

Make a Wall and Stand in the Gap

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<https://www.ucg.org/sermons/make-wall-and-stand-gap>

The book of Isaiah..

Isaiah 63:3 NKJV - "I have trodden the winepress **alone**, And from the peoples **no one [was] with Me**. For I have trodden them in My anger, And trampled them in My fury; Their blood is sprinkled upon My garments, And I have stained all My robes.

Isaiah 63:4 NKJV - For the day of vengeance [is] in My heart, And the year of My redeemed has come.

Isaiah 63:5 NKJV - I looked, **but [there was] no one to help**, And I wondered That [there was] **no one to uphold**; Therefore My own arm brought salvation for Me; And My own fury, it sustained Me.

John 16:32 Jesus was alone..

At times we feel alone and seem to be all by ourselves.

Isaiah 59:15 NKJV - So truth fails, And he [who] departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw [it], and it displeased Him That [there was] no justice.

Isaiah 59:16 NKJV - He saw that [there was] no man, And wondered that [there was] no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.

Who is standing up for truth. Who is standing against sin?

It is our job to stand with God.

When Jesus died he was alone. The disciples fled. They didn't stand with him... at that time. Later they did.

Ezekiel 22:30 NKJV - "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.

No one stood with Jesus.

It is a time for us to stand up, to stand for the truth. For salvation.

We are to be a people who stand for the truth! We don't want Jesus to say we caved when times got tough.

Chapter 22 tells us a lot about the times we are living in..

Ezekiel 22:1 NKJV - Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Ezekiel 22:2 NKJV - "Now, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? (Jerusalem Yes, show her all her abominations!

Is 58 cry aloud, show her her sins

Ezekiel 22:3 NKJV - "Then say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "The city sheds blood in her own midst, that her time may come; and she makes idols within herself to defile herself.

There's reasons for what is going on in the world. [and in our nation...]

Ezekiel 22:4 NKJV - "You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed, and have defiled yourself with the idols which you have made. You have caused your days to draw near, and have come to [the end of] your years; therefore I have made you a reproach to the nations, and a mockery to all countries.

Ezekiel 22:5 NKJV - "[Those] near and [those] far from you will mock you as infamous [and] full of tumult.

Ezekiel 22:6 NKJV - "Look, the princes of Israel: each one has used his power to shed blood in you.

Ezekiel 22:7 NKJV - "In you they have made light of father and mother; in your midst they have oppressed the stranger; in you they have mistreated the fatherless and the widow.

No longer respect for father and mother. The state not giving info to parents but backing parents

Ezekiel 22:8 NKJV - "You have despised My holy things and profaned My Sabbaths.

We need to be sure we don't profane the Sabbath. How do we keep the Sabbath? Do we keep it as God wants us to?

Ezekiel 22:9 NKJV - "In you are men who slander to cause bloodshed; in you are those who eat on the mountains; in your midst they commit lewdness.

People rile each other up.. To provoke people. To slander people.

Eat on the mountains - pagan worship

Ezekiel 22:10 NKJV - "In you men uncover their fathers' nakedness; in you they violate women who are set apart during their impurity.

Ezekiel 22:11 NKJV - "One commits abomination with his neighbor's wife; another lewdly defiles his daughter-in-law; and another in you violates his sister, his father's daughter.

Immorality all around us..

Ezekiel 22:12 NKJV - "In you they take bribes to shed blood; you take usury and increase; you have made profit from your neighbors by extortion, and **have forgotten Me**," says the Lord GOD.

Doing things just for the money.

Ezekiel 22:13 NKJV - "Behold, therefore, I beat My fists at the dishonest profit which you have made, and at the bloodshed which has been in your midst.

Ezekiel 22:14 NKJV - "Can your heart endure, or can your hands remain strong, in the days when I shall deal with you? I, the LORD, have spoken, and will do [it].

Ezekiel 22:15 NKJV - **"I will scatter you among the nations**, disperse you throughout the countries, and remove your filthiness completely from you.

