

Raising the Dead

by David Wilkerson

The sermon 'Raising the Dead' by David Wilkerson emphasizes the importance of spiritual awakening and restoration, using the prophecy of Ezekiel 37 as a call to action.

Duration: 1:06:00

Scripture: Ezekiel 37:11, Acts 1:6-7, Acts 1:21, Acts 2:11, Revelation 1:12

Topics: "Spiritual Revival", "Faith Healing"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of giving one's heart to Jesus and seeking forgiveness for sins. He shares a story about a man from Nigeria who, after hearing a voice calling him to preach the gospel, leaves his job and becomes a powerful evangelist. The preacher then discusses the power of prophecy and the ability to raise the dead, referencing a song that speaks about anarchy and violence in the streets. He concludes by describing a vision of death and the need for people to respond to God's call for life.

Transcript

This message is one of the Times Square Pulpit series. It was recorded in the Sanctuary of Times Square Church in Manhattan, New York City. Other tapes are available by writing to Royal Challenge, P.O. Box 260, Linville, Texas 75771 or calling 214-963-8626.

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Valley of Dry Bones. You know this chapter very well. In fact, there was a time everybody in America was singing, them bones, them bones, them dry bones.

You ever wonder, you know, what bones connected to the head bone and the head bone to the shoulder bone and the knee bone to the leg bone? All it was was a song. It's more than a song, folks. It's prophecy.

Powerful prophecy. Raising the dead. Now, just keep your Bible open there because I'll be taking you through this chapter tonight.

Before we begin, I want to read to you an article. Just leave your Bible open there. We'll get to that in just a moment.

Anarchy in the streets. You've heard my message. The last days of America.

This is my song. This is in a new song that's just been released. The lyrics are in a song called Hold On.

Anarchy in the streets. Just listen to these words. There's blacks with knives and whites with guns fighting in Howard Beach.

There's no such thing as human rights when you walk the New York streets. A cop was shot in the head by a 10-year-old kid named Peter in Central Park last week. Their fathers and daughters are lined up by the coffins by the Statue of Liberty.

You'd better hold on. Something's happening here. You'd better hold on.

A meteor in Thompson Square. A broker sent a message to the cops last weekend. Then they shot him in the car where he sat.

There's a rampage of waves rising up like a plague of bloody fires washing up on the beach. It'll take more than angels or Iron Mike Tyson to heal this bloody breach. A joker ran down a lady.

A pregnant dancer. She never danced, but the baby was saved. He shot up from China White and nodded out at the wheel and he definitely meant no harm.

They shot that old lady because they thought she was a witness to a crime she didn't even see. His home is in the home of the brave by the Statue of Liberty. You've got a big black 38 and a gravity knife.

You still have to ride the train. There's the smelly essence of New York down there. But you ain't read the line of gifts.

There's no Morphe Morphe to fight in your corner for that 15 minutes of fame. The haves and the have-nots are bleeding in the tub. That's New York's future, not mine.

All you people, you'd better hold on. Something's happening here. You'd better hold on.

Now folks, this is secularism. This is not from a spiritual mind. Now, what's it like living in New York City? And when I talk about New York City, I'm talking about the megacountry, including New York, New Jersey, the entire megaplex.

The prophecy of chapter 37 says New York is Boom City. Boom City. The Valley of Dry Bones, as they call it.

Verse 1 in chapter 37, the hand of the Lord was upon me and took me out in the speed of the wind and sent me down in the midst of the valley which is full of bones and caused me to pass by the man of the boat. And behold, there were many in the open valley, and many that were very dry. Very many, very dry.

Now, this vision in the Valley of Dry Bones is being made by most of you. You know this. You've heard it in Sunday school.

Now, some think that this chapter refers only to the restoration of natural Israel. That's all that they see. They don't get any further because they take this from verse 11.

Then he said unto me, he said, O man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. But keep in mind, the whole house of Israel. Spiritual Israel and natural Israel.

You see, it's not a prophecy just to natural Israel. It's a prophecy that's due, a prophecy for spiritual Israel and natural Israel. Are you having trouble with that in your world? Are we all right? Okay.

Okay. But you see, Ezekiel 37, verse 21. Let's begin to read.

And he said unto them, Thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whether they be gone, and will gather them on every side and bring them into their own land. And I'm going to show you that that land is not just a natural land, but that has to do with a place in Jesus Christ. You know that the land you and I are going to is Jesus? That He is our inheritance? How many other inheritance other than Jesus Christ? Do you have any other inheritance other than Jesus? I don't.

Jesus Christ alone is my total inheritance. I don't want anything other than that. And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel.

That means the middle land that this will be broken down will be the Jew and the Gentile, will be one in Christ. When kings have been king to them, and they shall be no more two nations, neither shall they be divided into two kingdoms any more at all, neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with the betest of the things, nor with any of the transgressions. But I will save them out of all their dwelling places.

That's what He did for every sinner that's in this place. We've all been saved from our dwelling places of sin. I will save them out of their dwelling places where they've sinned, and will cleanse them so they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

And I will bring with my servants and the king over them. Now look at this. When this passage is given, David's been dead many, many years.

What does it mean, David's here all over again? Does that mean David's going to be raised from the dead, and we're not still Israel? No. This is speaking of Christ. In fact, the Midrash we've built is clearly speaking of Christ.

And Christ, David and my servant, will be king over them, and we'll also have one second. Now that's not happened in Israel yet. It didn't happen when Israel was restored from Babylon.

This has never been fulfilled in the way the prophet is speaking of here now. They'll have one second. They shall also walk in my judgments and observe my statutes and do them.

All right. Here it is, please. My servant David shall be the prince over them.

I'll set my sanctuary, verse 26, I'll set my sanctuary in the midst of them forever. Verse 27. My prophet also shall be with them.

