

BAPTISM AND BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Ezekiel 37:1-14

a. The Holy Spirit Revitalizes your life.

This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you and you will come to life (Ezekiel 37:5).

I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live (Ezekiel 37:14).

b. The Holy Spirit renews your hope.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: O My people I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord.'" (Ezekiel 37:11-12)

...a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession... (Ephesians 1:14)

c. The Holy Spirit restores your dreams.

I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land (Ezekiel 37:14).

d. Baptism with the Spirit

Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5; Acts 2; Acts 11:16

"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit" (I Corinthians 12:13).

Paul's point here is that *all* believers have been baptized by the Spirit. And this baptism in the Spirit is what makes us part of the body of Christ, i.e. the Church. There's one thing that all true Christians agree on and that is that we should all be Baptized by the Spirit into the body of Christ. The Bible teaches us that when we are converted, God gives his Spirit to us.

e. How to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

i) Ask for it.

"Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life...'"
(Ezekiel 37:4)

Be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 5:18)

ii) Accept Him.

And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:22)

WHAT NOW?

God's promise in Ezekiel is, *I will put my Spirit in you and you will live (Ezekiel 37:14)*. Anything less is just existing. Ask God to fill you with his Spirit and he will do it. And when you do, you will discover the life God has intended for you right from the very beginning. True life.