



Lessons from the Bones

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- 2Sam. 21:9-14 - "He (David) delivered them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they hanged them on the hill before the LORD. So they fell, all seven together, and were put to death in the days of harvest, in the first days, in the beginning of barley harvest. 10 Now Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until the late rains poured on them from heaven. And she did not allow the birds of the air to rest on them by day nor the beasts of the field by night. 11 And David was told what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done. 12 Then David went and took the bones of Saul, and the bones of Jonathan his son, from the men of Jabesh Gilead who had stolen them from the street of Beth Shan, where the Philistines had hung them up, after the Philistines had struck down Saul in Gilboa. 13 So he brought up the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from there; and they gathered the bones of those who had been hanged. 14 They buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the tomb of Kish his father. So they performed all that the king commanded. And after that God heeded the prayer for the land."

Lessons from the Bones

- The bodies and bones of the dead are to be treated with respect.
- Treating the dead with disrespect is the equivalent of treating the living judgmentally; both presume God's role as Judge
- "If we no longer treat the dead with dignity, what hope is there for the living?" (David Brennan)

Lessons from the Bones

- 1Kings 13:28-31 - “Then he went and found his corpse thrown on the road, and the donkey and the lion standing by the corpse. The lion had not eaten the corpse nor torn the donkey. 29 And the prophet took up the corpse of the man of God, laid it on the donkey, and brought it back. So the old prophet came to the city to mourn, and to bury him. 30 Then he laid the corpse in his own tomb; and they mourned over him, saying, Alas, my brother! 31 So it was, after he had buried him, that he spoke to his sons, saying, When I am dead, then bury me in the tomb where the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones.”

Lessons from the Bones

- The teaching and wisdom of humankind is often not understood or believed until one sees the corpse.
- “The bitterest tears shed over graves are for words left unsaid and deeds left undone.”
(Harriet Beecher Stowe)
- “Say not in grief he is no more - but live in thankfulness that he was.” (Rabbinical Proverb)

Jacob And Joseph's Bones

- Gen. 49:29-33 - "Then he charged them and said to them: I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, 30 in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite as a possession for a burial place. 31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife, there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah. 32 The field and the cave that is there were purchased from the sons of Heth. 33 And when Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people."

Jacob And Joseph's Bones

- Gen. 50:23-26 - "Joseph saw Ephraim's children to the third generation. The children of Machir, the son of Manasseh, were also brought up on Joseph's knees. 24 And Joseph said to his brethren, I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. 25 Then Joseph took an oath from the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here. 26 So Joseph died, being one hundred and ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt."

Jacob And Joseph's Bones

- The promise to Jacob looks to the past.
- The promise to Joseph looks to the future.
- Fulfillment
 - Ex. 13:19 - "And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you"
 - Joshua 24:32 - "The bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried at Shechem, in the plot of ground which Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver, and which had become an inheritance of the children of Joseph."

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- Human mortality: No one can stay in this world forever
 - Gen. 5:24 - “And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.”
 - 2Kings 2:11 - “Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.”

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- The departure can happen unexpectedly
 - Luke 12:19-20 - “And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry. 20 But God said to him, Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?”

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- Human must live with awareness of mortality
 - Ecc. 7:2 - “Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting, For that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart.”
 - Psalm 90:12 - “So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.”

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- No human is indispensable to God's plan
 - Gen. 45:5, 7-8 - "But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. 7 And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. 8 So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt."
 - Gen. 50:20 - "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- Matt. 3:9 - "And do not think to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones."
- Rom. 9:20-21 - "But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, Why have you made me like this? 21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?"
- Ecc. 12:13 - "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter; all has been said: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all."

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- Hope for deliverance
 - Gen. 50:24 - “And Joseph said to his brethren, I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”
 - Ex. 2:23 - “Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage.”

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- Psalm 105:17-20 - "He sent a man before them-Joseph-who was sold as a slave. 18 They hurt his feet with fetters, He was laid in irons. 19 Until the time that his word came to pass, The word of the LORD tested him. 20 The king sent and released him, The ruler of the people let him go free."
- Psalm 107:17-20 - "Fools, because of their transgression, And because of their iniquities, were afflicted. 18 Their soul abhorred all manner of food, And they drew near to the gates of death. 19 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresses. 20 He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions."

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- God will do what He says He will do
 - Gen. 50:25 - “Then Joseph took an oath from the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.”
 - 2Peter 3:9 - “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

Lessons From Joseph's Bones

- Heb. 11:11 - "By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised."
- Rom. 4:19-21 - "And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform."

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- We cannot teach any lessons from Jesus' bones, because His bones did not continue to lie in the earth
 - Psalm 16:10 - "For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption."

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- Immortality
 - John 11:25-26 - “Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”
 - John 5:28-29 - “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- 1Cor. 15:22 - "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."
- 2Tim. 1:10 - "Who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver us"
- Job 14:14 - "If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, Till my change comes."

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- Jesus is indispensable to God's plan
 - Heb. 10:11-14 - "And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. 14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."
 - Acts 4:12 - "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- His death and resurrection is the basis of our hope
 - Rom. 6:5 - “For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection”
 - 1Cor. 6:14 - “And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.”
 - 2Cor. 4:14 - “Knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.”

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- God will do all He says He will do
 - Luke 24:44 - “Then He said to them, These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.”

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- Acts 13:27-30 - “For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him. 28 And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. 29 Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. 30 But God raised Him from the dead.”

Lessons From Jesus' Tomb

- John 15:6-7 - "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you."
- Matt. 10:22 - "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved."