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# Discovery

*Scripture & Science for Kids*



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# Bone

# REPAIR



## ERIC LYONS

It was a nice summer day. I was seven years old, enjoying playing with my brother. He was steering the bike and peddling hard, while I was riding on the handlebars. With the wind in my hair, the sun on my face, and all day to play, things were looking good. But then, for some reason, my brother suddenly stopped—I didn't. I kept going forward, but not on the handlebars. I soared through the air and landed on my shoulder, breaking my left collar bone.

It was the first bone I had ever broken, and, oh, how it hurt! The doctor gave me a kind of harness to wear over my shoulders, and said that in about eight weeks my collar bone should be good as new, maybe even stronger.

As good as new? Even stronger than before? In just eight weeks? How could a bone that I had just broken grow back together by itself? The reason: God designed the human body so that when we break a bone, it has the ability to heal itself. Doctors may assist in this healing procedure by setting bones back in place, but your intelligently designed body does the rest.

The bone-healing process begins as soon as the bone is broken (which is one reason why, if you have to get a broken bone set by a doctor, it needs to be done as soon as possible). When a bone breaks (or fractures), blood vessels within the bone and the surrounding tissue burst, causing a blood clot at the fracture site. Over the next few days, your body works around the clock to heal itself (without you even thinking about it).

As blood vessels bring proteins to the fracture site, cartilage begins to form in place of the blood clot and acts

as a splint for the broken bone. Your body also sends tiny crystals of calcium through your blood stream to the fracture. A few days later, a bony deposit forms and replaces the cartilage with spongy bone. Blood cells continue to provide the fracture site with the proper nutrients. Within 6-8 weeks, the spongy, bony deposit turns into a strong, stable "patch" of bone that can last a lifetime.

This new bone, like the old one, is strong and lightweight. Amazingly, your body does all of this "automatically." Just imagine seeing a car door dented, scratched, and out of order, following a wreck. What if, over the next eight weeks, as the car continued to be driven, it "automatically" repaired itself without any help from an automotive body shop? Such