I will be their God, and they shall be my people. This is clearly speaking of Jesus Christ. Of a people who are coming into the fullness of Jesus Christ.

So the valley of dry bones, brother and sister, is still with us. Now, Israel is certainly that valley of dry bones. I still believe this church has a place in its heart for Israel, for men in Israel.

This coming Sunday we'll have our first conference focus on Israel. And God has put a heart of love in this church and all of our people for a man from Israel. But you see, he's also speaking about a backslidden church.

He's talking about dead Christians. He's talking about sinners that are dead in trespasses and sin. There was a time everyone in this building was dead in trespasses and sin.

And Jesus came and resurrected you. Saved you out of your death. Now, it's too dangerous in interpreting Old Testament doctrine.

Especially prophecy, and especially that which is relevant to Israel. Now, some interpret everything in the Old Testament, especially Israel, as having to do with natural Israel. They don't see the church.

They don't see the building, but all they see is natural Israel. And all they see is Israel being a little piece of real estate. They make derogatory remarks saying God is no more concerned with Israel, than he is with Hades or any other, or as interested in Hades as he would be in Israel.

It's true God has no respect for persons. But God does have a place for Israel, natural Israel. There is a restoration coming.

There's going to be a breathing of the Holy Spirit, not just on the Jew, but on, I'm going to save you from the scripture tonight, upon all flesh, the scripture says. The prophets, John, Amos, all the God said, upon all flesh. And then there's another problem in interpreting the Old Testament prophecy.

And those are those who see only natural Israel, the others who see only the church. They don't see any place for natural Israel, they see only the church. But it's doing, the Lord said to us as Gentiles, don't you be proud and lifted up, lest you also be cut off like the Jew.

He said there's no place for pride, lest you also be cut off. Any Jew or Gentile pride will cut you off tonight. But we can't miss what God is saying to his church in these precious Old Testament prophecies, like Ezekiel 37.

I don't want you to turn there, but in the first chapter of Acts, when Jesus commanded his disciples at the ascension scene to go to Jerusalem and pray, to be given the Holy Ghost, the first thing that came to their mind was the natural. They couldn't interpret the scripture whatsoever. In fact, they said, Master, when you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel, all they can see is kingdom now.

All they can see is reign. They're going to come to office right now. They're going to see everything on them today.

Jesus, is this the time you're going to restore natural Israel? Is this the time you get the kingdom back from the heavens? And in fact, I'm going to tell you what I read it to you. I read it word for word. It's in the first chapter of the book of Acts.

And this is very, very familiar. May I go now at this time and restore again the kingdom of Israel? Now you see, the Lord was trying to get their mind that something very spiritual has been happening. He's telling them in essence, you're going to work now and not reign now.

There's a time to reign, but now's the time to work. The Lord's not calling them to be precinct workers or politicians. He's calling them to be witnesses.

Witnesses unto me, he says. I'm going to read this answer. Jesus said unto them, It's not for you to know the times and the seasons which the Father has put in his own power.

It's not for you to even think about the political side right now. Get the spiritual impact of this prophecy. Get the spiritual impact, Jesus says, of this whole matter brought to Jerusalem.

You shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is coming upon you. You shall be witnesses unto them, for you shall be a Samaritan, the most powerful in the world. I got a letter last week from a lady in the Midwest.

And she said, good Mr. Wilkinson, I just read you. This is not it, the last days of America. How hopeless you sound.

You need to get together with some of the television evangelists that have a vision for the kingdom. She says, don't you know, have you not heard that America's just been rescued? Pastor So-and-so, she named him, has got thousands of people in America praying now. He's got an army raised up.

And they have stopped the judgment. In fact, a woman just got a vision of a black cloud that was about to fall on America that she chased it away. And God has now saved America and wants you to know that America is now safe.

Then, I got another letter. In fact, I got a telephone call from a group of preachers who took some exception. And they said, have you not heard of the prophecies that we have secured the borders of America from the East, the West, the North, and the South? We have secured all of our borders.

And to the Black preachers, God preached such good. The kingdom is coming. We are now, let me put that to rest.

We are now electing mayors. We're moving into the arts. We're moving into the sciences.

The kingdom is coming because we're getting very strong politically, spiritually, and other ways. Soon, we will bring in the glory. Brother David, you are too sad.

The kingdom is coming. You should be redressed. That sounds very good, doesn't it? High school, I heard people say, is this the time to bring in the kingdom, Lord? He said, this is not the time to talk about that.

This is the time to go and see some good filming of the Holy Ghost and be witnesses underneath. He said, there's work to do for the church. A lot of abandonment, they're getting into those.

We've had two so-called born-again presidents, and it hasn't stopped the judgment. Hasn't stopped it whatever. I want to show you some things that God's been doing for about Ezekiel 37.

First of all, God puts this prophet in the middle of an immense holocaust. This is the down end of a holocaust. We don't even know how it happened.

He's made to walk through a nightmare of death. And he's told to look at the death and look at the bones all around it. He caused me to pass by them around the boat.

The hand of the Lord was upon me. He carried me out of the school of the Lord and set me down in the midst. Now, He doesn't set him down in the midst of the valley, which is full of bones.

Now, the rich man, he says, and he caused me to walk round and round. In other words, Ezekiel, just go around and look at the death that's all around you. And all I could see was bones.

There wasn't one beating heart. There wasn't one tongue that could say hallelujah. There wasn't anybody who could respond negatively or positively to anything he preached.

There was nothing but a scene of death. And what a cure this was. There was no sign of life anywhere.

Very many bones, and all the bones were very dry. Now, here stands the man of God. Get the picture, please.

A man who has the hand of God on him. God's hand is on him. Not only that, the Spirit is leading him.

In other words, he's in the clean, divine direction. He's been perfectly led by the Holy Spirit, and he's put down smack in the middle of the worst recorded scene of death in all the world. And the Holy Spirit has put him here.

