

STANDING IN THE GAP

Ezekiel 22:30 (NKJV)

³⁰ So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall,
and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I
should not destroy it; but I found no one.

STANDING IN THE GAP

Ezekiel 22:23-31 (NKJV)

²³ And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, ²⁴ "Son of man, say to her: 'You *are* a land that is not cleansed or rained on in the day of indignation.' ²⁵ The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst.

STANDING IN THE GAP

Ezekiel 22:23-31 (NKJV)

²⁶ Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known *the difference* between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them. ²⁷ Her princes in her midst *are* like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people, and to get dishonest gain.

STANDING IN THE GAP

Ezekiel 22:23-31 (NKJV)

²⁸ Her prophets plastered them with untempered *mortar*, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' when the LORD had not spoken.

²⁹ The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger.

STANDING IN THE GAP

Ezekiel 22:23-31 (NKJV)

³⁰ So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. ³¹

Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD.

STANDING IN THE GAP



- ♦ **The Prophets** - conspired to speak lies for money thus destroying the people through their pseudo visions – vs. 25,28
- ♦ **The Priest** - violated the Law and failed to discriminate between the holy and common – vs. 26
- ♦ **The Rulers** - were unjust, killing, stealing and taking advantage of the people for “dishonest gain” – vs. 27
- ♦ **The people** - oppressed the poor, needy and strangers – vs. 29

STANDING IN THE GAP

GOD SOUGHT A MAN

- ♦ **To build a wall and stand before Him on behalf of the land, that He might not destroy it - (Ezk 22:30).**
- ♦ **The word “gap” refers to a breach in a wall of protection - (Ps 80:12, Isa 5:2-6, Ps 89:40).**
- ♦ **Several passages in the Old Testament reveal that broken walls lead to destruction unless someone stands in the gap - (Ezk 13:5, Ps 106:23).**



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GOD SOUGHT A MAN

- ◆ Unfortunately, during the time of Ezekiel, God found no one; (cf. Is. 59:16; 63:5; Jer. 5:1)
- ◆ Therefore, He poured out His wrath upon the people and consumed them - (Ezk 22:31).



STANDING IN THE GAP



INTERCESSION

- ◆ **Abraham** – (*Gen. 18:23-32*)
- ◆ **Moses** – (*Ex. 32:10-14; Psalm 106:23*)
- ◆ **Moses & Aaron** – [Rebellion of Korah, Dathan, Abiram and On] - (*Nu 16:21,22*)
- ◆ **Samuel** – [Address to the people at Saul's coronation] - (*1 Sam. 12:23*)
- ◆ **Jesus** – (*Is. 53:12; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 4:1; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25*)

STANDING IN THE GAP



DEFENDER

- ◆ **Phinehas** – (Num. 25:6-9)
- ◆ **Aaron** – (Numbers 16:46-48)
- ◆ **David** – (1 Sam. 17:26,32-51)
- ◆ **Josiah** – (2 Kings 23:3-25)

2 Timothy 4:2 (NKJV)

²Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season.

Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

STANDING IN THE GAP



DEFENDER

- ◆ **Phinehas** – (Num. 25:6-9)
- ◆ **Aaron** – (Numbers 16:46-48)
- ◆ **David** – (1 Sam. 17:26,32-51)
- ◆ **Josiah** – (2 Kings 23:3-25)

Jude 1:3 (NKJV)

³ Beloved, . . . I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

STANDING IN THE GAP

ACTS 20:28-32 (NKJV)

²⁸ Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

STANDING IN THE GAP

ACTS 20:28-32 (NKJV)

³¹ Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. ³² So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

STANDING IN THE GAP

Ezekiel 13:5
(NKJV)

⁵ You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the LORD.

- ◆ As God's people, we have enemies who wish to destroy us -
- ◆ Walls (truth, faith, hope, love), need to be built for protection against our enemies -
- ◆ There may be gaps or vulnerable spots in the defenses that need protected -

STANDING IN THE GAP



THE HOME IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ Homosexuality;
adultery; divorce;
husbands & wives not
fulfilling their roles;
rebellious children; lack
of discipline . . .

(1 Cor. 6:9-11; Mat. 5:31,32; 19:1-9; 1 Cor. 7:1-11; Eph. 5:22-25,33; Eph. 6:1-4; Prov. 23:13,14)

STANDING IN THE GAP



God Is
Searching For
People To Stand
In the Gap!

THE HOME IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ Preachers & Elders
- ◆ Husbands & Wives
- ◆ Fathers & Mothers
- ◆ Sons & Daughters

**Each & Every
One of Us**

STANDING IN THE GAP



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THE BIBLE IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ **Atheism** – Ps. 14:1
- ◆ **Humanism** – Ro. 1:21-25
- ◆ **Modernism** – Gal. 1:7-9
- ◆ **Relativism** – Rom 3:8
- ◆ **Emotionalism** – Prov. 14:12
- ◆ **Denominationalism** – Mat 15:7-9; 1 Cor. 1:10-13

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THE BIBLE IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ **Elders** – Acts. 20:32;
- ◆ **Preachers** – 2 Tim 4:2
- ◆ **Teachers** – 1 Pet 4:11

Romans 3:1-4 (NKJV)

² . . . to them were committed the oracles of God. ³ For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? ⁴ Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar.

STANDING IN THE GAP



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THE CHURCH IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ **False teachers** – 2 Pet 2:1
- ◆ **Worldliness** –
[immorality; pride;
selfishness; carnality;
confusion] 1 Jn 2:15-17;
Jam. 3:13-4:6; 1 Cor. 1-3)
- ◆ **Materialism** – Mat 13:22
- ◆ **Apathy** – Rev. 3:14-19

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God Is
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THE CHURCH IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ **Elders** – Acts. 20:28-32; Heb 13:17
- ◆ **Preachers** – Col. 1:28; 1 Tim. 1:18; 4:13-16; 2 Tim. 4:2-4; Jude 3
- ◆ **Teachers** – 1 Pet 4:11
- ◆ **Each & Every One of Us** – Eph. 4:15; 1 Pet 3:15

STANDING IN THE GAP



God Is
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People To Stand
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EACH ONE IS UNDER ATTACK

Before we can build a wall and stand in the gap between those threatening the home, the Bible and the church, we must first tend to ourselves.

STANDING IN THE GAP



God Is
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EACH ONE IS UNDER ATTACK

- ◆ **Fathers & mothers need to be holy and godly -**
- ◆ **We must study and learn our Bible -**
- ◆ **We must put away hatred, pride, selfishness, worldliness, jealousies and apathy.**

STANDING IN THE GAP



**God Is
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People To Stand
In the Gap!**

- ◆ The church, the family and the world need valiant men and women who will build a wall and stand in the gap between Satan and God's people.
- ◆ Let us determine to rid our lives of sin so we can shield those precious to us from destruction.
- ◆ Today, God seeks for those who will build a wall and stand in the gap.
- ◆ Make sure God finds you!

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