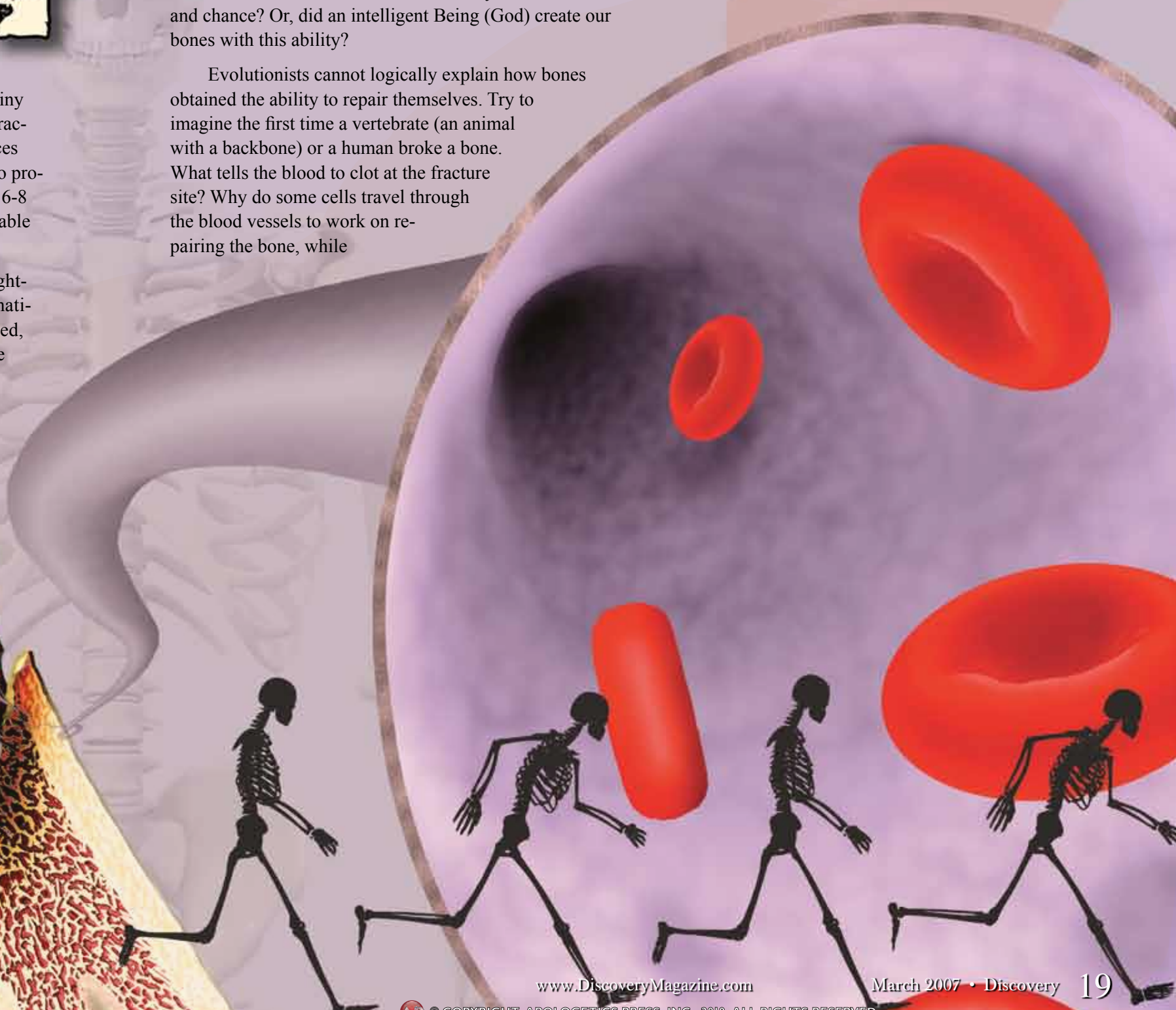
a feat would be amazing. No one would believe that the door simply had evolved the ability to repair itself. We would rightly conclude that the car door had been skillfully programmed to perform its job.

Unlike dented, broken car doors, your body really does have the ability to heal its broken bones. When my dad was 65 years old, he was hit by a car while he was walking across the street. The crash fractured his left hip, left leg, and his left wrist (in two places). However, it only took a few months before he was walking around and wrestling with his grandchildren. Even at age 65, his bones had healed themselves. Was this action merely the result of time and chance? Or, did an intelligent Being (God) create our bones with this ability?

Evolutionists cannot logically explain how bones obtained the ability to repair themselves. Try to imagine the first time a vertebrate (an animal with a backbone) or a human broke a bone. What tells the blood to clot at the fracture site? Why do some cells travel through the blood vessels to work on repairing the bone, while

others continue working in other parts of the body? Why does new **bone** begin growing at the fracture site? Why not skin, or hair, or something else? Any answer that depends on time and chance, rather than an intelligent Designer, is doomed to fail.

We should praise the Lord, not evolution, for our amazing bodies (Psalm 139:14). "Know that the Lord, He is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves" (Psalm 100:3).





# NO Broken

# Bone

Kyle Butt

Suppose you are going to pick John Smith up at the airport. What if you have never met him? How are you going to know which one of the passengers is John Smith? You would need a description. You would need to know things like his height, weight, age, hair color, and what he is wearing. Finding a man who is six feet tall with blond hair, who is wearing blue jeans and a white button-up shirt would be pretty easy.