God has put him right in the midst of it. And God didn't ask him, Ezekiel, how did they die? What was the cause of all this death? You see, they aren't showing me a danger. I don't want to get involved in this kind of trap.

There is a trap, and it has to do with all. If this is a trap set, the enemy sets off then for apostasy preachers, for those who preach holiness or whatever. They're like doctors who know how to diagnose but don't have any solutions.

I don't want to be one who can analyze why America's dying. I don't agree to spell out all the steps, and the Lord is showing us clearly. He's showing us some of the things how America has wound up where it is.

But the question is not, how did they die? The question that was posed to this man right in the middle of this death scene is, Ezekiel, can these bones live? The person, look what cigarettes have done to you, drugs have done to you, alcohol has done to you. He didn't even ask him how. Now, if you read another chapter, I can tell you exactly how they died.

They actually died sitting in front of their idols. There's a whole chapter on it. They all died sitting in front of their idols.

The spirits of life just oozed out of them. They died sitting in front of their double-headed eating boxes. They died in front of their idolatry, not just terrorism, but whatever your idolatry is.

They saw it, touched their idolatry, they sat there and starved to death. And I bet if you dug in the sand you could find writers. But you see, God was not interested in what caused the death.

Ezekiel, tell me, look at this death. What are you going to do about it? What's going to be done about the death around you? What is your plan? Is you to look at the death, no matter if God the Spirit of the Lord is on you? What's your plan? Can they live? Is there any way that there's going to be life out of all of this death around you? We live in Boom City. I've said it before, I'll repeat it.

There is death all around the city of New York. It's a death where the violent drive beats bones. There's death spreading everywhere.

Here we are, a church, and pastors that have the hand of God upon them, in front of the Holy Ghost, and the Reds put a smack down in the middle of the Reds' biggest boneyard. This is the biggest boneyard on the face of the Earth because it's babbling. Right here is Wall Street, the biggest scene of death caused by greed anywhere on the face of the Earth.

Right here is Slime Square. I read the New York Daily News calls Times Square Slime Square now. That's not mine, that's from the New York Daily News.

I have some friends visiting from California, and they kept boasting about all the beautiful cemeteries in Los Angeles. And I met them at Trinity Airport. And I just got kind of tired of it, and I thought, if there's a spirit in me, God's healing, if there's a spirit in me.

Who said amen? Someone said amen. Where's my wife? She's not here tonight. You've got to move.

I met them at Trinity Airport, and I said, listen, you've been telling me about all these cemeteries. We've got the most beautiful cemetery in America, right here in New York, and we're going to drive right past it. And I kept building up this thing, and if you know what I'm talking about when you drive the long line in expressway in Queens, what's the name of that ugly, full cemetery right off the... Huh? That cannot be named.

I don't know. It's right off... It's the ugliest, the most horrible dressing. They've got all these tall, skinny things.

Boy, you talk about a nightmare. And so I kept building up this, and they said, you're not going to be in California like it. I said, why? They said, you don't look anything like it.

It's incredible. And we got married, and I said, just look all the way. Isn't that something? And they looked at me, and said, I just said, isn't that something? You want me to go to California? I started laughing.

I gave it an A. They said, it's not really anything to laugh about, but I want to tell you something. Right now, as depressing as that place was, it's one of the most gray, insidious, horrible cemeteries I've ever seen. Yet what we're seeing in the spiritual realm of New York is even worse.

It's much worse. Last week, the Holy Ghost took me on the same kind of thing, took Ezekiel. He took me to Central Park.

And I've been studying and praying, and this very message, and every day to Central Park. And the Holy Spirit led me there, and I was sitting down at Park Basin. You know, you sit in a house in Central Park, you can see anything.

It's incredible. You see bad ladies, you see pussies, you see the rich, you see poor, you see everything conceivable. And I'm sitting there, watching this parade of hundreds and thousands of people going by, and it got to me.

It started overwhelming me. I got to looking at this mass of people, Jews, Jewish friends with their little caps, and all nations, all peoples represented. And I thought, Oh Lord, there's not a handful that know Jesus.

Not a handful. They're such a spirit of death. Look in their eyes.

I saw people sitting on benches, just their head down. The despair, laying on the grass, and then you can see the despair. People were praying.

You know, the people selling beer everywhere. They were having a field day, selling beer, and you can just hear them selling beer everywhere. And I was looking at this scene, and then I said, David, which ones are you willing to curse? To give up on? The drug addicts, or the alcoholics, or these bad ladies? What about all of these abusing people that are parading up there with their signs? Are you willing to give up on them? What about those who are agnostic, and Christ-haters, with just the same spit on them, talking about Jesus.

Are you willing to give up on them? Because it was in my heart, Jesus said, he's not willing to give up on anyone. He's not willing to give up on anyone, except parents. And the Lord said, do you have a heart that's big enough to take it all in? Do you have a heart big enough to reach out and love the ugly, the unlovable, no matter what race, what color, whoever it is.

Is there enough love in your heart to reach out? And I said, I don't think so, Lord. We've been here almost two years in New York, and we thank you for a church that's full of people who love you, but oh God, if we had 10,000 people, that represents one city block here in West Side. One city block.

In fact, there's one block over there, about a two feet block there, and there's 25,000 people in that section. 25,000 people living in just one people block area there. It's incredible, but it's high rises.

And I'm sitting there with my head down, and I looked up, there's a lady standing in front of me, with a smile on her face, and she said, Hello. I said, Well, I thought you came to Towson Church. It was one of my people I didn't recognize.

She said, Now sit down. And there was an older gentleman with her. And she said, My name is Claire.

And I said, Why are you talking to me? I thought she didn't come to this church. She didn't know me. And she said, Well, something told me that I could talk to you, and you would listen.

