## Ezekiel 36 & 37-part one

### A clarion call to all true children of God!



Ezekiel chapters 36 and 37 reveal compelling parallels to God's latter day saints; upon whom, the Bible declares, "the end of the world has come". (1 Cor. 10:11)

The Bible says of itself: "For the prophecies came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost". (2 Peter 1:21) Bible prophecy is indeed an intriguing study and has captured the imagination of every generation. However, it is also a textural pictogram of carnal man's real-to-life struggle with his own nature; man's "diary" written by God, a candid eulogy; no cover-ups, but raw truth, poetic, romantic, whimsical, and at times disagreeable, distasteful, and offensive. Even so, it is an honest account of us. It is not a historical biography written by the winning side. It is unbiased, which is why you can trust it.

### The Bible; our guidebook

A testimonial of man's antics since creation, the bible succinctly confirms the well-known adage: "One thing man has learnt from history is that he never learns from history." These two chapters remind me of the story of a man on death row. After his execution, prison staff went to clean his cell, and on the walls many times over was written the words: "If I only had, if I only had"; such a sad tribute to a life gone wrong.

Although there are also many success stories in the Bible, Ezekiel 36 and 37 offer modern day children of God pertinent testimony on the mistake of not staying separate from the world. We may frown at Israel's lack of obedience and at times outright rebellion. Yet, isn't it apparent that our generation has also gone the way of all flesh? Paul's admonishment in 2 Timothy 2:4 seems to have fallen on deaf ears. "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him that hath chosen him to be a soldier". Has history completed its cycle in our modern age?

"Prosperity knits a man to the world. He feels that he is 'finding his place in it', while really it is finding its place in him". *Yours affectionately, Uncle Screwtape* 

As God's called out children we are as accountable for our actions as were the children of Israel for theirs. When it is difficult or impossible to discern the difference between a Christian and those that live for this world and the treasures and rewards it offers, are we not as one of them so vividly defined in Ezekiel 36: 3 & 4? "Thus saith the Lord God; because they have made you desolate, and swallowed you up on every side, that you might be a possession unto the residue of the heathen, and ye are taken up in the lips of talkers, and are an infamy of the people:

Can it be said in the lips of the talkers in this generation; "that surely these ones are not set apart? Do they follow hard after their Master as we follow after ours? Are they not like us; swallowed up with the cares and riches of this life?" A well-known Christian celebrity once said of the sad state of his nation today: "We blame society, but we are society". The Words and actions of Jesus did not leave any impression in the minds of His earliest followers that they should become like those they were trying to lead into the Kingdom of Heaven. In truth, all that Jesus said and did was in opposition to the very idea of becoming part of the world to win them to Christ. Hebrews chapter eleven aptly describes the attitude we as Christians should adopt in relation to the world, 13: "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14: For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. 15: And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they may have had opportunity to have returned. 16: But now they desire a better country, that is, an Heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city."

### How the mighty have fallen

#### "Thus saith the Lord God; because the enemy, hath said against you, Aha, even the ancient high places are ours in possession: Ezekiel 36:2

To allow the enemy access to the high places (our hearts), through the avenue of worldliness is giving him possession of the most scared part of God's temple. Be not conformed to the world that surrounds you but be ye transformed by putting on the mind of Christ. True children of God are called to *spiritual* prosperity! What is this abundant life we hear so much of?

Abundant in the things of this world was not what Jesus was saying in Matthew 6:19-21. Where our treasures are there will we find our hearts! The army of the Lord is consumed with living "the good life" and has forsaken its First Love.

