

SERMON OUTLINE

3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sunday Morning 10/21/07

“What God Can Do: Give Us Life”

I. Topic to be Discussed

- A. The Valleys in Life: In life's journey the key to survival - making it through the valleys and not letting the peaks go to your head
- B. Ezekiel's Vision of the Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-10)
 - 1. Ezekiel 37:11-14 - Israel is the valley of dry bones
 - 2. They say - "Our hope has perished, we are cut off"
 - 3. I will give them life again, live again, know Me

II. The Time-Line of Events in the History of Israel

- A. Joshua 23:3-7 - Joshua's Final Message to Israel (~ 1500 BC)
- B. 1 Kings 12:28 - Rebellion of Israel - Division (930--721 BC)
- C. 2 Kings 21:12-15 - The Sin of Judah (930--606 BC)

III. God Wants Them to Learn From Their Experience

- A. Recognize Your Arrogance and Rebellion
 - 1. Ezekiel 36:16-19 - The Sins of the People
 - 2. Progress Comes When We SEE Reality (Truth): Isaiah 1:15-20
- B. Lessons in the Valley: A Time of Guilt & Humiliation
 - 1. Ezekiel 36:19-21 - The Spiritual Havoc We Create
 - 2. How Many Have Experienced This? Jonah 2:5-6; David: Psalm 51:3-5; Peter: Matthew 26:75; = The Valley of Dry Bones!!!
- C. Recognize Your Absolute Need for God
 - 1. Ezekiel 36:22-28 - God Will Do It, He will show His Power
 - 2. Do We See The Need? View selves as "good" people?
- D. Experience True Blessings
 - 1. Ezekiel 36:33-38 - Blessings will Flow for the Glory of God
 - 2. Would They Have Dreamed This?

IV. How Does This Happen??

- A. Why Do We Take God's Blessings for Granted? (Arrogance)
 - 1. We think we deserve them; We forget the good God has done; We desire to spend the blessing on ourselves; We forget the purpose of the blessing; We trust in ourselves.
- B. Walk Among the Dry Bones: Ezekiel 36:20 - Sin hurts
- C. Recognize Your Need for God: Trust in Him
- D. Praise & Honor God for His Blessings: Ezek 36:37; Philippians 4:13

V. Conclusion

- A. Humble yourself and trust God, learn and grow in the valleys
- B. Watch God work in your life as you trust Him