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the Soulwinner

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ISSUE 15

ONE SOUL AT A TIME

Mark 15:16 — King James Version 1611

Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature

Promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the Inner City

Illustration, photography, graphic design and journalism by Jim Robinson

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Moses' Grandiose Miracles

From Plagues On Egypt to Parting the Red Sea



Moses Parts the Red Sea, oil by Jim Robinson. One of the many miracles in the book of Exodus, the power of God is revealed by the hand of Moses. [Order print.](#)

It is unlikely you will find another prophet in the Bible who rendered miracles as grandiose as Moses. When he went to Pharaoh to let God's people go, for Egypt had enslaved the Hebrews for 400 years, Pharaoh refused. After God had talked with Moses who felt he was not adequate for the job as a prophet, God showed Moses the power of the rod in his hand—the miraculous ability for it to perform unbelievable acts.

Every time Moses went to Pharaoh requesting him to let God's people go, Pharaoh refused and Moses sent a plague on Egypt ([Exodus 7-13](#)). There was total of 10 plagues, each successively more dangerous than the first. All of the plagues were only on the Egyptians and did not effect the Hebrews living in Goshen.

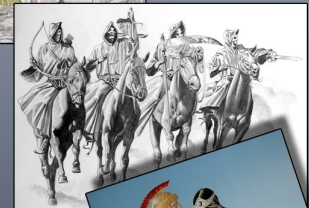
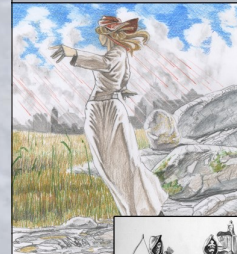
Moses turned the rivers into blood the first time Pharaoh refused. Then Moses called frogs, and all over Egypt was there frogs, one of their gods. Then Moses hit the dust of the earth with his rod when Pharaoh refused him, and the dust turned into lice all over Egypt. Then Moses called swarms of flies the next time Pharaoh refused. Then the Egyptian's cattle were smitten with a plague and it destroyed most of them. Then God sent boils on the Egyptians at the rod of Moses, but Pharaoh still refused to let the people go. So God called hail on all the servants and cattle left in the field for those who doubted the power of God and would not return

from the field. And there was fire mingled with the hail. Still in all Moses did, Pharaoh refused to humble himself to God and instead hardened his heart and denied the Hebrews their freedom. So Moses brought locusts at the hand of God in a strong east wind, and the locusts ate up the trees. Then Moses brought a plague of darkness with the black of the night so thick it could be felt, but still Pharaoh refused him.

The last plague that Moses brought was the death of the firstborn for every home that did not have the mark of the Passover. The mark instructed the Death Angel to pass over that home and not to kill its firstborn. And that mark represents Jesus Christ today, a tradition of the Jews since the days of Moses. Pharaoh then let the people go after loosing his firstborn.

Moses went out of Egypt in haste with the people in a count over a million, and they traveled through the wilderness until they came to the Red Sea ([Exodus 14](#)). Many of the Hebrews murmured against Moses as to what he would do with the sea standing in the way. And the glory of God was revealed one more time when Moses lifted his rod in the air and parted the Red Sea. The Hebrews then crossed safely over and the pursuing Egyptian army and Pharaoh were drown in the sea when God brought the waters back on them. These great miracles parallel the creation of the world.

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The Glory of the 7 Days of Creation

The Proof of God Often Ignored

When a Christian starts his day, it is good for him to have a prayer life that glorifies God. One way to do that is to recognize God's great miracles, especially the miracle of the creation of the world—the most powerful of them all. In six days God created the world and rested on the seventh, and the work that he did was so expansive it surpasses human comprehension. But how many times do we take God's great majesty for granted and fail to give Him glory for it?

Many scoffers are always doubting God. Those are the kinds of people who consider the Bible a fairy tale, but they are also those who can not explain creation. The Bible involves **faith**. God said in [Genesis chapter 1](#) that light came forth from the darkness on the first day. On the second day the firmament of the heavens were separated from the firmament of the waters. On the third day God separated the land from the seas and put vegetation on the land. On the fourth day he put the stars, sun and moon in the sky. He put the fish in the sea and birds in the air on the fifth day. On the sixth day he put animals on the land and created man from the dust of the earth. Then he rested on the seventh day. The Christian honors those passages and praises God for His creation; the pagan secular humanist calls it foolishness. That is what separates the faithful Christian from the unfaithful pagan—it is all a matter of faith. The pagan has no faith in the Word of God.