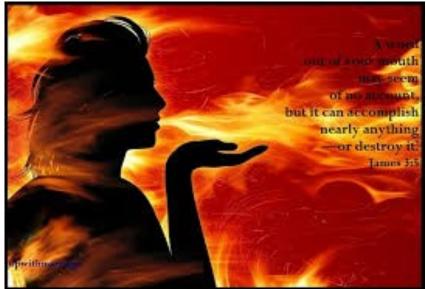
#### Vision

"I see terrible destruction. Everything is dark—very dark and dreary. There's a terrible eerie feeling. The night has fallen, and all I can see is destruction. For as far as I can see, I see only ruin. I see dead bodies lying everywhere and there's a horrible foreboding feeling."...Lifelines Vol.29



#### Arise Arise

Where are the called out ones, His army of the end? Lost hope in expectation their ranks in disarray; Are spread as bones along the valley floor The long shadow fingers the mist of darkness gathering In our world is creeping an uninvited foe Far-off distant comes the prophet's cry Pledged promise resonating from distant centuries past Arise dry bones your time has come to face the primeval horde Prophesy oh winds, prophesy upon these bones And breathe upon these slain that they may live again To raise for Me an army exceeding to behold An army with one purpose who fear no wraithlike threat To bring to naught the rising tide and in the end to thwart (Anonymous)



## Ezekiel 36 & 37-part two

### Living the faith life

The 36<sup>th</sup> chapter of Ezekiel is a Father's admonition to His once-upon-a-time called-out children. These children had allowed themselves to be overcome by the worldliness around them. How did this happen? They had failed to completely purge their promised land of the heathen and their ungodly customs. Now the fruit of their disobedience's had come back to

haunt them. They disregarded but a small part, only a remnant of the heathen, perhaps believing they could live with that "little leaven" in their heavenly homes. The leaven of course, represents the enemy of their soul—the devil, the very one who refuses to tolerate anyone outside his own, and yet even those tolerated ones serve as his vassalages

Prophesy therefore concerning the land of Israel, and say unto the mountains, and to the hills, to the rivers, and to the valleys, thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I have spoken in My jealousy and in My fury, because ye have borne the shame of the heathen:. Ezekiel 36: 6

In hindsight, today's generation looks back and is bewildered by Israel's belligerence. Indeed, as mystifying as Israel's behavior may seem, what is more remarkable is that Ezekiel's words stretch almost 2,600 years into the future to touch on an identical state of affairs. Touché, God's ancient admonishments endure. An admonishment, however, is only as good as the soil in which it is planted. (Luke 8: 15) To not leave Ezekiel's warnings for future scholars to misconstrue, the centuries surrounding this prophet's life have seen God send innumerable fellow servants bearing similar messages until finally His only beloved Son made the journey of reconciliation. (Mark 12: 1-10) Whilst with us, Jesus was no less insistent in His admonitions calling us to "Come out from among them, to touch not the

Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before Me as the uncleanness of a removed woman Ezekiel 36: 17



unclean thing and in so doing He would receive us".

The children of Israel had fallen into disarray, and we find our "modern church" in the same condition; unable to pull itself back from the abyss that it and the world are sliding irrevocably toward. Many of the self-satisfied church leaders of today are nothing but gospel businessmen abusing the Word of God for advantage. Steeped in tradition and selfish pursuit, they make the Word of God of none effect. (Mark 7:13)

And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned My Holy Name, when they said to them, these are the people of the Lord, and are gone forth out of His land : Ezekiel 36: 20

The modern church is in no state to pull the world back from the abyss. They are on the abyss themselves!

### YOU TOO ARE CALLED!

We have come to accept the mistaken belief that we are to make the world our home. And that it is to be accomplished through the worldly avenues of politics, business and rubbing shoulders with the world. The Son of God did not come to earth to lead His children into worldly kingdom building; He came to show us a way of escape.

The true Children of God are strangers and pilgrims on this earth; our Kingdom is not of this world. Who told you that the material things of this life are a sign of God's blessing? Was it the Bible? If that is so, then I ask you to take a close look at the lives the amazing men of faith lived whilst they were on earth. Take a look at their sample, not necessarily the sermon you hear in

church. Any leader worth his "salt" leads the way—not points the way, good or bad, that's what a dedicated leader does. If you are not following the Master's sample then you are not truly living the faith life. I'm not saying you should become an itinerant preacher, although a taste of that life may help put your life into perspective at this point. If you are feeling "bottled up"—frustrated about your life of faith, then it's time to step out and exercise a little more faith than you're normally accustomed to. The world talks a lot about breaking out of the "box", and that's what you need to do! Do something good, kind or loving for another person you don't know or particularly like. Download a tract off this site (*see free down*-

*loads)* then go out and tell someone else about the only One who loves them more than anything in this whole universe. Going to church won't save you, be the church, you are the church. Only one life, will soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last.