In the Old Testament, God told the Jewish nation about a special person who was coming to lead them. This person was called the Messiah or Savior. But the Jews needed to know what to look for. How would they know who the Messiah was if they had no information about Him? For this reason, God told the Jews many things about the Messiah that would help them identify Him. This is called Messianic prophecy. It simply means that God predicted things about the Messiah in the Old Testament that would come true later. When they did come true, then the Jews would know who



the Messiah was. For instance, God told the Jews that the Messiah would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14). He also told them that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), and would die for their sins (Isaiah 53). God even told the Jews that the Messiah would be betrayed for exactly 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12). These are just a few of the Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament. There are actually more than 300 prophecies concerning the Messiah that all came true in the life of Jesus.

There is one very interesting thing about the Messiah that God told the Jewish nation. In Exodus 12, God told the Israelites to celebrate the Passover feast. God designed this feast to help Israel remember the night He brought them out of Egypt. During the first Passover, they were supposed to sacrifice and eat a special lamb. After killing the lamb, they were told to put some of its blood around their doors. That night, God went through Egypt and killed all the firstborn children of the Egyptians. But God did not kill the firstborn children in any house that had the blood of the lamb over the door. The blood of the lamb saved their lives. But there was something very important about the way the Jews killed the lamb. God told them to make sure that they did not break any of its bones (read Exodus

12:46). Why would God tell them not to break its bones? We find out the answer in the New Testament.

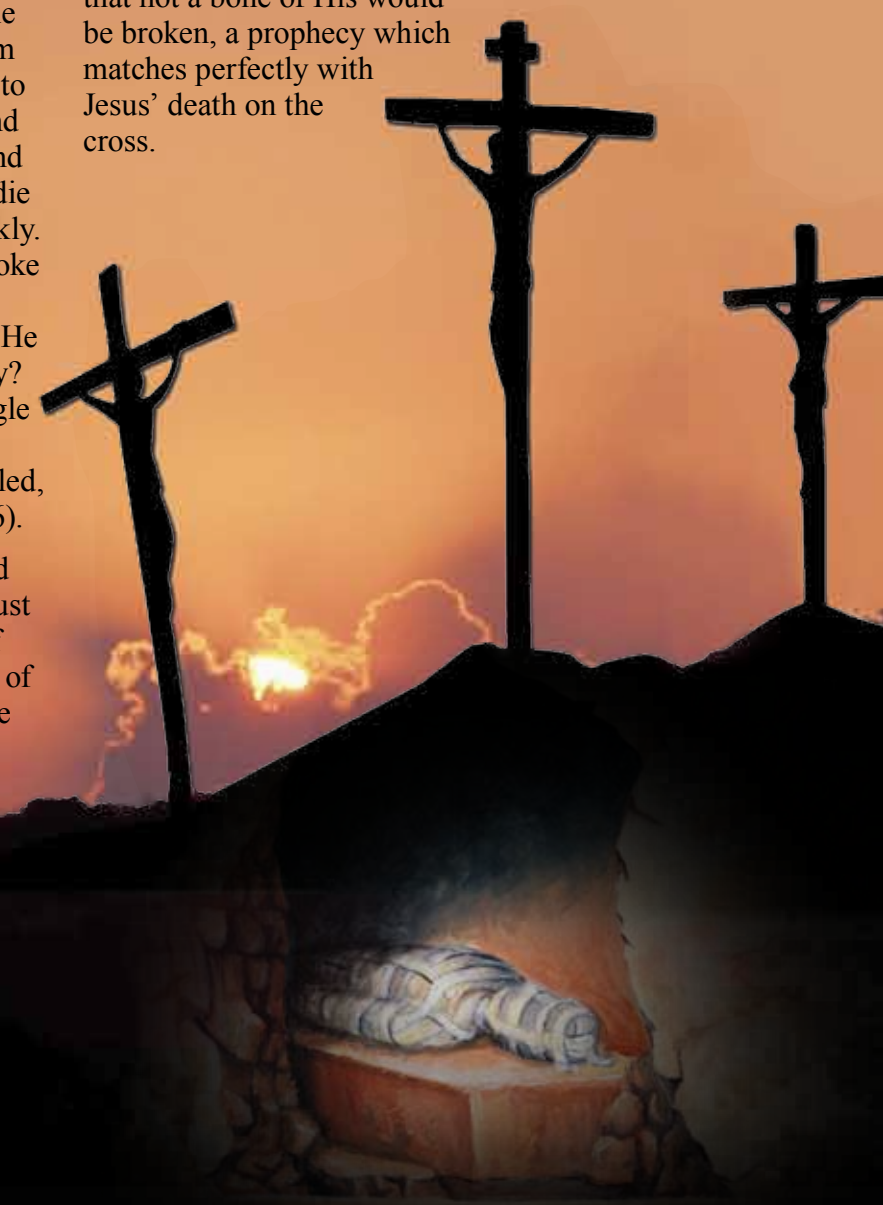
Jesus, the Messiah, was sacrificed on the cross for our sins. Usually, when someone was hung on a cross, Roman soldiers would break his legs. This