Ezekiel 22:16 NKJV - "You shall defile yourself in the sight of the nations; **then you shall know that I [am] the LORD.**" ' ' "

Ezekiel 22:17 NKJV - The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Ezekiel 22:18 NKJV - "Son of man, the house of Israel has become dross to Me; they [are] all bronze, tin, iron, and lead, in the midst of a furnace; they have become dross from silver.

Ezekiel 22:19 NKJV - "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Because you have all become dross, therefore behold, I will gather you into the midst of Jerusalem.

Ezekiel 22:20 NKJV - '[As men] gather silver, bronze, iron, lead, and tin into the midst of a furnace, to blow fire on it, to melt [it]; so I will gather [you] in My anger and in My fury, and I will leave [you there] and melt you.

Ezekiel 22:21 NKJV - 'Yes, I will gather you and blow on you with the fire of My wrath, and you shall be melted in its midst.

Ezekiel 22:22 NKJV - 'As silver is melted in the midst of a furnace, so shall you be melted in its midst; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have poured out My fury on you.' "

Ezekiel 22:23 NKJV - And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Ezekiel 22:24 NKJV - "Son of man, say to her: **'You [are] a land that is not cleansed** or rained on in the day of indignation.'

le we are filthy land... a filthy way of life

Ezekiel 22:25 NKJV - "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.

People are being used ...

Ezekiel 22:26 NKJV - "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.

This is the world around us. But WE need to distinguish.

Ezekiel 22:27 NKJV - "Her princes in her midst [are] like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people, and **to get dishonest gain**.

Its all about money.

Ezekiel 22:28 NKJV - "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.

Ezekiel 22:29 NKJV - "The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger.

Ezekiel 22:30 NKJV - "**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.**

He talks about this prior to chapter 22, so let's go back to chapter 13...

[NOTE: Remember, when Ezekiel writes the nation of Israel was already in captivity, so this is prophecy for the future, when Israel is no longer in captivity.]

Ezekiel 13:1 NKJV - And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

Ezekiel 13:2 NKJV - "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, 'Hear the word of the LORD!' "

Ezekiel 13:3 NKJV - Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing!

They are not prophesying what God tells them, but what they think or what they think the people want to hear. That it is okay to sin... That everything is okay, as long as you love each other. Even the pope

Ezekiel 13:4 NKJV - "O Israel, your prophets are like foxes in the deserts.

Ezekiel 13:5 NKJV - "**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.

le You're not ready... to stand in the Day of the Lord!

Ezekiel 13:6 NKJV - "They have envisioned futility and false divination, saying, 'Thus says the LORD!' But the LORD has not sent them; yet they **hope** that the word may be confirmed.

We need to be sure WE have not watered down the truth!

Ezekiel 13:7 NKJV - "Have you not seen a futile vision, and have you not spoken false divination? You say, 'The LORD says,' but I have not spoken."

Ezekiel 13:8 NKJV - Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Because you have spoken **nonsense** and envisioned lies, therefore I [am] indeed against you," says the Lord GOD.

We cannot look to the world for answers.

Ezekiel 13:9 NKJV - "**My hand will be against the prophets who envision futility and who divine lies;** they shall not be in the assembly of My people, nor be written in the record of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I [am] the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 13:10 NKJV - "Because, indeed, because they have seduced My people, saying, 'Peace!' when [there is] no peace--**and one builds a wall**, and they plaster it with untempered [mortar]--

This is NOT the peace that comes with God's holy spirit

Untempered mortar.. Not strong enough to harden correctly. Therefore not strong enough to keep the wall together.

What is the mortar? Spiritually speaking it would be the word of God! It is the absolute TRUTH from the Bible. The untarnished word of the Bible. And living by every word of it.

Matthew 7:21 NKJV - "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Matthew 7:22 NKJV - "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

Matthew 7:23 NKJV - "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Matthew 7:24 NKJV - "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

Matthew 7:25 NKJV - "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

This Rock = Jesus

Matthew 16:18 NKJV - "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 7:26 NKJV - "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

Matthew 7:27 NKJV - "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

We need to be building a wall that keeps us from sin, or separates us from sin. Ie as it says - come out of her, by people ... as in Revelation:

Revelation 18:4 KJV - And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Ezekiel 13:11 NKJV - "say to those who plaster [it] with untempered [mortar], that it will fall. There will be flooding rain, and you, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall tear [it] down.

