

## Ezekiel 37:4

*Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!'"*

It seems like everyone is talking about and praying for revival in the USA and the world. But we cannot pray for revival for the entire world because revival only happens to those who are believers, which would be the Church, and not the entire world. Also, this prophecy in Ezekiel was for Israel to be revived, not other nations. But it does not mean that revival cannot happen in the Church, because we know that it has, and I am a result of the tail end of the last revival, because I got saved in the late 70's.

As you think about this, notice in today's verse that the dead bones had to "**hear the word of the LORD**" before they came back to life (Revived). So, for the Church, it will be revived when it starts hearing the word of the Lord again. Some will read that and say that the church that they go to does teach the word of the Lord, even verse by verse. But read the next couple of verses in Ezekiel:

† **Ezekiel 37:5-6** *Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD."*

Notice God said "**I will**" meaning Him alone, not "**I will cause breath to enter into you**" but also that the bones will be injected with medications or put back together by man, but rather that "**I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live.**" With our emphasis being on the word "**I**" which would be the Lord.

I have to wonder that even though churches are teaching God's word, if they are also adding the things of this world by injecting it with nonspiritual things and the work of men's hands, and not allowing the Holy Spirit to do the work? In a sense, some are using artificial additives, which are the things of this world to try and bring back life into the church, or even draw others to come to church, instead of allowing the Holy Spirit to fill the church so that the Church can be the Church again?

How many will speak of revival, but never truly allow the Holy Spirit to start a revival in their own church or even in themselves? I have to include myself in this statement, because even I pray for revival, yet am I truly allowing the Holy Spirit to work in my life like He wants to be doing, or am I trying to do things with my own efforts, therefore I see nothing happening spiritually in my life?

Think about this, what if we spent time praying for revival, and healing, and restoration for the church, and not just a few passing phrases in the midst of our prayer time, but actually stopping and spending time crying out to God as a church and also individually, and not just crying out to God, but also fasting, seeking His will for the church and our own lives to be revived?

But do we even know about fasting and is it being taught anymore and practiced in the churches? Did not Jesus say “*When you fast*” not “if” you fast.

† **Matthew 6:17** *But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,*

What would happen if the entire Church (big “C”) started fasting and praying and seeking God for revival?

What if the church we went to started fasting and praying and seeking the Lord for revival?

What would happen if we, as individuals, started fasting and praying and seeking the Lord for revival?

Church, it’s time to stop talking about revival, and to start truly praying and seeking God on our faces with fasting for revival. It’s time to get the junk out of our churches and start to “*hear the word of the LORD*” again with no artificial additives included in God’s word. Some will do what they call “a Daniel Fast.” But what if we prayed like Daniel did as well?

† **Daniel 9:3-5** *Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments."*