And I said, Well, do you have angels walk with you? She said, Yes, and an angel said it was all right. She said, Now, I'm not too bright, but I'm not stupid. She is on social welfare, I suppose.

Yes, I believe it's welfare. And she said, This gentleman, she has a one-room apartment about five blocks from the church here. She may be here tonight.

We'll call and ask her to come here tonight. And she sat down and said, This is a friend of mine, and he has no place to sleep. It's not a sexual thing.

In fact, he's an old man. He has a heart condition, and you might have not seen him on the street. He kind of watched over her so nobody would attack or hurt her.

And it was just a friend. It was bare witness that she was telling the truth. There was no involvement there.

It was just she needed someone to talk to. She said, Mr. Nixon, do you know what it's like to have talent that's wasted? Do you know what it's like not to be able to take care of yourself like you want to? That's the reason I can't even handle a dog or a cat. And she said, The worst thing of all is to be in a city like this and not have anybody to talk to, no family, lady friends, nobody to talk to.

And she said, Even worse than that's the thought that you might die. Either sick, or you might die. Nobody knows you're dead.

There may be days and weeks before they find you. She said, If you ever know my fiancée, she's there for probably 20 minutes, just call her hard out. And it broke me.

And I finally, I said, I want you to call her. Remember, I have, in fact, people in my office have been calling and talking and calling her. And she said, If I came, would you be able, is there any way to give me some clothes so I could refuse you to come to church as a guest? And I listened to the heartbreak of that woman.

And the Lord had sent her. And you sat her down right there. I believe what you said in Angel prompted her.

And you sat there. And finally, I took about as much as I could take. I made provision for her to be able to call and get clothes and some help.

But you know, this is what the neighbors said. I was walking down 67th Street right off of Park West toward Broadway. I had these tears rolling down my cheek.

And I thought, Oh God, every one of these highways is full of prayers. Every one of these places where I meet a Jewish lady is all bent over and no one to talk to. This whole city is full of lonely people.

There are so many drugs out. It's now crack out. This city is so full of sin and crime and loneliness.

So many women just like Claire. Everywhere. They're all over the city.

And then the speed of God came to me just like He did to Ezekiel. He said, David, you think these bones can live again? Yes, there's definitely when you look. There's a sister lying in a graveyard just as battered.

Worse. Worse than what the prophet Ezekiel is saying here right now. Because the Bible says even men were not worse and worse.

I had to answer the way Ezekiel answered when God said to these bones that live again. He said, O man, God, thou mayest. He wasn't trying to cop a plane.

He wasn't trying to get out of it. Answering God what it was actually saying was you can do it, O God. There's no human way that there can be life out of this death scene except you do it by your power.

And he's saying God knows. He's saying humanly, it's impossible. Humanly, there's no way.

And I look at the ministries of many sincere people even in this city trying to bring a bit of life out of the death that's all around us. And it's incredible the things that men try to win the lost. We've got what they call networking now.

People think we're just networking. They're people together and they're going to be all right. We've got strategizers now.

We've got charts, how-to books. We've got one-year programs, two-year programs, three-year programs. We're in five-year plans now.

We've got slogans and banners and balloons and graves and t-shirts and concerts and plans and programs and research programs and formulas. And all in spite of all that the bands aren't moving. There's no great noise.

There's no shaking. There's no stirring. The death keeps coming on.

It's just death in spite of all the Christian activity all around us. We've had prayers, New York, Jesus loves you. And all the thousands in blue going up, Jesus loves New York.

And the bands don't move. And there's no sign of life in spite of all of our strategizing and our networking and our slogans and our formulas and all of our books. Someone sent me a book recently in church where I read men's chapter and threw it down in a basket and I slammed it as hard as they would slam any book in my life.

And I read garbage. What does that have to do with a graveyard? What does that have to do with opening up graves? What does that have to do with Clara and the bad women and the cock-addicts? What does that have to do? We've got some dear people in this church that have been impatient with the pastors because some of our plans have not matured yet. We don't have our Hannah House for unwed mothers yet.

We've just now begun to hear from the world about what to do for the college students. We've been praying for a year on that. We've been praying for almost a year and a half about a breakthrough in the Jewish community because we're 4 million Jews in New York City and this church can't sit by with 4 million Jews without hearing the word of the Lord? But you see, we've got some people that have been impatient with the pastors but you see, none of us as pastors are willing to do anything just to meet human need.

We're not going to do anything just because there's death facing us on all sides. Just because we're sipping on a bottle of dry bones. There's something in you that says, I've got to do something about this.

Something. What are you going to do? Tell me what you're going to do to resurrect a dry bone from New York City. How can you do it sitting in a committee meeting? How can you do it standardizing? How can you do it reading books? No way on earth.

That's what Ezekiel said. Oh God only you can do it. There's no other way.

We refuse to do it in Philadelphia. Holy Ghost Church is high. And when? We refuse to make a mouth.

We don't even have a youth pastor in this church because we've been praying for a year. We think we're close to having one. But we've had our times.

We've had men come in and say, God told me that I'm to be the man. And the Lord has not said that to those here in our face but have faced before Almighty God. And he hasn't said it.

We have parents come up and say, well my children need this, my children need that. Well folks, we're on our face before God but we're not going to get up and take the burn by the hands of our own strength. It has to be a work in heaven.

It has to be life in God. Unless the Holy Ghost originates it, he can't bless it. Unless it's right out of his own heart, it's not going to work.

Secondly, God knows how to bring life out of death. He's got all the power that's needed. But he won't do it without us.

He's not going to do it. The death is going to hold us grip until we begin to obey God. The word told me the prophet said, prophesy upon these bones and say to them, there are bones here in the name of the Lord.

He could have stood in the midst of that and drawn bones with God's hand on them led by the Holy Ghost. A broken heart over what he saw and nothing would have changed until he did exactly what God told him to do. He said, I want you God to prophesy on top of these bones.