Ezekiel 13:12 NKJV - "Surely, when the wall has fallen, will it not be said to you, 'Where [is] the mortar with which you plastered [it]?' "

Because they didn't build with good mortar.

Ezekiel 13:13 NKJV - Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "I will cause a stormy wind to break forth in My fury; and there shall be a flooding rain in My anger, and great hailstones in fury to consume [it].

Ezekiel 13:14 NKJV - "So I will break down the wall you have plastered with untempered [mortar], and bring it down to the ground, so that **its foundation will be uncovered**; it will fall, and you shall be consumed in the midst of it. **Then you shall know that I [am] the LORD.**

Ezekiel 13:15 NKJV - "Thus will I accomplish My wrath on the wall and on those who have plastered it with untempered [mortar]; and I will say to you, 'The wall [is] no [more], nor those who plastered it,

Ezekiel 13:16 NKJV - "[that is], the prophets of Israel who prophesy concerning Jerusalem, and who see visions of peace for her when [there is] no peace," says the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 13:17 NKJV - "Likewise, son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people, who prophesy out of their own heart; prophesy against them,

Ezekiel 13:18 NKJV - "and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the [women] who sew [magic] charms on their sleeves and make veils for the heads of people of every height to hunt souls! Will you hunt the souls of My people, and keep yourselves alive?"

Ezekiel 13:19 NKJV - "And will you profane Me among My people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, killing people who should not die, and keeping people alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies?"

Ezekiel 13:20 NKJV - "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I [am] against your [magic] charms by which you hunt souls there like birds. I will tear them from your arms, and let the souls go, the souls you hunt like birds.

Ezekiel 13:21 NKJV - "I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people out of your hand, and they shall no longer be as prey in your hand. Then you shall know that I [am] the LORD.

Ezekiel 13:22 NKJV - "Because with lies you have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and you have strengthened the hands of the wicked, so that he does not turn from his wicked way to save his life.

Ezekiel 13:23 NKJV - "Therefore you shall no longer envision futility nor practice divination; for I will deliver My people out of your hand, and you shall know that I [am] the LORD." " "

Ezekiel 22:30 NKJV - "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.

Walls protect one area from another. They keep the enemy out. They are IMPORTANT because it seems someone is always trying to take over what is yours, to take your city or take what is good.

Isaiah 5:1 NKJV - Now let me sing to my Well-beloved A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard: My Well-beloved has a vineyard On a very fruitful hill.

Isaiah 5:2 NKJV - He dug it up and cleared out its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. He built a tower in its midst, And also made a winepress in it; So He expected [it] to bring forth [good] grapes, But it brought forth wild grapes.

Isaiah 5:3 NKJV - "And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge, please, between Me and My vineyard.

Isaiah 5:4 NKJV - What more could have been done to My vineyard That I have not done in it? Why then, when I expected [it] to bring forth [good] grapes, Did it bring forth wild grapes?

The people didn't do what they should have done

Isaiah 5:5 NKJV - And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned; [And] **break down its wall**, and it shall be trampled down.

The same wall as Ez 22:30 - the wall that did not protect the people. It didn't keep the evil out. What protects us from the world?

- God's holy spirit

- Truth of God
- Relationship with God
- Watching of what's going on & awareness of it
- Bonding & Fellowship with other Christians
- Vision of the Kingdom to come
- And keeping a wall between us and the world and not letting it come into us.

Isaiah 5:6 NKJV - I will lay it waste; It shall not be pruned or dug, But there shall come up briars and thorns. I will also command the clouds That they rain no rain on it."

Isaiah 5:7 NKJV - For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts [is] the house of Israel, And the men of Judah are His pleasant plant. **He looked for justice**, but behold, oppression; **For righteousness**, but behold, a cry [for help].

The fault is His people.

God does put a hedge around us:

Job 1:8 NKJV - Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that [there is] none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"

Job 1:9 NKJV - So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

Job 1:10 NKJV - "Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

Job 1:11 NKJV - "But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!"

