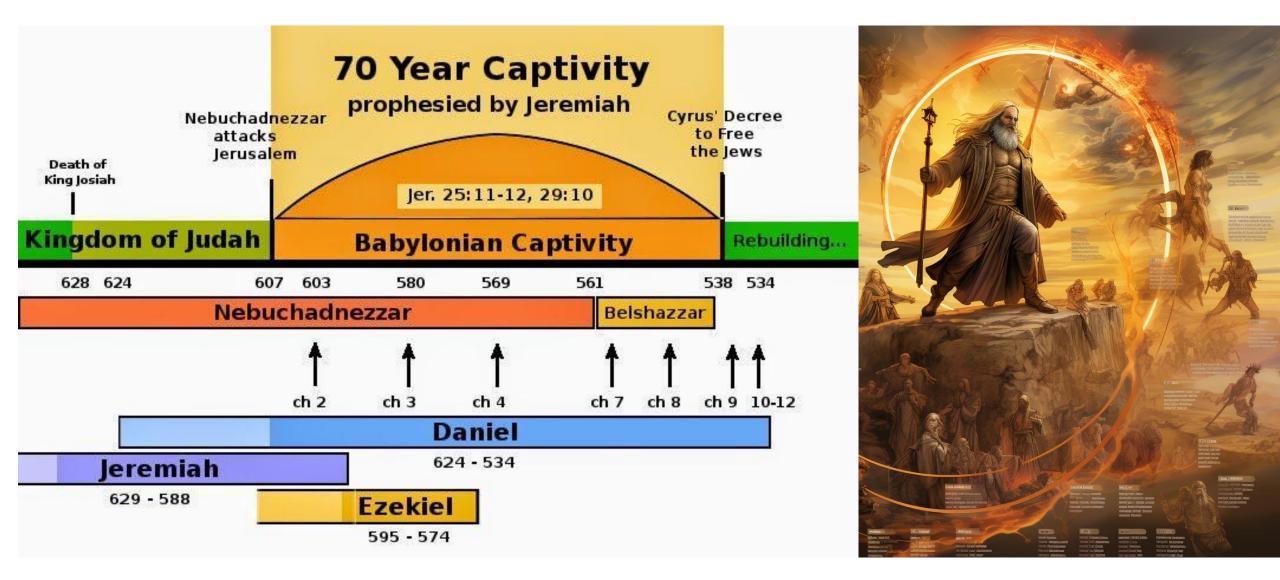
⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Ezekiel 37:1–14 (NIV)

⁹ 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.' "¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

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.' 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. ¹⁴ 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.' "







