

GOD'S SUPER BOWL IN THE VALLEY

February 3, 2008

Introduction – This evening over 100 million people will tune in to at least part of the Super Bowl here in America, with many millions more around the world watching as well. The two best football teams pair off with the winner declared N.F.L. Champion! Of course, it's not just football that our eyes will be tuned to. The most creative advertisements are played during this game, and many others will be glued to the spectacular half time entertainment. So, how about God? Where will His eyes be focused? The Words tells us that His eyes are continually on...

- The Lost, hurting and needy (Ex 3:7)
- Those whose heart are fully committed to Him (2 Chron 16:9)
- A Valley (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

Ezekiel 37:1-14 – “¹ The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!' ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ 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. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.' "
"¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹ 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.' ¹² 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. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.'

1. THE ASSESSMENT

² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know." ... ¹¹ They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.

***Discussion:** What was the assessment? How can this relate to us?

2. THE ANNOUNCEMENT

⁴ Then he said to me, "**Prophesy to these bones** and say to them, 'Dry bones, **hear the word of the LORD!**' ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ 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. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "

- ASSEMBLED / ARRANGED

"...as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the **bones came together, bone to bone.**"

- ATTACHED > FLESH, SKIN

"...**flesh** appeared on them and **skin** covered them"

- AIR / ALMIGHTY

"**breath** entered them; they came to **life** and **stood up** on their feet."

***Discussion:**

1. What is the significance of "prophesying to the bones"?
2. What does "bones coming together" speak to us at Valleyview?
3. Pastor shared two things that the "flesh" and "skin" represent to us. What were they?
4. Why is the breath essential? What does this say to us?

3. THE ARMY

"¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a **vast army.**

***Discussion:** Just how incredible was this transformation? Can this happen at Valleyview?