For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. Ezekiel 36: 24, 25

"Satan's great plan to deceive man into believing that the cares or rudiments of this life are paramount to man's existence has as one of its basic blocks the word impossible."

#### There is a better way

### Ezekiel 36 & 37—part three

Someone once said, "God has no grandchildren! There's no such thing as second-generation Christians! Every new genera-



tion either has to drop out or cop out—one or the other; bring forth new buds, or die on the vine and become dead!"

"It's been sort of an inevitable cycle of history that this is the way governments, denominations, and movements of various kinds all revolve! They're born in the white-heat of the fires of inspiration and of the desire for change, and, led by an anointed leader, they fight and die for the cause until they gain enough followers to "come out from among them and be separate and touch not the unclean thing, and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness"—and a new "ecclesia" has been formed—the new "called-out ones," the new church, the new dropouts!" *David Berg* 

### Out with the old and in with the new

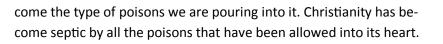
The Lord through Ezekiel declared the decay and overthrow of the children of Israel by the "world" in which they lived, and this blog is only one in many voices declaring to our generation the dying gasps of the present-day children of God, a "church" system that has conformed to the system of today. *John 15:2 "Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit He taketh away, and every branch that* 

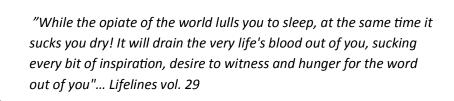
beareth fruit He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit".

Has the "old church, the old revolution" lost its savor? (*Matthew 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under the foot of men*) this verse is very poignant. We see Ezekiel in chapter 36 verse 20 tolling out the indictment: "And when they en-



tered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned My holy Name, when they said to them, these are the people of the Lord, and are gone forth out of His land." Do you realize how important salt is in curing meat? It actually stops the meat from rotting. We the salt of the earth, the children of God, have a commission to accomplish; and that is to keep the world from going rotten by liberally spreading God's Word everywhere and into every heart. However, Beelzebub, the lord of the flies, has so polluted the modern church system that it is beyond reclaim. I think the polluting of the earth's oceans is an omen of what is happening today in spirit. The ocean's burden is too much; the salt cannot over-





### The two olive trees and two candlesticks OMG!

What will He do....? God will do the same thing he always does, raise up a "new church, a new generation". This has always been his way, has it not? Noah and his family left the old world behind, King Saul was replaced by a young and full-of-faith David, the older generation of God's children were left to die in the desert due to their lack of faith. Jesus left the old Jewish religion of temple worship and ushered in the age of grace where His true worshipers would worship in "spirit and truth". A true spiritual revolution! Throughout church history there have been countless revolutions and reformations. Today there are no doubt some bright sparks among us, but generally the church of today is looking pretty tired, settled down and secluded in its blessings. *(Revelations 3: 14-22)* Whenever

the Children of God lost their fire and zeal, God raised up a new generation. God will have His mouthpiece, His voice to proclaim His message to the world right up to the very end of the rule of man on earth. *Revelations 11: 3, 4 "And I will give power unto My two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth"*. "These are the two olive trees and the <u>two candlesticks</u> standing before the God of the earth". In my Bible there is a crossreference that directs the reader back to Revelation chapter 1 verse 13. If you continue reading, you discover that the candlesticks are seven and represent the seven churches of God. Two of these seven will stand before the God of the earth in the time of the end to boom out God's final witness to a dying world. The world that many of us call "home"! Oh foolish Galatians who hath bewitched thee? This is not our home, and to become part of it is to our shame.

## Ezekiel 36 & 37-part four

### Days before "the fall" and the boiling frog story



It is said that if you put a frog in very hot water, it will try to jump out in a desperate attempt to save its skin...makes perfect sense, doesn't it? However, if you put that frog in cold water, and slowly heat up the water to boiling, the frog for some reason doesn't realize its danger and blissfully boils to death.