I want to prophesy over these bones. He could have fasted, he could have prayed, he could have wept and the death would have not been challenged. He had to prophesy God's name to the bones.

The bones had to hear what God was saying. They had to hear what God was saying. You know, at the time that he did this prophecy, Israel no longer existed as a nation.

It was in captivity. The people had false prophets before this time telling there was going to be peace and prosperity. And they listened to these false prophets.

They told Jeremiah to get lost. They wouldn't listen to Ezekiel. They wouldn't listen to these prophets who said there was going to be disaster.

And then a total calamity came. There was a collapse. They went into, they're going into captivity now.

And now they're not willing to hear anybody. And that's what's going to happen soon. Because you've been, some of you have been sitting listening to prosperity so long.

You've been listening that everything can be so great. And then when the judgment starts, you won't want to listen to any creature. You won't want to listen to anybody.

You won't be willing to hear the word of God. These bones have not heard the true word of God. There was death all around, nothing but the true word of God.

And it had to be preached by the prophet. God is saying, Ezekiel, I'm commanding you to tell these bones they're going to live again. I'm going to bring life out of death.

For what kind of obedience to that thing? What kind of obedience to have that man stand right out there and nobody can respond. Nobody anywhere. I've heard preachers sitting there in congregations like that.

He's out there saying to these dead bones, Oh bones, hear the word of the Lord. You're going to live. What's that kind of obedience when a homeowner about to face divorce and when your family is split up and you're living in a valley of dead bones? And the Lord says, Ezekiel, you think I'm able to hear this, Ezekiel? You think I'm able to bring life out of this death all around you? And God is saying it's not going to happen until you proclaim my word.

Until you take a step of faith and you say, God, I believe you're going to bring life out of this death around me. I'll tell you what, if this church, and any other church in the United States has the name of Christ, if we don't have this kind of faith, we might as well shut the doors. If you don't have that kind of faith in your family and your children, your children are not going to make it without the drugs and sex and alcohol and hell around them until you've got this spit upon you like Ezekiel says, even though you see death all

around you.

I proclaim the name of the Lord Jesus through the bones of the lamb. To walk the streets of New York, I've done that, I've been right down here, two blocks down here on 39th Street, from 8,000 around, just knocking around and saying, God in Jesus' name, raise up the Holy Remnant. God, I believe there's going to be life coming out of the death that's all around us.

And you see, I hear on a Sunday night, hundreds dead right in the middle of Times Square because he's bringing life out of death. But that has to happen for every one of us, for every one of our homes, and the job where it is, and that you face death, because I serve a Christ of life. He can bring life out of this death all around me.

But you've got to have the word of God, and that be the prophetic word, and it's not just the word, it's a prophetic word. He said, we prophesy over these bones. You know what prophecy is? It's a revelation of the true heart of Jesus.

If someone is set in with the Lord, he is the mind of God, and as God brought it out so clearly this morning, his words don't fall to the ground. He's not just saying words, hoping somebody will find Jesus. We've got all kinds of witnesses coming into this city soon.

And there's nothing going to happen if they just laugh like little mice, little mice, and give their cute little speeches of whatever they may be, and their little spiel, no, it's got to be more than that. There has to be a spirit inside that says, I come in the name of the Lord, I serve a Christ of life. I serve a life-giving, resurrecting Savior.

And I declare to you, God's going to pour out his life on you. That's something to get up to, a backslidden husband and say, husband, I'm turning him out. In the name of the Lord, God's going to raise you from the dead.

To be out on the streets, lip-listening to somebody, and they stand there, and you know that God's conviction of you in the prayer, in the name of the Lord, I'm turning him out. You may walk away from me, but you're not going to walk away from the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is going to get you and save you before it's all over.

I'm going to pour it to God. I'm going to pour it to God. That's what he said, prophesy life.

Prophesy life. As I prophesied, as I was commanded, there was a noise. And behold, a great Satan, and the bands came together.

Oh, hallelujah, there'll be a great noise in this city very soon. There'll be a Satan like New York has never had. God is going to reveal to this church that he's got other churches in this city.

Hallelujah. Men and women of God are going to seek the face of heaven, and God's going to reveal to us how. We've got a book, for example, of prayer to God.

I'm going to show it to pastors next week. I think they may have read it already. It's not it, but it's a book, a testimony from twelve converted rabbis.

And I tell you, I read that, and I have heard the testimony from heaven, and that may be the book, but God's going to put something in our hands so life-giving, so challenging to the book, that even the

Orthodox rabbis over in Queens and Brooklyn, I tell you, there's going to be a noise in every synagogue, there's going to be a noise in every private meeting. There's a church up there that's challenging the whole Orthodox system. There's a church that's preaching Christ and talking about rabbis coming to Jesus Christ as the Messiah.

And I tell you, the moment you come into the scheme of life, there's always a noise. There's always a shaking. And I tell you what, if we just stay here, and we don't shake up Times Square, we don't shake up the moving industry, if we don't shake up the people all around us, if there's not a noise, something wrong.

There's got to be noise. And I don't mean in the church, I mean out there in the Valley of Bones. God's going to make a noise on the college campus that we're getting ready to invade campuses with literature and teams to invade this campus.

And there's got to be a noise. People are going to be talking about Jesus. There's got to be a noise.

There's got to be... God's about to make a big commotion in New York. We've got to make some noise. Hallelujah! You're being motivated.

Teaching you right out of Ezekiel. Wall Street's going to be warned. God's... Right now I'm about to shut myself in and finish this little book that I just finished the last days of America.

It's a generalized vision of what they're saying and also out of Obadiah and some of the other prophets. And it's going to even inculcate certain bills here in New York. It's going to be in the fatigues in the churches and in the synagogues.

There's got to be a noise. There's got to be a shaking. People are going to be talking about Jesus.

