Dr. Delvin Atchison: A Prophetic Response to 'I Can't Breathe'

August 10, 2020

Baptists Preaching is a <u>column</u> from the Baptist Standard. It is not an effort to advance any one theology or style but to present what a collection of Baptists considers a word from God. Likewise, Baptists Preaching offers a repository of Baptist preaching for future study and research. To recommend a sermon to be featured in Baptists Preaching, please contact <u>eric.black@baptiststandard.com</u>.

Dr. Delvin Atchison: A Prophetic Response to 'I Can't Breathe' (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

Dr. Delvin Atchison, the senior pastor of <u>Westside Baptist Church</u> in Lewisville, Texas, addresses race head-on, saying he "will stop preaching about it when it stops being an issue." While other pastors in other contexts can avoid talking about race, he cannot. He challenges preachers to become prophets in these times, not just speaking to their congregations, but speaking to their generation.

Atchison said, "I refuse to give up hope." He refuses to give in to despair, what Atchison calls a "heresy against God."

He examines Ezekiel's vision of dry bones in the valley. This vision shows extensive division and destruction. God confronts Ezekiel with a weighty question, the answer to which is only in God. What follows illustrates Atchison's reason for hope.

This sermon was livestreamed on June 28, 2020, for the morning worship service of Westside Baptist Church in Lewisville.