

## Jesus unlocks the Protea

Written by EssJee

Tuesday, 17 August 2010 21:05 - Last Updated Tuesday, 17 August 2010 21:23

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*Devotional done by Ess-Jee from stand for your marriage*



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Did you know that the Protea is one of the rarest flowers in South Africa? It is almost the only flower that grows well after being burned to the ground, becoming beautiful again from the ashes. Many people will tell you that there is no chance of it coming back to life again.

What about Jesus? When He was crucified and placed in His grave, no-one expected Him to come back. What about Lazarus?

*John 11:38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39"Take away the stone," he said.*

*□□□□□ "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." 40Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" □ 41So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." 43When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.*

*□□□□□ Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."*

In the natural sense it seemed impossible for Lazarus to come back alive. He had been dead for four days. Does your marriage sound the same, as in these stories, dead and hopeless? If it seems as dead, is there any life left? Of course, your God and King can breathe life back into your marriage.

*Ezekiel 37 The Valley of Dry Bones*

*□ 1 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and*

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*set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2 He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. 3 He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"*

*□□□□□ I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."*

*□ 4 Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! 5 This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath [ a ] enter you, and you will come to life. 6 I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.' "*

*□ 7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. 8 I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.*

*□ 9 Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live.' " 10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.*

*□ 11 Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13 Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. 14 I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.' "*

The Lord can and will bring your dead marriage back to life. Do you believe He can and that He is true to His word? The Lord has taught me, to have faith, one must have patience. Faith and patience goes hand and hand.

So have faith dear Stander, that God is true to His word and He will do what He promised. God is in the restoration business. Stand until your marriage is resurrected and restored.

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Don't break faith with the spouse of your youth, but stand in the knowing that God will come through for you and your beloved. Blooming season is Here!