It is becoming painfully obvious to many that the latter portion of the above story aptly describes the condition of our modern church system. When observing it through the eyeglass of Ezekiel 36, it also becomes obvious that God has His hand in His children's destiny. I would say that only the "very self-satisfied" Christian would declare at this stage in church history that "all things continue as they were since the beginning of the creation". 2 Peter 3:4

We can be very grateful that there is a wiser head behind the scenes that sees the overall picture, and Who has our best interests at heart.

Peter Ormerod's recent article in the Guardian sums up the situation quite well. Entitled: "So Christianity is no longer the norm? Going underground will do it good". (LINK) it seems Peter has been reading his Bible, or God just used him to state the obvious. Either way he got it right...well, partly right. According to Revelation chapter 12 verse 6 the church will indeed go underground. Yet according to Revelation 11 verse 3 not all will go underground. The thing that is so fascinating about Ezekiel 36 is that it quite clearly corroborates what is being said in those chapters in Revelation.

#### So what comes next?

With or without our consent God is going to move along with His "schedule" simply because His plan for man and "His" planet does not reckon on power-hungry, multi-national dreamers. Furthermore, despite the opinions of many, God is not a reckless tyrant, but instead is infinitely more interested in saving mankind than even man himself is. This concept is bought admirably in the following verses in Ezekiel 36.

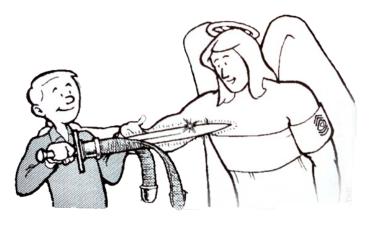


But I had pity for Mine Holy Name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went. Therefore say unto the house of Israel, thus saith the Lord God; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for Mine Holy Name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went. And I will sanctify My great Name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the Lord, saith the Lord God, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes".(Ezekiel 36:21-23)

### Ezekiel 36. . . The days of preparation

God chastises His children out of a loving heart, always with the intent to heal and to make right. He has the heart of a Father; His greatest desire is to have us reach our potential, not in a worldly sense, but spiritually. God has an amazing future planned for man and this planet, but it cannot be realized purely through the dreams and desires of man alone. Man has this burning desire for independence, to be free of restraints that bind him to something or someone bigger than himself. How silly we are to think we created ourselves or were a product of our own genius.

The Bible teaches us that God gave man dominion over all His creation (*Psalms 8:6*) However, man's attempt, since creation, at governing God's creation has been a dismal failure, to say the least. Sad to say, we are the ones who will bring an end to the world as we know it. (*Matthew 24: 22*). Nevertheless, God, in His love, still wants to work alongside us, His children, to right the wrongs and bring His creation back online. (*Revelation 20:4*) God has done what we could not do, through the gift of salvation; he has changed the stony, carnal, selfish heart of worldly man. He has given us His Royal Law -the law of love, which replaced the stone tablets of the laws of Moses. The days of God's children's attempt to win as many as possible to the message of salvation is coming to a close. Now we are entering the final days, spiritual Israel's days of preparation. *The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down* 



imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:4, 5) Now is not the time to go to church, now is the time to be the church. Come out from among them and separate yourself in spirit, for God will have His army, an army that will be designed to withstand the dark and cloudy last days of the end time.

"When it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; buy can ye not discern the signs of the times? Matthew 16:3,4.

"Don't worry about the scabbard, you won't need it. We are at war."

### Ezekiel 36 & 37-part five



The blue pearl hanging in the expanse of space with a string of brilliant stars as its crown, an exquisite gift from a loving God.

### GOD'S BLUE PRINT FOR WORLD TAKEOVER

When one looks at Ezekiel 36 as a bird would, but seeing the whole panorama retrospectively, it is quite easy to identify a recurring account of church history. The inevitable cycle of rebirth, maturation and death can also be seen in government and various movements of all kinds. Even our very own life on earth follows this basic pattern or blueprint. Therefore we shouldn't be surprised to find ourselves, after 2,000 years of established church history, at the point where God is ready to once again punch the default button.