Life brings adversity, for some more than others. We have health problems, financial problems, nations sway in and out of war, and there is crime. But if we stop to think about a God that created the world we might ask: is anything too hard for God? Perhaps when we have problems in life, some of which we feel are insurmountable, we might stop to think about a God who has the power to create the world also has the power to help us with our problems. It is really a matter of **faith**.



Panther, pencil and digital enhancement by Jim Robinson. Do you believe all the animals came from God on the 6th day of Creation? [Order print.](#)

The Valley of Dried Bones

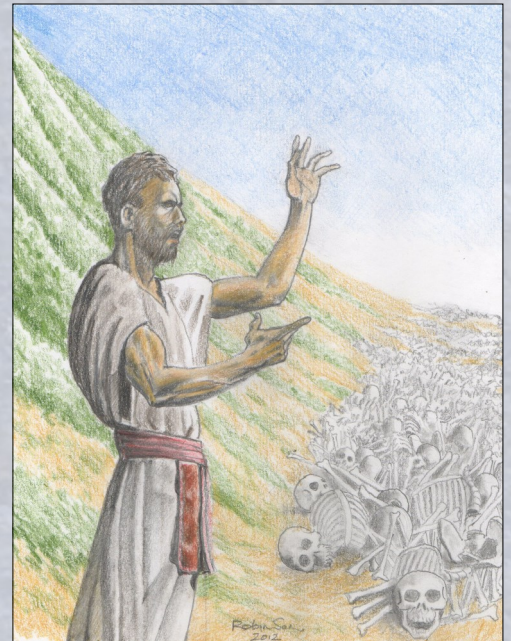
Ezekiel Revives an Army

Ezekiel had his ministry during the exile in Babylon after Jerusalem was besieged between about 590-570 BC. Whereas Jeremiah, Ezekiel's forerunner, beheld the taking of Israel, Ezekiel saw the fall and restoration of Israel. Ezekiel came from a priestly family, and he was familiar with Jerusalem and its Temple. God had charged Ezekiel to be His spokesman and watchman for the exiles, and Ezekiel was primarily a preacher of repentance and judgment to the rebellious people of God's nation.

In [Ezekiel 37:1-14](#), God presents us with Ezekiel's vision in a valley. He saw a multitude of dry bones piled up in the valley and they were very dead and unmovable. God commanded Ezekiel to preach to them and revive them. And as Ezekiel was carrying out God's command, the bones came together and the flesh came upon them to a point where they assembled into bodies. And the mass of bodies formed into an exceeding great army.

Many times today the pastor of a church is presented with the chronic failure of people to be faithful to the things of God. Even though they are saved and may even be coming to church, they fail to do anything for the cause of Christ, many to the point where they do not go soul winning. God wants his people to be actively serving him, and there are a great amount of blessings that come with that service. Most importantly, God wants his people to be soul winning which is the greatest gift the Christian can give back to God. The gospel can be carried out in the city from one sinner to another.

The analogy of the dried bones being a motionless people can also be applied to a nation. In America, we have repeatedly failed to honor God the same way we honored Him in our history from the 1700's. At that time, many people were Christians and sure about their doctrine because most of the churches were the same. Today there is such a variety of religions, both the divisions of Christianity and other pagan religions, we can not seem to get a hold on God as a nation. It was America's faithfulness to God that won the world wars and kept us a free sovereign nation for 200 years. It would be best for Americans to heed the call of God's preachers at a time when she is stale, motionless and dead for the things of God.



