

Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

05/24/2020

For over 2,600 years the Jewish people have not been in control of their capital or their country. Their refusal to submit to God and follow His instructions brought their **defeat** and the **destruction** of their Temple and the **devastation** of the land God promised them. Even when Jews have been living within the borders of Israel they have been under the political rule of another country.

God gave the prophet Ezekiel a glimpse of the future. A hint as to what would happen partially in the short-term and what would happen fully in the long run.

- I. Jews Coming Together (7)
- II. Jews Joining Together (8a)
- III. Jews Growing Together (8b)
- IV. Jews Worshiping Together (9-10)

In the short-term this referred to the destruction of the land and temple and the removal of the Jews to Babylon in 586 B.C. Seventy years later they would return to the land from Babylon and rebuild Jerusalem and their Temple and reclaim the land from the ravages of war.

In the long-term this refers to the destruction of the land and temple and dispersion of the Jews in 70 A.D. They would return to their land from every country of the world and reclaim the land from the ravages of centuries of war and worship their God who called them and made them into His own special people. The first three seem to be happening in a considerable way since May 14, 1948.

- ✓ They were given permission to return to their land and they have returned in huge numbers.
 - The 1950 "Law of the Return" granted all Jews the automatic right to immigrate to Israel.
 - The 1952 "Citizenship Law" granted every Jewish immigrant instant citizenship the moment his foot touched Israeli soil
- ✓ They have reclaimed the desolate landscape into some of the most productive agricultural land in the world.
- ✓ They have developed industry, natural resources, and made amazing medical advances.
- ✓ They will have a national revival someday in the future (Ezekiel 37:22-38)

So What?

- As followers of Jesus we should study Israel
- As followers of Jesus we should pray for Israel
- As followers of Jesus we should support Israel
- As followers of Jesus we should watch Israel

"For the Jew, the road back has been long and hard. But he has had to travel it because what began in Jerusalem must end there. One day the throne must replace the cross, the crown of gold the crown of thorns, the glory the infamy, the triumph the tragedy. And when the Beloved City surmounts its last crisis, it will be given, in the words of Isaiah, 'beauty for ashes, and the oil of joy for mourning...when the Lord of hosts shall reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem'" ([Jerusalem](#), Charles Gultson)