

Ezekiel 22:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

"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." God's search for an intercessor echoes Abraham (Genesis 18:22-33), Moses (Exodus 32:11-14), and anticipates Christ the mediator. "Make up the hedge" (goder gader, גּוֹדֵר גָּדֵר) means repair the breach in protective walls. "Stand in the gap" (omed ba-perets, עָמֵד בָּפָרֶץ) depicts one blocking the breach to prevent enemy entry. Finding none sealed judgment's necessity.

Historical Context

Prophets like Jeremiah and Ezekiel interceded (Jeremiah 14:7-9; Ezekiel 9:8) but couldn't prevent judgment—too late, sins too great. The failure to find a qualified intercessor demonstrated humanity's inadequacy to bridge the gap between holy God and sinful people. This points toward Christ, the perfect mediator (1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 9:15) who successfully stands in the gap through His atoning sacrifice.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does seeking an intercessor but finding none illustrate humanity's inadequacy to bridge the sin-gap?
2. What does standing in the gap require that disqualified all potential human intercessors?
3. In what ways does Christ uniquely qualify as the mediator who successfully stands in the gap for us?

Interlinear Text

שִׁבְעָה	מִתְּבָא	אֵלֶּה	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי	בְּנֵי
seven	come	these	sons	sons	sons
H7843	H3808	H4672	H1157	H776	H1115
that I should not destroy	it but I found	it	before	me for the land	in the gap
H5975	H6440	H6556	H1157	H776	H5975
and stand	and stand	and stand	and stand	and stand	and stand
H1115	H1115	H1115	H1115	H1115	H1115

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 59:16 (Parallel theme): And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

Jeremiah 5:1 (Parallel theme): 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.

Psalms 106:23 (Parallel theme): 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.

Isaiah 63:5 (Parallel theme): And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.

Ezekiel 13:5 (Parallel theme): 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 15:1 (Parallel theme): Then said the LORD unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org