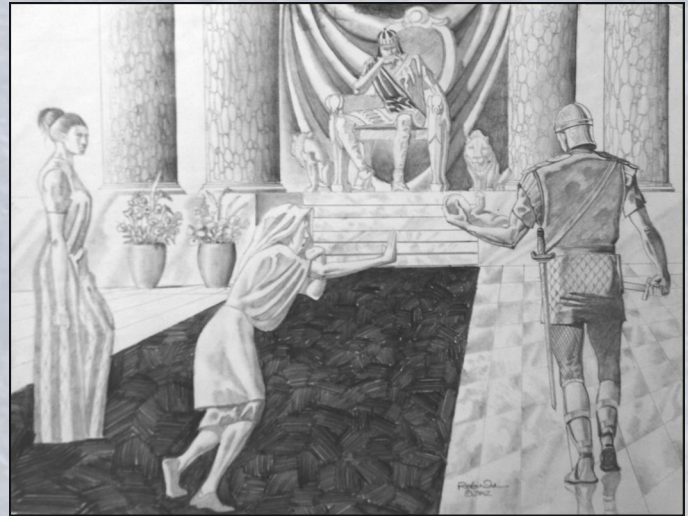
Ezekiel and the Valley of Dried Bones, color pencil by Jim Robinson. Although a vision, the account of the dry bones reassembling into an army is a statement of awesome proportion about the potential for God's people to serve Him. [Order print.](#)

King Solomon From the Greatest to the Least

In [1 Kings 3:3-15](#) Solomon was new at being King, having just been given the throne from his father David after David died. In his early years as king, Solomon was very close to God and led his kingdom with a wisdom that surpassed all other men. The wisdom he had came from God's offer to grant Solomon anything he wanted. Solomon did not ask for the lives of his enemies, nor riches, but he asked only for wisdom to lead the people. He said he was as a child and did not know how to lead. Solomon proved at that point in his life that he was a humble man who honored and feared God. Solomon is shown here as the king that decided between the two harlots' baby in [1 Kings 3:16-28](#).

The result of Solomon's humility before God was that he had the greatest kingdom in the world, and the most wealthy. Solomon dissolved peoples doubts with his famous wisdom, and the Queen of Sheba even came to prove him and found him sound ([1 Kings 10:1-13](#)). But as you read on in [1 Kings 10:14-29](#) and [1 Kings 11](#) you see that Solomon's fame went to his head, and he became very proud.

Solomon began to take wives in abundance. It says in 1 Kings 11:3 that he had 1000 wives and concubines by the time he had changed his mind about his humility before God. And his wives were responsible for changing his mind. Solomon began to sacrifice to other gods to appease his wives, and he built altars to them, something forbidden by Jehovah. In time, Solomon became so far from God he had completely destroyed his testimony as a humble servant of God, and his sorrow is reflected in his book *Ecclesiastes*. Solomon died very sorrowful.



The Wisdom of Solomon, pencil by Jim Robinson. At one time, Solomon was the wisest and most wealthy man who ever lived, but he lost his faith in God. [Order Print.](#)

In Solomon's earlier years he collected the proverbs of the day, mingled with proverbs that God had given him, and he wrote the *Book of Proverbs*. That book is still used today thousands of years later to guide us in our business transactions, everyday living, finances, health and many other facets of life. Solomon also wrote the *Song of Solomon* as a tribute to the romance between him and his wife with a dual meaning of the relationship of Jesus to the church.

The Institution of Marriage No Longer Guided by God?

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh (Genesis 2: 24).

God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden to work there, and Adam's work was not grievous to him. Still, however, even with the comfort he had in the garden, God found Adam incomplete and He said *it is not good that man should be alone* (Genesis 2:18). It was in God's divine order to have a man **and** a woman, a husband and wife, as the proper form of man so that he wife could be man's help to do his work in the garden. Thus the institution of marriage has been around a since the creation of man. But what has man done to this institution over the years?

When Jesus was asked about divorce by the proud righteous Pharisees, he denounced it ([Matthew 5:31-32](#)). It is obvious then that Moses' writings to appease man on divorce was not in God's original plan for man, and Jesus called it a sin to get divorced. Yet today, divorce is commonplace, and people often marry with the premise that if it doesn't work out there will be a divorce. In addition to this, very often God is not and never was a part of the marriage because the couple do not seek God on a daily basis and instead they rely on material things to make their marriage work. A woman will marry a man for the income he receives, and a man will marry a woman for the same reason. The meaning of romantic love has since changed from the Garden of Eden, except for those who understand its Biblical meaning.

A marriage guided by the principles of the Bible is a marriage that has potential to be successful, but other secular philosophies guiding a marriage are eliminating the blessing and power of God in troubled times.



Cornelius and His Wife, oil by Jim Robinson. Since the beginning of the world God meant for married couples to stay together. [Order Print.](#)



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