

Foreshadowing the Resurrection

*If a man dies, will he live again?
All the days of my hard service
I will wait for my renewal to come.
You will call and I will answer you;
you will long for the creature your hands have made.
(Job 14:14-15, NIV)*

*I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.
And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;
I myself will see him with my own eyes...
How my heart yearns within me! (Job 19:25-27, NIV)*

*You have made known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand. (Psalm 16:11, NIV)*

*God will redeem my life from the grave;
he will surely take me to himself. (Psalm 49:15, NIV)*

*He will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples...
He will swallow up death forever.
The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces.
(Isaiah 25:7-8, NIV)*

*The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out
by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley;
it was full of bones...He asked me, "Son of man, can these
bones live?"...So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath
entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—
a vast army. (Ezekiel 37:1, 3, 10, NIV)*

Adam and Eve turned away from God, though He had warned them that if they did, "they would surely die" (Genesis 2:17, NIV). But as He pronounced judgment on them, He also promised that the Seed of Eve would someday crush Satan's head (Genesis 3:15). Life would come from death.

During Noah's time, our sin had become so bad that God destroyed our entire race with a flood, saving only Noah's family. But when it was over, God promised, "Never again will I destroy all living creatures" (Genesis 8:21, NIV). In the struggle with sin, life would win.

Joseph faced imminent death, slavery, injustice, and prison, but emerged as prime minister of Egypt. Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, and whoever looked upon it was saved from death. The three Hebrew children were thrown into a fiery furnace but emerged unscathed. Elijah raised the widow's son. When Ezekiel spoke God's Word, an entire valley of dry bones came to life.

All these were glimpses, foretastes, anticipations of God's greatest miracle: death itself would die and would be removed from all creation forever. God's own Son would conquer it. He would endure a horrible death, then rise again, and in His train He would bring an entirely new race of holy, redeemed, glorified children of God.

Thanks be to God!

Hymns:
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Didn't He Rise!

© 2012 by Ken Bible, LNW@LNWhymns.com.