Can we ascertain where we are in world history from either of these chapters? A conclusive answer cannot be found in either. There is a vague clue in chapter 37, but again not irrefutable. Historically speaking, each church age, reformation or what have you, has ended in secular immersion. Today's feeble attempts by the established church at community outreach to millennials is a bandage at best, and looks nothing like the cry of revolution that reverberated across the world in the days of the early church. You may ask where have the Children of God gone?



### Where did we go wrong?

If however, you wish to take Ezekiel 37 literally, then it seems God has every intention of raising up an army of believers, and that, out of seemingly thin air; much like Jesus did when He called out the 12. And why not? Shouldn't God get one last Word in before the church and secular man put Him in a box forever? Of course He will. How silly to think the God of Heaven and earth would allow Himself to be laid to rest by self-righteous man.

(Ezekiel 36:22) Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for Mine Holy Name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, wither ye went.

### Return to Maker

The end time church will arise from the old and take the body of believers, the remnant, into the Millennium (*Ezekiel 36: 34, 35. Revelation 12:17*) At that time, God is going to have His last witness and the world will have to listen because they will be dealing with a different church —a variety that they've never experienced before. It won't be a denomination, or group, it will be the *Ecclesia*. The work of pulling His corroded latter day church out of the slough of despond, where it put itself, will be in our day, an undeniable miracle, which will culminate in the greatest miracle of all, the Rapture! (*Matthew 24:34*)

Yes Ezekiel 37, I believe, is about that process, the raising up of an end time church-His final witness to a dying, selfish world. Those who hear His cry and come out in spirit will be likened unto the 144,000 spoken of in Revelation chapter 14. God will have His say; He will not stand around idly watching His people and creation destroyed by selfish, greedy, unloving man. The blue pearl hanging in the expanse of space with a string of brilliant stars as its crown, an exquisite gift from a lov-ing God, spurned. We were expected by God to be good stewards of His gift, our planet, but instead we have misused and abused it and each other.

"Jesus gave His children a better way, the way of living by faith. He didn't say it was an easier way, but it is a better way"... Lifelines vol. 29

### Ezekiel 36 & 37-conclusion

#### CONCLUSION...

# IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD (JOHN 1:1)....AND IN THE END WILL BE THE WORD (REVELATION 19:13-15)

## "The only thing that will bring order to this chaos, victory from this defeat, and cause this dying phoenix to rise again from the ashes of defeat is Me and My Word." (Jesus speaking)

Ezekiel 37:21, 22, 23... and say unto them, thus saith the lord god; behold, I will take the children of Israel (spiritual) from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: and I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all....

Ezekiel 37: 24, 25. And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. and they shall dwell in the land that i have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt: and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children forever: and my servant David shall be their prince forever.

(Vision ) Hallelujah! I saw a picture of dry bones in the desert being given life again--people being brought back to life and rising up out of the dust where they had been lying. The Lord was raising up an army from people who had been discouraged and downcast. He was taking the dry bones and restoring flesh to them and causing them to rise up out of their slumber. (Jesus continues: ) I have called forth the armies of David, and I have called you from your defeats into victory. I have raised you up again, you who have been struggling, despondent and discouraged. I have ignited the flame again! How encouraged I am to see you all answer the call of My Spirit in your hearts! I see many rising to fight again, and some who have been called to fight for the first time. I see young and old rising together to face the light as you begin to march in ranks toward Me. I see you rising up out of your complacency, compromise, disobedience, unyieldedness, jealousy, pride and bitterness. I see you all rising to meet the call of David, the cry of revolution! It's a Revolution! (Channel:) Here I see countless people in ranks marching forward raise their hands and shout, "For Jesus!"

dren of this Latter Day? Oh yes, I say, YES in great joy, that you, the children of David, will go for Us. You will be Our testimony to this world. You will be Our face, Our eyes, the hands of Heaven on Earth at this hour.

You are called to such a time as this. From the foundations of the world I have been preparing each of you. Think it not chance that you are here at this time, for this is your hour. This is what you are destined for. You have been preordained that you should live in this hour and be a channel of the power of God at this time.

From the ashes of the old shall the phoenix rise once more and fulfill its destiny.



Ezekiel 37: 24, 25. And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them. and they shall dwell in the land that i have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt: and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children forever: and my servant David shall be their prince forever.

#### THE END