They're talking about end-time things, about prophecy. Not just because this church is good, because God's keeping His body. The Spirit of the Lord is going to come upon them just like He did Him.

He's going to show us that His promises, His knowledge are there. He's going to show us that the life is there that He's promised. And He's going to have His prophets out of these bones.

Glory to God. We're commanded to bring down... Finally, we're commanded to bring down the Holy Ghost to cause the life to come forth. And this life is not going to come without the Holy Ghost.

Let's look at verse 8. And when I behold, Lord, the cities and the dust came up upon them. Let's look at verse 7. The prophet said I was commanded and as I prophesied there was a noise. And behold, a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to a bone.

What a sight that must have been. What a rattling. Bone smacking to bone.

What a coming together that was. And when I behold, Lord, the cities and dust came up upon them, and skin covered them, God, but there was no death in them. You see, if you don't have the Holy Ghost, why are you doing this producing beautiful skeletons? And we've got a lot of churches producing skeletons.

You walk in a church full of skeletons. I mean, there's skin and there's bone and they look alive but they're not alive. We had somebody was in this church recently and they were appalled by our music.

They said, that music is awful. It was, they explained it they explained it in incredible terms. I don't even want to repeat it.

But I don't care if it's Bach. I don't care if it's Sing Till the Power of the Word comes down. I don't care what it is.

It's got to have life. It has to have life to it. Otherwise it's only part of the death sin.

And only the Holy Ghost can do that. The Holy Ghost can come upon someone who no other than playing Bach or any other great German composers. And the Spirit of the Lord can be there if there's life flowing through that individual and turn through that church.

Verse 9. Then he said, Under the wind. That's the Spirit of God. That's the Holy Ghost.

Prophesy, said the man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God, Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them and they lived. And they stood up upon their feet in exceeding great honor.

Glory be to God. Don't you know what you ought to see in this city? Prophesy to the wind. Say to the wind.

Can you imagine that? Prophesy to the Holy Ghost. Prophesy to the wind. He's not preaching to the crowd now.

He's preaching. He's talking to the Holy Ghost. He's talking to the wind.

He's saying, Come. And what the Lord is saying, When I give you the word, when I give you the promise, you go after it. You claim it.

The Lord said, The last days we pray are to spit upon our flesh. He said, I'll pour out my Spirit upon your sons and your daughters. So that means that you can say to the breath of God, you can say to the Holy Ghost, O Holy Ghost, come upon my sons.

Come upon my daughters. You promised it. You can go outside and be speech.

You speak, preachers of the wind. You've got to have such a love in your heart now, but you've got to believe in God. Even though people walk away from you, let the Holy Spirit come.

The breath of God will come. And get a hold of their hearts when they get on the subway. When they get home.

And that life began to be found in their hearts. Prophesy unto them, say to the window, Thus saith God, Come, breathe upon these slaves. That's spiritual authority.

Hallelujah. All evangelistic efforts are powerless but in vain unless the Holy Ghost is breathed upon them. Hallelujah.

I want to read to you something. Brother Baker is a missionary. I've talked quite a bit about his son and grandson in this pulpit.

Now he was a great missionary for 50 years in China. And this is from his book, Seeking and Saving. His sister brought this to me today.

And I want to read something from this dear son of God who walked all over China. This great missionary who gave up everything to go. He's talking about, he'd been in China for about 8 to 10 years and nothing happened.

He came home and heard about the Holy Ghost. And the Holy Ghost baptized him. And he went back and all the missionary programs were dying everywhere.

Even though they had all kinds of money and building nice homes and they were paying, paying workers, indigenous workers. In spite of the money that was flowing, people were getting distressed from going home. So he comes back full of the Holy Ghost believing in miracles, prophesying, and the revival breaks out.

And so he wrote this book. And I was reading this afternoon. And he's talking here about what was happening in Nigeria.

And this was 50 years ago. He said, one day, Joseph Babalulo, a native of Nigeria, West Africa, was driving a steamroller. And he heard an audible voice calling him by name to leave the steamroller and the men that were in his charge.

The next day he heard the voice again. He still wouldn't listen. And it was repeated the third day so loud that the men working with him heard the voice from heaven.

Babalulo fell on his face to the earth expressing his desire to leave all and preach the gospel. After seven days of fasting and praying, he burst forth into a world like fire from heaven. This ignorant, uneducated man turned people to God in great numbers.

He came out like a fire. Idols were burned. The sick were healed.

Sinners were converted. Believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit as in the days of the apostles. Christians of all denominations said the prophet has appeared in our midst because he spoke often in prophecy.

It's been officially recorded that in three weeks, the preaching of this one-spirit-filled native African accomplished more than all the work of the church missionary societies had accomplished in 70 years. In 70 years. In three weeks, this man went more to Christ.

This man had just been saved seven days. Shedding with God, fire came from heaven. Likewise, two other natives, Udom and Rugo, educated natives of another part of Nigeria, when seeking the Lord, were baptized in the Holy Spirit, were used of the Lord to heal the sick, cast out devils and turning thousands to the Lord.

In fact, in one month, more people came to Christ through these two men. Again, the mission society had spent years and years giving up because they said the Holy Ghost isn't working anymore. They didn't believe in the power of the Holy Spirit.

You know, this missionary, he went to Keduland. And I'm going to just read a little bit about it. He went to Keduland for seven years.

He said, we followed missionary methods. We used to pay native preachers. We had hospitals, day schools.

We had plans for men. We induced people into Christianity. We had an impressive number of missionaries.

We built nice houses. But they never did make an impression on the Keduland people. The impression on the heathen became dimmer and dimmer.

Schools were open and soon closed for lack of pupils. Churches began to close for lack of helpers. There was no enthusiasm.

And they couldn't get converts even when they tried to buy them. Missionaries moved out. And the ship was sinking.