Sea

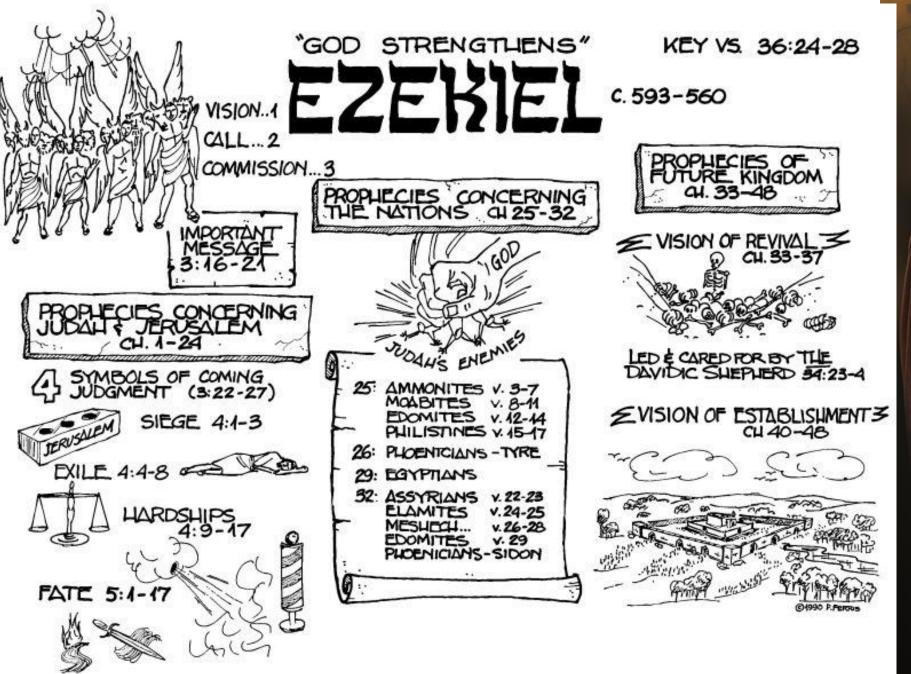
BABYLONIAN EMPIRE 606-536 BC

Mediterranean Sea

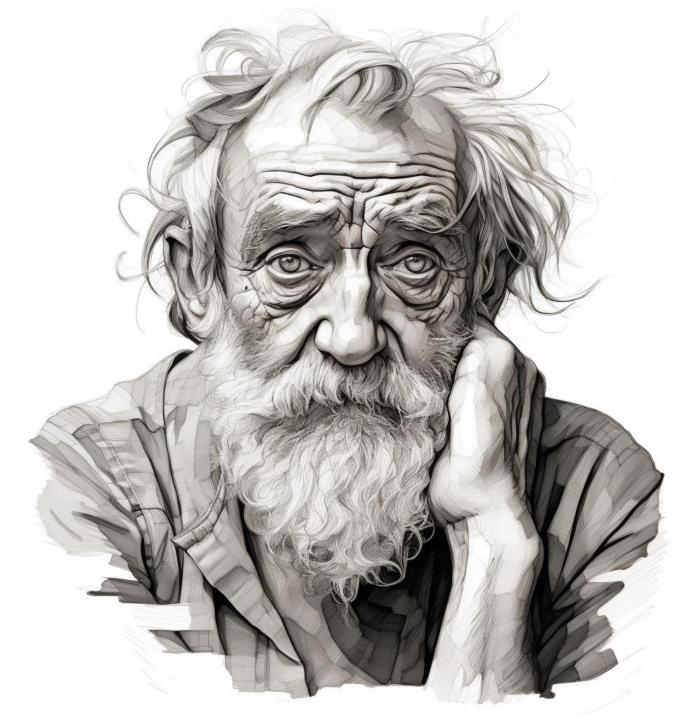
Jerusalem

Red

Babylon







Ezekiel 37:1-14

I. The Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-2) II. The Question of Possibility (Ezekiel 37:3) III. Prophesying to the Bones (Ezekiel 37:4-6) IV. The Bones Come Together (Ezekiel 37:7-8) V. The Breath of Life (Ezekiel 37:9-10) VI. The Meaning Revealed (Ezekiel 37:11-14)

I. The Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-2)

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. ² 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.

A. The Hopeless Situation

- 1. Israel's Despair Represented by dry bones scattered in the valley.
- 2. A Picture of Death and Hopelessness The condition of the bones as 'very dry' signifies complete lifelessness.



II. The Question of Possibility (Ezekiel 37:3)

³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

A. "Can These Bones Live?"

- 1. God's Question to Ezekiel Challenging human doubt and inviting faith.
- 2. Our Own Valleys Reflecting on areas of our lives that seem beyond hope.

III. Prophesying to the Bones (Ezekiel 37:4-6)

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A. The Command to Speak Life

- 1. The Power of Prophetic Declaration Ezekiel's obedience to speak as commanded.
- 2. The Promise of Revival God's assurance of putting breath in the bones.

IV. The Bones Come Together (Ezekiel 37:7-8)

⁷ 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. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

- A. The Sound of Hope The rattling as bones come together.
- **B.** The Process of Reconstruction Sinews, flesh, and skin; a process indicating gradual restoration.

V. The Breath of Life (Ezekiel 37:9-10)

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- A. The Call to the Four Winds Inviting the Spirit from all directions.
- **B.** The Infusion of Life Breath enters the bodies, illustrating the reviving work of the Spirit.

VI. The Meaning Revealed (Ezekiel 37:11-14)

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A. The Resurrection of a Nation

Israel's Restoration - The bones are the house of Israel, receiving new life.
Our Assurance - The Spirit of God revitalizes our dry areas.



Ezekiel 37:1-14



Reaffirming the Message of Hope

• No situation is too dead for God's reviving power.

The Challenge to Speak Life

• Encouraging us to speak life into our 'valleys.'

The Invitation to Experience Revival

• An open call for those seeking spiritual renewal.

 Seeking the breath of God to bring new life to every dry area of our lives

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