

Hebrews 13:20-21 ESV

20 Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, 21 equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us[a] that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

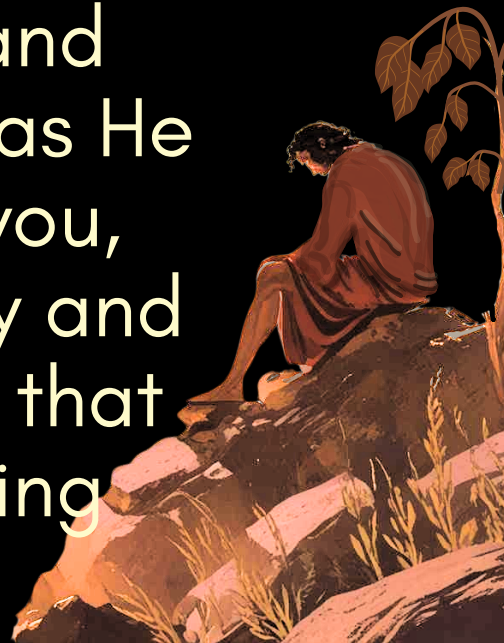
God's power brought Jesus from death, back to life. God is working in those who have been redeemed by faith in Jesus Christ to cause you to do His will and become pleasing to God as He looks on them. You are that person. God has saved you, has made you alive, and is working in you to equip you to participate in His salvific work. The desire to use your gifts to do God's good works and please Him glorifies Jesus Christ. God is the transforming God!



Isaiah 64:8 ESV

8 But now, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

When we are given faith, we realize that God is real, that God is present, God is perfect, and that God works. The faith to believe is evidence of salvation! Faith also causes us to realize that only God is God and only He has the right to deal however he wants to with His creation. This right is certainly extended to working with nature, but it also includes those whom He created in His image. You bear His image, and you are saved. Having this relationship with God and having this knowledge of God leads you to desire for Him to do as He will with you. Pray and ask God to help you desire His work in you, around you, and through you. Grow in seeing yourself as His clay and His creation as special. Ask God to make you useful to Him and that God would bring you honor in using you. God is the transforming God!



Ezekiel 37:12-14 ESV

12 Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. 13 And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. 14 And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

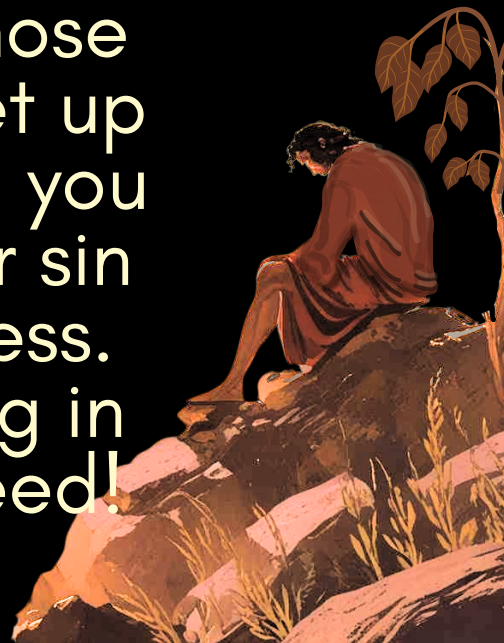
The valley of dry bones in Ezekiel 37 did not know that they were dead or dry. Dead people do not know they are dead. God commanded Ezekiel to speak, and God put flesh on the dry bones, and they came to life. God commissioned Ezekiel to speak to Israel that they are spiritually dead, and God will overcome death and bring them back to life. This is what God does. He gives life to dead people. You were once dead and God brought you back to life. In that new life, you can look back and see how death had a hold on you and you were caught in a grave. But God, in giving you life, put His Spirit in you and you are no longer dead. You are alive in Christ! Your God is the transforming God!



John 8:31-36 ESV

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" 34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave[a] to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

There is an idea in our culture of varied or multiple truths. How you see something, your truth, might be different than how someone else sees the same thing, their truth. The truth is that there is only one truth that exists. God's truth is expressed in His word and is made clear to those who read and understand it. If you hold tight to God's word and set up your life according to His word, then you will be God's disciple and you will know the truth. His truth set you free! God's truth revealed your sin and condemnation while also revealing that there was a forgiveness. Jesus Christ was God's way of destroying the curse of sin. Believing in the Son by faith set you free from sin and death. You are free indeed! You are alive and free! Your God is the transforming God!



Titus 2:11-12 ESV

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

As a child of God who is saved, God is working powerfully and effectively. This salvation isn't just to close the doors of hell and open the doors of heaven. You received the Holy Spirit and He is working in you to train you, to cause you to desire God, to reject the world's passions and values, and live by the fruit of the Spirit. The Spirit is working in you to produce Godliness and righteousness. You look less like you and more like Christ every day. This work doesn't remove you to a compound that separates you from the world, but it guards your heart and mind as you live in your Christlikeness in the world and neighborhood you once called home. Praise God for His work and petition Him to continue. Join God in this work in you. Your God is the Transforming God!