There were only two or three native hirelings left when he arrived in Keduland. This man saw mission society dying. Missionaries going home to spades, giving up for their purpose.

There's no way this dead land can live. This poor pastor, this evangelist, this spirit of the Holy Ghost just came back from America. All he did was come home to get the baptism of the Holy Ghost and go back.

And now, Philip, the Holy Ghost, is not hiring anybody. He's not building any hospitals right now. That's in God's time where he did building ornaments.

But you see, he said, I want to see God and pour out His Spirit on these heathen. Those who've never heard. And God poured out His Spirit on over 200 tribes in Keduland.

Our mission society tried for 50 years. The German mission society had spent millions of dollars. And all the money, nothing could touch it.

And here's a man, full of the Holy Ghost, stands in there, that valet dropped bells. They said, Oh, drop bells, hear the word of the Lord. God's going to send life.

And the Lord raised up, in fact, the great church in China can be traced to those tribes in Keduland. Hallelujah. And in our Bible school in China right now, many of those students come from those tribes.

Glory be to God. So these mission stations rejected our supernatural manifestations of the Holy Spirit. They didn't believe that miracles existed anymore.

They sent large sums of money to us in schools and buildings. Everything the Western civilization has had No, he goes on to say, he said, you American people have the idea that the heathen are always saying, Come, come, Christians and saviors, we're in darkness. He said, No, the same darkness that's in America is here.

They're not saying, Come, it's not a Macedonian call. In fact, the master of the heathen is saying, What have we to do with thee? Have you come to torment us before our time? He said, No, there are times when the spirit will send a Macedonian call. But the mass of heathen, the mass of people in this city are not crying out for Jesus.

They're in everlasting darkness. They despise Christ. And, brother, sister, we can preach all we want.

We can do everything. We can have one program. We can go out and witness anybody on these streets.

Unless the Holy Ghost comes down and speaks to their heart, it's all in vain. God's been speaking to my heart right here in the middle of Batman. We would have a church that believes that they can pray down the power of the Holy Ghost conviction that these streets can have that conviction that we can go out to our neighbors and our friends.

Listen, folks, I'll tell you what I wanted to do, honestly, before I close. I wanted to get up here like I used to do when I was a young evangelist and say, You see this empty seat, sir? Somebody's not witnessing. And I used to put guilt trips on people.

You're not witnessing like you should. God's been dealing with me about that. To witness.

But you know, Philip was told to leave a whole group of people and go down in the wilderness. There was one man in a chair. They said, Go drag yourself to that chair and tell yourself, If you're not walking in the spirit, you try to just go out in your own strength.

And you're doing it because you have to do as if I have to witness. I've got to do this. If I don't, I might stand in front of the judge and seem to be judged.

That's the wrong motive. It should be, Oh God, I believe that you have the life that this city needs. And I believe they're hurting people.

I went to Central Park again yesterday at 5 from 5 to 6. And I just sat in that park and I said, Oh Jesus, here I am your servant. I know you have life. I could go to a dozen of these people and be spit upon and cursed.

I could cast my toes the first one. Lord, I'm not going to just go out promiscuously and simply throw your name around. But I stand here right now as your servant.

Lead me by your Holy Spirit. Lead me. Lead me to those who are hurting.

Lead me to those who need you. It wasn't 10 minutes before somebody came up. And I want to tell you something.

God can lead you supernaturally if you believe that you, the Holy Ghost can come upon you. You have to have a heart first for these dying ones. You have to see that death around you.

And there's got to be a faith and a confidence. I'm not going to put a guilt trip on you tonight. I'm not going to say growl and squeak and whip at everybody you see.

I'm not asking you to go out and pass out literature anywhere you can. Anybody. Sow the seed.

Everywhere. But I want you to begin to pray, Oh Jesus, I want to win a soul every week to you now. I want to win a soul every week.

if you don't win a soul, don't get under bondage to that. You see, God doesn't call us to that kind of thing. You say, God, the desire in my heart is to win.

Don't even, you're not here to beat money with. You say, Lord, I want to be a soul winner. I want to be one who reaches people.

I want to be your hands. God, I believe that you have life. I see such death around me.

Folks, I don't want to stand in front of judgment having done nothing about the death around me. God has put three senior pastors. He's put three pastors here and the other pastors and workers, everyone that's here are quiet.

He's put us all right smack in the middle of Times Square. He's put us right in the middle of this city, a city of death. And I declare in the name of the Lord Jesus by the power of the Holy Ghost that he's not changed.

The same God of Ezekiel is today. And I proclaim in the name of Jesus that there's going to be a spirit of life flowing through this city. It won't be because of our goodness.

It won't be because of any good thing in us. But it will be because of people who are greedy and said, I believe God's Word is going to be spoken. I'll be one of those who speaks his Word and I'll prophesy to the Holy Ghost, say, Holy Ghost, come and breathe on this death and bring life.

And closing, God wants to bring some life to the death that's in your heart right now in your family. Hallelujah. I said something happening to me in the past two weeks.

The Lord let me lay down for a week or so just to, so I could get ground talking deep to my heart. Years ago, when I first came to New York City, I used to live on Staten Island. I'd ride, there was no horizontal bridge.

You had to come by a ferry boat. And I remember day after day coming past the Stats of Liberty, leaning over the rail, looking at my hat and skyline and broken skyline and crying, just weeping. My heart was so broken from the lost.

I had a little motor scooter and I scooted all over Harlem. All over Spanish Harlem. And I would just go up and down the alleys and say, Oh Jesus, show me where there's somebody hurting.

Lead me to some junkies now that are hurting. And have God show me go down this alley and go in this door and knock here and I see three or four boys sitting over there and God says, you go over there now and talk to them and just reach over and say, look, I don't know much about what's happening but Jesus sent me. And I know God can send drugs out of trees.

