

# The Resurrection Hope in the Tanakh (Old Testament)



“Abraham was certain God *was* able to raise [Isaac] up,  
even from the dead...” Hebrews 11:16-19

“For in the day of thine eating of it—**dying thou dost die.**”  
Gen. 2:17 *Young’s Literal*

“In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast  
thou taken: for dust thou art, and **unto dust shalt thou return.**”  
Gen. 3:19

## “Gathered to his People”

Abraham (Gen. 25:8) Moses (Deut. 32:50)	Isaac (Gen. 35:29) Aaron (Num. 20:26)	Jacob (Gen. 49:33) Ishmael (Gen. 25:17)
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## “Slept with his Fathers”

David (1 Kings 2:10) Solomon (1 Kings 11:43)	Rehoboam (1 Kings 14:31) Asa (1 Kings 15:24) Jehoshaphat (1 Kings 22:50)	Ahab (1 Kings 22:40) Manasseh (2 Chron. 33:20)
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## Soul Redeemed “from Power of Grave”

R5166 “God intends to restore to life, not the body, but the soul that died. The soul that went into death is the soul that was redeemed by Jesus.”—Psa. 49:15”	Psalm 49:15 “But God will <b>redeem my soul from the power of the grave:</b> for he shall receive me.”
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## Scriptures Defining Death—without Explicit Resurrection Hope

Psalm 146:4 “His breath goeth forth, he <b>returneth to his earth;</b> in that very day his thoughts perish.”
Ecc 3:19-20 “For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have <b>all one breath;</b> so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity. (20) All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.”
Ecc 9:5, 10 “For the living know that they shall die: but <b>the dead know not any thing.</b> . . .(10) Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might; for there is no activity or planning or knowledge, or wisdom, in the <b>grave [sheol], where you are going.</b> ”

## Elijah's Miracle for the Son of the Woman of Zarephath – 1 Kings 17:8-24

Vs. 17 “. . .the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was **no breath left in him**.

Vss. 21, 22 “I pray thee, let this child's soul [*nephesh* life] come into him again. And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul [*nephesh* life] of the children came into him again, and **he revived.**”

## Elisha's Awakenings: Shunammite Woman's Son. . .and Elisha's Bones

“And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the **child was dead**, and laid upon his bed. He went in therefore. . .he stretched himself upon the child, and the flesh of the child waxed warm. . .” (2 Kings 4:32 – 35)

“And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and **touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.**” (2 Kings 13:21)

## Prophet Isaiah's Three Encouraging Prophecies on Resurrection

Isaiah 25:6-8

“And the LORD of hosts will prepare a lavish banquet for all peoples on this mountain; A banquet of aged wine, choice pieces with marrow, And refined, aged wine. And on this mountain He will swallow up the covering which is over all peoples, Even the veil which is stretched over all nations. **He will swallow up death for all time, And the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces. . .**” NAS

Isaiah 26:19

**“But your dead will live;  
their bodies will rise.**

You who dwell in the dust,  
wake up and shout for joy.

Your dew is like the dew of the morning;  
**the earth will give birth to her dead..”** NIV

Isaiah 53:7-12

“. . .He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter. . . (8) for he was cut off out of the land of the living. . . (9) And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death. . . (10) Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin. . . (12) Therefore will **I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong. . .**”

## Prophet Daniel's Most Explicit Statements on Resurrection

Daniel 12:2

“And many [*rab*-abundant] of them that **sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake**, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting [*olam* age-lasting] contempt.” (Young's)

Dan 12:12-13

“Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. “But go thou [Daniel] thy way till the end be: **for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.**”

## Prophet Hosea's Two References to Resurrection

Hosea 13:14 “I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: <b>O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction. . .</b> ”	1 Corinthians 15:54-57 “O death, where is your victory? <b>O death, where is your sting?</b> For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power.”
Hosea 6:1-2 “Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. After two days will he revive us: <b>in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight..</b> “	

## Moses Actually Taught the Resurrection

Luke 20:27-40 “Now there came to Him some of the Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection), 28 and they questioned Him, . . . (34) And Jesus said to them. . . (37) ‘ . . .the dead are raised, <b>even Moses showed, in the passage about the burning bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.</b> (38) Now He is not the God of the dead, but of the living; for all live to Him.’ And some of the scribes answered and said, “Teacher, You have spoken well.” 40 For they did not have courage to question Him any longer about anything.” NAS
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## Job's Request to be Hidden in Sheol

“ <b>Oh, that thou wouldst hide me in the <i>grave</i>, that thou wouldst keep me secret until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldst appoint me a set time, and remember me [resurrect me]!</b> ”
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“ <b>Here is the most simple and most explicit statement of Job's hope.</b> He was not anxious for a perpetuation of the present conditions of sin and sorrow and trouble and pain; he was quite willing to be hidden in oblivion until the time when the curse, ‘wrath,’ shall be lifted from the earth, and the times of refreshing instead shall come. <b>But he does not wish to be blotted out forever.</b> Oh no! having <b>confidence</b> in the divine provision <b>for a future life, through a resurrection, he prays that God</b> in due time, after the curse of sin has been rolled away, will <b>remember him</b> , and call him out of oblivion into being again, by the restitution powers then to be exercised through the Christ.” --Volume 5 (pp. 359, 360)
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## Rachel Weeping for Her Children—“Shall Come Again to their Own Border”

Jeremiah 31:15-17 “Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; <b>Rachel [NAS] weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.</b> Thus saith the LORD; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and <b>they shall come again from the land of the enemy. And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border.</b> ”
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## Vision of the Resurrection of a Dead Nation—Israel

Ezekiel 37:1-10

“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." Again He said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.' "Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, 'Behold, **I will cause breath to enter you that you may come to life.** 'And I will put sinews on you, make flesh grow back on you, cover you with skin, and put breath in you that you may come alive; and you will know that I am the LORD.' "

“So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold, a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

And I looked, and behold, sinews were on them, and flesh grew, and skin covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' Come from the four winds, O breath, and **breathe on these slain, that they come to life.** "" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and **they came to life, and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.**” NAS

Ezekiel 37:11-14

“Then He said to me, "Son of man, **these bones are the whole house of Israel; behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope has perished.** We are completely cut off.'

"Therefore prophesy, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD," Behold, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, My people; and **I will bring you into the land of Israel.**

"Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves and caused you to come up out of your graves, My people. "And **I will put My Spirit within you, and you will come to life,** and I will place you on your own land. Then you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken and done it," declares the LORD.' " NAS



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