The Bible says that Roman soldiers broke the legs of the two robbers who were crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus, He was already dead. They did not break his legs. Why? Because He was like the Passover lamb—not a single bone was broken. The apostle John said: “For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, ‘Not one of His bones shall be broken’” (John 19:36).

The Bible describes Jesus as “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). Just as the blood of the Passover lamb saved the lives of the firstborn in Israel, the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God, saves those who obey Him today. God told the

world to look for a coming Messiah, and He described many things to help us identify that Savior. One of those things was the fact that not a bone of His would be broken, a prophecy which matches perfectly with Jesus’ death on the cross.

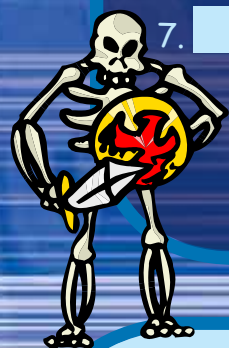




# ACTIVITY PAGE

## WORD SEARCH

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 A N O T I Z A G P N P B  
 J O L Y R W F P I N J M  
 T B B R B D A P M X M A  
 U C S D B J E S U S Q L



- Bone
- Skeleton
- Ezekiel
- Dry
- Lamb of God
- Jesus
- Broken
- Calcium
- Design
- Blood



## TRUE OR FALSE

- Bones evolved the ability to heal themselves.
- The bone-healing process begins as soon as the bone is broken.
- Roman soldiers broke the legs of the two robbers who were crucified with Jesus.
- The Bible records that Elijah spoke to a pile of dry bones.
- God can restore spiritual life to penitent people who formerly rejected Him.
- All killing is wrong.
- God told the Jews many things about the Messiah that would help them identify Him.
- It takes three years for broken bones to heal.

(New King James Version)

1. "Know that the \_\_\_\_\_, He is God; it is He who has \_\_\_\_\_ us, and not we ourselves" (Psalm 100:3).
2. "I will \_\_\_\_\_ You, for I am fearfully and \_\_\_\_\_ made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well" (Psalm 139:14).
3. "For these things were done that the Scripture should be \_\_\_\_\_, 'Not one of His bones shall be \_\_\_\_\_'" (John 19:36).
4. "Again He said to me, 'Prophesy to these \_\_\_\_\_, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall \_\_\_\_\_. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord'" (Ezekiel 37:4-6).

## COMPLETE THE BIBLE VERSES

1.  Number of Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah that all came true in the life of Jesus
2.  Number of Jesus' broken bones
3.  God instructed this prophet to speak to dry bones
4.  Your body sends these tiny crystals to a fractured bone through the blood stream
5.  Number of weeks it takes for certain fractures to heal
6.  The prophet who predicted that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.
7.  Number of thieves crucified with Jesus whose legs were broken

- A. 2
- B. calcium
- C. Micah
- D. 6-8
- E. 0
- F. 300+
- G. Ezekiel

## MATCHING

## ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

1. Explain briefly how a fractured bone heals itself.
2. Discuss the importance of Jesus' bones not being broken.
3. Write down the difference between killing and murder.