And begin to see the Holy Ghost. And out of that came a ministry of teen challenges spread all over the world. And I don't want to be just a preacher who stands here in the pulpit preaching.

I want to be able to still walk these streets. And still feel the pull of that human need. Still feel the Holy Ghost breathing upon me and say, demon, there's a brother, there's a sister, now go and talk and obey Him.

I tell you, if this church would obey God like that it wouldn't be a month before there would be an empty seat in this house ever. Because God would be leading you and would be leading me. And we would have that faith to believe that God can save the unlovable.

I'd like to see this church packed out with the poor, the homeless, the helpless. Are you too potty-totty? Are you too big? Are you too proud? Are you too good to sit amongst those that are ugly and lovable? No, God give us a heart that we can reach out to all in this city. Hallelujah.

Please stand. Please stand. I don't want this to be rushed.

I want it to be from my heart. I want it to be from your heart. Brothers and sisters, this is a Holy Ghost church.

The Holy Ghost is in charge here. We're trying to make this... He's trying to get us to be soul winners. God's not going to let us sit in this church and get fat in the Holy Ghost.

He's not going to let us sit here and just hear Don preaching, and Bob preaching, and David preaching, and guest speakers and sit here and then just get fat spiritually and then forget and get drunk and sit here and try to get a car to wake us up. No. God is saying, I want you to reach out.

I've got the power. I've got everything you need. I want you to reach this city for Jesus.

We're not trying for numbers. We're not trying to go around and say we've got 10,000 people. No.

I don't care what church they go to. No, I do care about what I'm saying. I don't care if there's a Bible-believing church and they're preaching gospel.

I don't care if they're there. They don't have to come to Titus Square Church. Have you had a burden from the lost? Or have you kind of given up hope? Have you become a little island here in New York and said, the best thing I can do is just protect myself? And you walk, you get into the, your little shell, that New York shell that people have around them? I don't want that shell around me.

And I want to be open to the people around me. I want to be able to sense them the other day when somebody reaches out. If you're here tonight and you're hurting and you're in a death scene, somewhere in your life there's death, you need Jesus to bring life out of it.

It may be your, there's divorce coming to your home or there's been that in your home. Whatever it may be. But most of all, if you've been slipping away from the presence of the Lord, you're not where you should be in Jesus.

You need to be raised from the dead. Now, now, keep listening to this moment. When, when we passed this divorce course, I noticed where about 20 or 30, they just tip, every, all tip.

They just, just keep coming. Now, if you come when I'm telling you, right now, there's death in you, you need You shouldn't have to come up here. You should have by now had life.

You shouldn't have to come into service. I'm not putting down for that. But I'm saying, I don't want you to come up here tonight, unless you can look God in the eye and you say, with all your heart, I'm dying inside.

There's death in me. I want Jesus to touch me and raise me tonight. I wonder if, Tony, did you get through to Claire? Did you get to, is Claire here? If Claire's here, I'd like her to come up and sit with me right up here.

Uh, y'all met in Central Park? I'm not putting on a show, just I'd like to pray for her. Make yourself known if you're in the balcony, come on up down and wherever you're at, here in the house. Wherever you're at, up in the balcony, here in the main floor.

You need, listen closely now please. You need life from Jesus tonight for your home and your family and for yourself. If you need that, come and join us right now.

Right here in the front, while the choir's singing. Up in the balcony, here in the main floor, wherever you're at, come and let me pray for you. I beg God to bring life.

Let us beg for a miracle. Let's beg for life. Ask Jesus for life for your home I've got to ask something, I'm going to put this in my heart, and maybe some of you here or in the audience, if you have a situation in your immediate family, your home, or your life, it's been so bad, you've just about given up hope.

If that's you, would you raise your hand so I can pray for you first, just about giving up hope. Just saying, it seems so impossible. Many of you here, bless the Lord, the audience also.

Ah, let it be God tonight. Let it be the Lord. Let it be Him.

Hallelujah. Lord, bring life out of death tonight. Bring life.

Young lady right here, are you here for the first time? You've been here before? Yes. What seems so hopeless? Can you tell us about it? Yes, just the colds, my family's home, my father's, just kind of a lonely family. It hurts now that, it hurts deeply.

Who else had their hand up? What was it? I'm a widow, I live alone, I have no one. I have no family. I want to live with my brother, Mr. James.

But you see, he said, I've become your father, your mother, your sister, your brother. And I tell you what, we're going to ask God tonight. Lord, bring life out of this sense of death that you have.

Who had their hand raised over here? Yes, what is it brother? My name is James. You know, I'm trying to get God into my life. Sometimes it's difficult because I have other trials and tribulations that gets in my way.

I'm trying so hard to feel it. I have a friend, she's pregnant and I don't know what to do about it. I just can't.

You know, that's when everything comes in, rolling in all at one time. It just keeps coming in and coming in. I tell you, when the devil goes after you, he'll bring in everything.

I tell you, he'll just try to swamp you. Ah, but I don't care what the scene of death is. He can bring life.

Do you believe that? Raise both hands to the Lord. Just raise your hands. Raise your hands up right now.

Some of you have never been up here before, please don't be. First of all, you need them to your heart to do. Say, pray this prayer with me right now.

Dear Jesus. Louder please. Dear Jesus.

I humble myself. And I come to you as my friend. And I know you love me.

You care about me. You see what I'm going through. Forgive me.

Wipe away all my sins. Set me free from my temptations. I confess it all to you, Lord.

But I know you have what I need. You have life. You can change things.

Lord, I believe you right now. Change things in my home. Change things in my life.

Give me life, Jesus. Your life tonight. Lord, I want you to just thank him in your own words right now.

Lord, I thank you for what you can do. I thank you for what you're able to do tonight, Jesus. I know you're able.

I know you're able. This is my conclusion at the top.

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