



**MEN IN THE GAP!
(IN AN AGE OF
PANSIES)**

**Pastor Joey Faust
(1-10-21)**



TEXT: Ezekiel 22:30 And I sought for a man among them, that should **make up the hedge**, and **stand in the gap** before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

31 Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath...

Ezekiel 22:4 Thou art become guilty in thy blood that thou hast shed; and hast defiled thyself in thine idols which thou hast made; and thou hast caused thy days to draw near...therefore have I made thee a reproach unto the heathen, and a mocking to all countries.

7 In thee have they set light by father and mother...

9 In thee are men that carry tales to shed blood...in the midst of thee they commit lewdness.

10 In thee have they discovered their fathers' nakedness: in thee have they humbled her that was set apart for pollution.

12 In thee have they taken gifts to shed blood...

26 Her priests have violated my law...neither have they shewed difference between the unclean and the clean...

Leviticus 18:3 After **the doings** of the land of Egypt, wherein ye dwelt, shall ye not do: and after **the doings** of the land of Canaan, whither I bring you, shall ye not do...

6 None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD.

19 Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness.

20 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife...

21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech...

22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.

24 Defile not ye yourselves **in any of these things**: for in **all these** the nations are defiled **which I cast out before you**:

26 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit **any of these abominations**; neither any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you:

27 (For **all these abominations** have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled;)

29 For whosoever shall commit **any of these abominations**, even the souls that commit them shall be cut off from among their people.

30 Therefore shall ye keep mine ordinance, that ye commit **not any one** of these abominable customs, which were committed before you, and that ye defile not yourselves therein: I am the LORD your God.

Ezekiel 22:30 And I sought for a man among them, that should **make up the hedge**, and **stand in the gap** before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.



"If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the Word of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Him.

Where the battle rages there the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady on all the battle front besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point...It seems to me also that, practically, the contest in every age of conflict ranges usually round the person of one faithful, Godsent man, whom to follow loyally is fidelity to God."

(Elizabeth Charles, 1864)

Isaiah 63:10 But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore **he was turned to be their enemy**, and he fought against them.

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? **whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.**

Psalms 106:23 Therefore he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen **stood before him in the breach**, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them.

Judges 6:1 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD: and the LORD delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.

2 And the hand of Midian prevailed against Israel: and because of the Midianites the children of Israel made them the dens which are in the mountains, and caves, and strong holds.

6 And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and **the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.**

11 And there came an angel of the LORD, and sat under an oak...and...Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide it from the Midianites.

12 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, **thou mighty man of valour.**

14 And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this **thy might**, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

Judges 7:20...and they cried, The
sword of the LORD, **and of Gideon.**

"THE INFLUENCE OF ONE MAN MAY BE ENORMOUS. Had one real man been found to reprove the people, restore religious worship, and plead with God, Israel might have been spared its overthrow. One man may save a nation or plunge it into perdition. Paul, on board ship, obtained the lives of all the crew...Luther's firm faith brought deliverance both spiritual and temporal to all Europe. What one man can do no language can portray, imagination can scarce conceive. A man of wisdom, piety, and faith may quietly revolutionize the world." (*Pulpit Commentary*)

Ezekiel 13:4 O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts.

5 Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord.



Jeremiah 5:1 Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, **if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth;** and I will pardon it.

Lamentations 2:13...what shall I equal to thee,
that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of
Zion? for **thy breach** is great like the sea: who
can heal thee?

14 Thy prophets have seen vain and foolish
things for thee: and they have not discovered
thine iniquity, to turn away thy captivity; but
have seen for thee **false burdens and causes of
banishment.**

Nehemiah 6:1 Now it came to pass,
when Sanballat, and Tobiah...heard
that I had builded the wall, and that
there was **no breach left** therein...



**"Like a bold warrior who defends the wall when there is an opening for the adversary and destruction is rushing in upon the city, Moses stopped the way of avenging justice with his prayers."
(Spurgeon)**

"It is a metaphor from a besieged city, where the enemy endeavours to make a breach in the walls, and thereby to enter into the city; which he will do, unless some valiant champion stand in the gap to oppose him." (Poole)

Proverbs 15:4 A wholesome
tongue is a tree of life: but
perverseness therein is a **breach**
in the spirit.

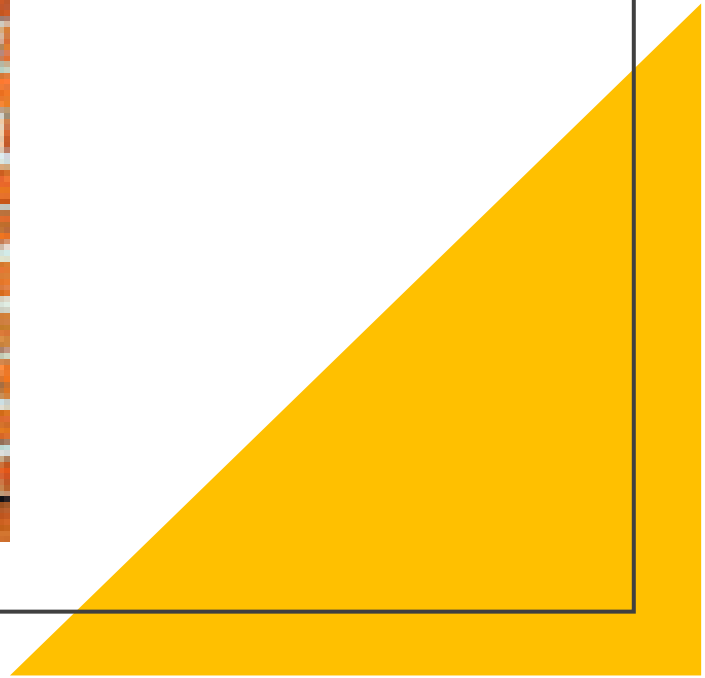
Amos 9:11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and **close up the breaches** thereof...

Isaiah 58:12 And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt **raise up the foundations of many generations**; and thou shalt be called, **The repairer of the breach**, **The restorer of paths** to dwell in.

Isaiah 30:13 Therefore this iniquity shall be to you as **a breach ready to fall, swelling out** in a high wall, whose breaking cometh suddenly at an instant.

14 And he shall break it as the breaking of the potters' vessel that is broken in pieces...

**Psalms 62:3...ye shall be
slain all of you: as a
bowing wall shall ye be...**



**Psalms 73:5 They are not in trouble as other men;
neither are they plagued like other men.**

14 For all the day long have I been plagued...

**15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend
against the generation of thy children.**

**17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then
understood I **their end**.**

18 Surely thou didst set them in **slippery places...**

19 How are they brought into desolation, **as in a moment!** they are utterly consumed with terrors.

20 As a dream when one awaketh; so, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image.

22 So foolish was I, and ignorant...

**"I sought for a man that would stand
in the gap; that would faithfully
exhort, reprove and counsel with all
long-suffering and doctrine. But none
was to be found!"**

(Clarke)



Psalms 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,

4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Psalms 3:1 LORD, how are they increased that trouble me!
many are they that rise up against me.

2 Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for
him in God. Selah.

4 **I cried unto the LORD with my voice**, and he heard me
out of his holy hill. Selah.

6 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set
themselves against me round about.

7 Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten
all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the
teeth of the ungodly.