



GREETINGS FROM THE GRIFFINS

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DRY BONES

Onward Christian soldiers,
marching as to war, with the cross of
Jesus going on before.

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. And He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were very dry. And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered "O Lord God Thou knowest."

Eze. 37:1-3

This story as told in Ezekiel depicts a barren valley full of the bones of a defeated army that was utterly destroyed. The Lord asks His prophet Ezekiel "Can the army be revived?" Of course the Lord is asking a rhetorical question, one that Ezekiel can't honestly answer apart from total faith in God. We understand the point of the story is that the army of God was defeated by the enemy of God. The end of the story reveals the Lord breathes life into the bones which causes the bones to come together, each bone to the other, and results in "an exceedingly great army." We also know none of this is possible without faith in God and total reliance on Him and His will.

Many places in the Bible we Christians are described as the soldiers of Christ. We are told in Paul's epistles that we are to "put on the full armor of God" and that our battle is not "against flesh and blood but against the powers of darkness." In our daily lives we are to glorify Christ in our actions, words, and even in our thoughts. We are to live in the world but not be a part of the world. It is paramount to the Gospel that we present Jesus to everyone around us. And in that we are fighting the enemy at every turn. Unfortunately the Christian church and God's soldiers today are being defeated by the enemy every day. So much so that His army more closely resembles the valley of dry bones. You may ask how is that possible or say in your heart it is not true! The church and God's soldiers are alive and well and spreading the gospel through their personal testimony.

I would reply to that statement by asking, "Have you looked around your town, state, country, and the world at large?" Everyday we are bombarded by worldly attacks against our biblical, and Christian beliefs. We are told we are "haters" if we say we believe the Bible in it's entirety. We see the Christian fabric of our society unraveling before our very eyes. So I would say, "if the Lords army was truly fighting back against the wiles of the devil, our world would not be crumbling down around our Christian ears." Don't lose heart the war is not over, we can be the soldiers that the Lord needs. All we need to do is call on Jesus and turn our life

over to Him. Ask Him to breathe life into our hearts, and give us the courage to stand up for Him. To reject the worldly lies of the enemy and seek Him daily.



Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner,
it shall not suffer loss.
Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
stand in His strength alone!
The arm of flesh will fail you;
ye dare not trust your own.

Come Alive (Dry Bones)

Here is a song by Lauren Daigle that really speaks to the idea that God was presenting in the book of Ezekiel. Here is the link for youtube so you can listen to the song if you haven't heard it before. <https://youtu.be/qllRAfrmE7g>

Through the eyes of men it seems there's so much we have lost.

As we look down the road where all the prodigals have walked.

One by one the enemy has whispered lies, and led them off as slaves. But we know that you are God, yours is the victory. We know there is more to come that we may not yet see. So with the faith you've given us we'll step into the valley unafraid, yeah. As we call out to dry bones come alive, come alive.

We call out to dead hearts come alive, come alive.

Up out of the ashes let us see an army rise. We call out to dry bones, come alive God of endless mercy, God of unrelenting love. Rescue every daughter bring us back the wayward son. And by your spirit breathe upon them show the world that you alone can save. You alone can save. As we call out to dry bones come alive, come alive. We call out to dead hearts come alive, come alive.

Up out of the ashes let us see an army rise. We call out to dry bones come alive

So breathe, oh breath of God now breathe, oh breath of God

Breathe, oh breath of God now breathe. Breathe, oh breath of God

Now breathe, oh breath of God breathe, oh breath of God, now breathe.

As we call out to dry bones come alive, come alive we call out to dead hearts come alive, come alive. Up out of the ashes let us see an army rise.

We call out to dry bones, come alive, we call out to dry bones, come alive

Oh come alive

Whitetail Campground

Our trip from Wickenburg to Mt Lemmon was primarily uneventful with one exception. The day we traveled was pretty warm in the desert, and the trip up the mountain a little more than our truck could handle. We arrived at our host site with the transmission spewing fluid. It had given its life to haul our house up the mountain. The transmission is now getting rebuilt.

We have gotten settled into our summer routine. We had a cold start as there were several snow storms during April and May. We have also had a couple issues with the wildlife in the area. In the last 10 days there have been 2 separate incidences of people being bitten by foxes. Just this weekend there was a problem bear that walked more than 200 miles cross country to start causing problems on Mt Lemmon. He continued his cross country trek and ended up in Tucson where Game & Fish had to put him down. We attended a two hour class to learn how to handle human/animal encounters. It was an eye opening class. We hope to never have to face any of those types of encounters. Meanwhile, we are enjoying the campers and the interaction we have with them.

We continue to be blessed by our Lord for His provisions and protection. Even though we have lost some of our regular supporters God still provides what we need. Thank you for those of you who have remained with us.