

Valley of Dry Bones

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. He led me to and fro among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?'

I said, 'Sovereign Lord, you alone know.'

Ezekiel 37: 1-3

That is why the real problem of the Christian life comes where people do not usually look for it. It comes the very moment you wake up each morning. All your wishes and hopes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists simply in shoving them all back; in listening to that other voice, taking that other point of view, letting that other larger, stronger, quieter life come flowing in. And so on, all day. Standing back from all your natural fussings and frettings; coming in out of the wind.

We can only do it for moments at first. But from those moments the new sort of life will be spreading through our system: because now we are letting Him work at the right part of us. It is the difference between paint, which is merely laid on the surface, and a dye or stain which soaks right through.

C S Lewis, Mere Christianity 198-199

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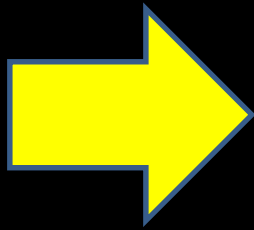
I said, 'Sovereign Lord, you alone know.'

Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones and say to them, "Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!'

Ezekiel 37: 3-4

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

Ezekiel 37: 10



Return
from
Exile



Birth of
the
Church



Age to
Come

Ezekiel's Viewpoint



Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, 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."'

Ezekiel 37: 9

Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2 Corinthians 1: 21-22