Dear Digger Doug,

In Ecclesiastes 3:3, the Bible says there is "a time to kill," but in Exodus 20:13, it says not to murder. Can you explain this?  
 —Hannah, Cookeville, TN

Dear Hannah,

This is a wonderful question. Sometimes, people who disbelieve that the Bible is the Word of God try to prove that one part of the Bible contradicts another part. These critics then say that, since the God of the Bible never would contradict Himself, the Bible cannot be from Him. When a critic makes such an accusation, it is called an "alleged contradiction" or an "alleged discrepancy." The truth is, however, that the Bible writers never contradicted themselves. In fact, no critic ever has proven that the Bible writers made mistakes. There is no contradiction between Exodus 20:13 and Ecclesiastes 3:3.

Remember, there were occasions when God commanded the Israelites to take the lives of certain people. For example, they were to execute murderers and other offenders (Exodus 21:15-17,23; Deuteronomy 22:26; Numbers 35:30). Also, when Israel invaded their land of promise, they were to kill the people who lived there. In Deuteronomy 20:17, we read God's command: "But you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, just as the Lord your God has commanded you." This was a time to kill, but remember that there was a godly reason for killing: "[L]est they teach you to do according to all their abominations which they have done for their gods, and you sin against the Lord your God" (20:18). In instances when God instructed the Israelites to go to war, they killed by the authority of God (read Exodus 17:8-16).

So the sixth commandment, "You shall not murder," does not mean that there is never a time when it is right to kill. It is wrong to purposefully take innocent human lives, or to wish harm on them (see Matthew 5:21-22; 1 John 4:20). We are responsible for studying God's Word to learn His will about how we should treat others. You can read about many more alleged discrepancies, and learn their solutions, at [www.apologeticspress.org/allegeddiscrepancies](http://www.apologeticspress.org/allegeddiscrepancies).







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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# Dry Bones, Come to Life!

CALEB COLLEY

## Open Your Bible (Ezekiel 37)

God brought His prophet Ezekiel to the valley to see an astonishing, terrifying sight. To Ezekiel's amazement, he saw what appeared to be an oversize graveyard.

God caused Ezekiel to walk all around the valley and view the large number of dead, dry, bleached bones which filled it. God asked the prophet a question: "Son of man, can these bones live?"

You and I have seen skeletons, and realize that there is no life in dead, dry bones. If we had looked upon the pile of jumbled bones, and the Lord

asked us whether the bones could live, we might have answered, "No, Lord.

