

Scripture Reading - Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of God came upon me, and God brought me out by the spirit of God and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. God led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. God said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O GOD, you know. "Then God said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of God. Thus says GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am God."

So, I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then God said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as God commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then God said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely. Therefore, prophecy and say to them: Thus says GOD: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am God when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you

shall know that I, God, have spoken and will act," says
God.