

# Them bones in the church

## Introduction:

1. Common use of bones in modern English
  2. Bible references to bones
    - a. Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:23)
    - b. Joseph requested that his bones be exhumed from his tomb in Egypt and buried in Canaan (Genesis 50:25)
    - c. Ezekiel spoke about a valley of dead, bleached out, dry bones (Ezekiel 37)
    - d. New Testament used bones to describe the pharisees' religious hypocrisy (Matthew 23:27)
- I. Jawbones
- A. One who approaches every subject with an open mouth (Revelation 2:7)
  - B. Jawbone Christians often talk, suggest, criticize, but never do a thing Matthew 23:3; 1 John 3:17-18
  - C. Jawbone Christians often talk a good cause for Christ, but love a poor one Luke 6:46; James 1:26
- II. Knucklebones
- A. A knucklebone Christian is one who is always knocking everything and everybody
  - B. First class complainer
  - C. Why are there knucklebones?
  - D. It takes dedicated, loving, and generous Christians to build up, and one or two knucklebones to destroy it.
  - E. These are those who are the murmurers and complainers. 1 Corinthians 10.
- III. Wishbones
- A. Wishbone Christians are the planners, dreamers and wishers. (Proverbs 29:18)
- IV. Funny-bones
- A. These are the type of Christians who never seem to take God and His word seriously (Ecclesiastes 3:4)
  - B. In Noah's time, people probably thought that he was a comedian and a fool (Hebrews 11:7)
- V. Dead-bones
- A. These are Christians who are either spiritually dead or are dying spiritually.
    1. Ezekiel 37; Matthew 23:27 ; Revelation 3:1

2. God expects the church to be full of spiritually living Christians, not dead ones.

#### VI. Lazy-Bones

- A. Matthew 25:26, 30).
- B. Hebrews 12:6

#### VII. Backbones

- A. These are Christians who take a stand against evil, and in a devil dominated world, God has always kept His backbones alive. Genesis 39:9; Daniel 1:8
- B. Christ and His church need Christians with backbones that will defend the cause and His bride (1 Thessalonians 5:22)
- C. The church needs backbone Christians to do good works (Titus 2:14)
- D. The church needs preachers with backbone to preach the Gospel
  1. Stephen (Acts 7)
  2. Timothy (2 Timothy 4:2; 1 Timothy 1:3; Galatians 1:6-9)
  3. Tell it like it is in order to save people (Mark 16:15-16)

#### Conclusion:

1. What kind of bone are you? Pray that you are a useful bone in the service to the Lord and His church.