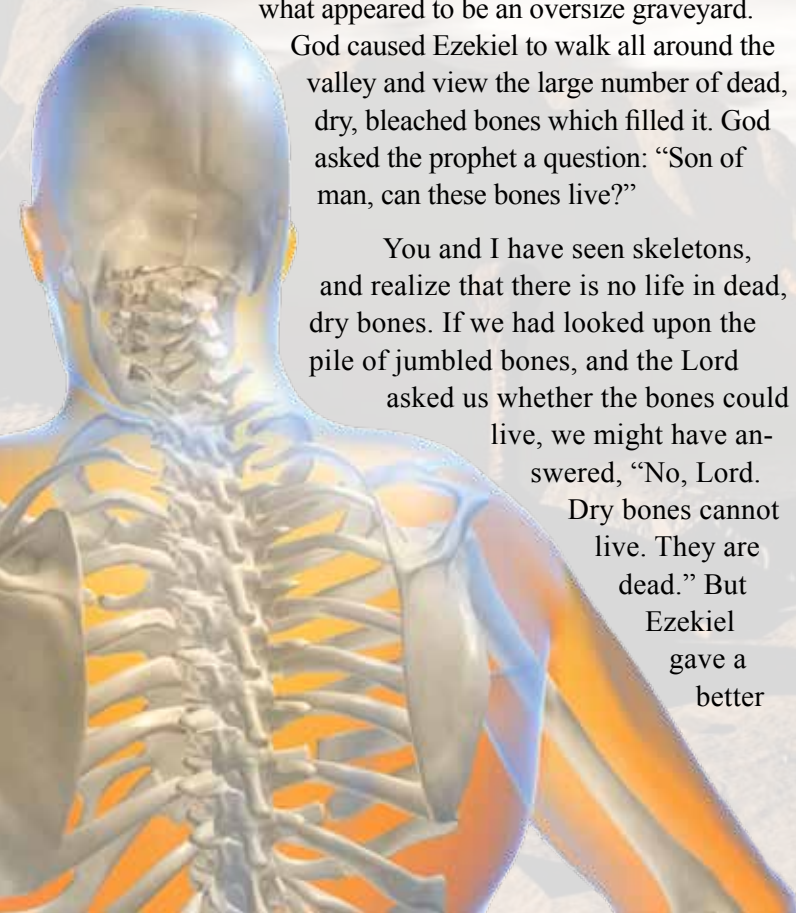
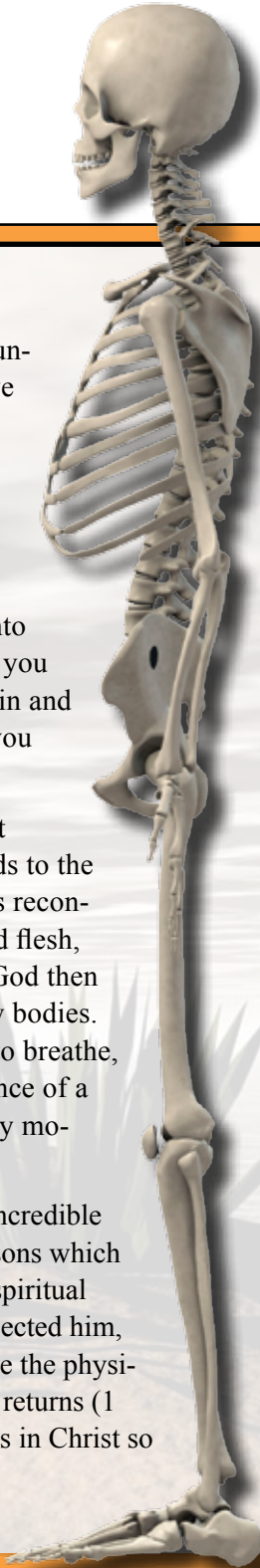
Dry bones cannot live. They are dead." But Ezekiel gave a better

answer: "O Lord God, You know." Ezekiel understood that if God wanted dry bones to live again, He could revive them. After all, He created them to begin with.

God instructed the prophet to speak to the bones: "O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: 'Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.'"

Ezekiel must have been amazed at what happened when he spoke those special words to the bones. Right before his very eyes, the bones reconnected to each other, developed muscles and flesh, and then skin covered the restored bodies. God then told Ezekiel to order breath to enter the new bodies. As the group of bodies in the valley began to breathe, Ezekiel recognized that he was in the presence of a great army of the Lord's making, which only moments before was a pile of rotting bones.

As God explained the meaning of this incredible miracle, Ezekiel learned some important lessons which are valuable for us as well: God can restore spiritual life even to penitent people who formerly rejected him, as the Israelites often did. Also, God can raise the physically dead, as He promises to do when Jesus returns (1 Thessalonians 4:15-18). Let's live godly lives in Christ so that we may be prepared for that great day!



## ANSWERS

TRUE OR FALSE: 1-F; 2-T; 3-T; 4-F; 5-T; 6-F; 7-T; 8-F. COMPLETE THE BIBLE VERSES: 1. Lord, made; 2. praise, wonderfully; 3. fulfilled, broken; 4. bones, live. MATCHING: 1. F (300+); 2. E (0); 3. G (Ezekiel); 4. B (calcium); 5. D (6-8); 6. C (Micah); 7. A (2).