Jeremiah 1:15 NKJV - For behold, I am calling All the families of the kingdoms of the north," says the LORD; "They shall come and each one set his throne At the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, Against all its walls all around, And against all the cities of Judah.

Jeremiah 1:16 NKJV - I will utter My judgments Against them concerning all their wickedness, Because they have forsaken Me, Burned incense to other gods, And worshiped the works of their own hands.

They didn't obey.

Jeremiah 1:17 NKJV - "Therefore prepare yourself and arise, **And speak to them all that I command you**. Do not be dismayed before their faces, Lest I dismay you before them.

Jeremiah 1:18 NKJV - For behold, I have made you this day A fortified city and an iron pillar, **And bronze walls against the whole land**--Against the kings of Judah, Against its princes, Against its priests, And against the people of the land.

Jeremiah 1:19 NKJV - They will fight against you, But they shall not prevail against you. For I [am] with you," says the LORD, "to deliver you."

We need to trust in God - not allowing any cracks in the wall

Psalm 18:1 NKJV - To the Chief Musician. [A Psalm] of David the servant of the LORD, who spoke to the LORD the words of this song on the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said: I will love You, O LORD, my strength.

Psalm 18:2 NKJV - **The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

Psalm 18:3 NKJV - I will call upon the LORD, [who is worthy] to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.

They will not like what God says to do. But we need to do what God tells us to do.

Ezekiel 22:30 NKJV - "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.

So we see our wall is the strong wall of God We need to stand in any gap in the wall! We need to stand in the gap to protect the city.

What would be the gap in our wall?

Satan can weaken our wall - creating doubt in our walls. Or tempt us to compromise and lower our standard. Or we could become fearful. Or believe Satans gossip and slander. Or we can become lax or bitter.

Heb 12 15 becoming bitter

Rev 3 becoming Laodicean

These things could all create gaps in our spiritual wall.

Jesus was not happy with the jewish religion when he came back - putting their ideas before God's teaching. Jesus said to follow the TRUTH of His word. We need to close the gaps!

We need God's help in closing the gaps.

We need to follow the vision and stay committed to it going forward.

But in verse 30, God didn't find anyone to stand in the gap.

Abraham stood in the gap for Sodom and Gomorrah

Moses stood in the gap to prevent God from destroying Israel when they sinned.

David stood in the gap when Goliath challenged Israel. He had the faith.

Numbers 22:20 NKJV - And God came to Balaam at night and said to him, "If the men come to call you, rise [and] go with them; but only the word which I speak to you--that you shall do."

Numbers 22:21 NKJV - So Balaam rose in the morning, saddled his donkey, and went with the princes of Moab.

But they didn't come.. Balaam went

Numbers 22:22 NKJV - Then God's anger was aroused **because he went**, and the Angel of the LORD took His stand in the way as an adversary against him. And he was riding on his donkey, and his two servants [were] with him.

Numbers 22:23 NKJV - Now the donkey saw the Angel of the LORD standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand, and the donkey turned aside out of the way and went into the field. So Balaam struck the donkey to turn her back onto the road.

Numbers 22:24 NKJV - Then the Angel of the LORD stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, [with] a wall on this side and a wall on that side.

Numbers 22:25 NKJV - And when the donkey saw the Angel of the LORD, she pushed herself against the wall and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck her again.

Numbers 22:26 NKJV - Then the Angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place where there [was] no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left.

Numbers 22:27 NKJV - And when the donkey saw the Angel of the LORD, she lay down under Balaam; so Balaam's anger was aroused, and he struck the donkey with his staff.

Numbers 22:28 NKJV - Then the LORD opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

Numbers 22:29 NKJV - And Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have abused me. I wish there were a sword in my hand, for now I would kill you!"

Numbers 22:30 NKJV - So the donkey said to Balaam, "[Am] I not your donkey on which you have ridden, ever since [I became] yours, to this day? Was I ever disposed to do this to you?" And he said, "No."

Numbers 22:31 NKJV - Then the LORD opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the **LORD standing in the way** with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face.

Numbers 22:32 NKJV - And the Angel of the LORD said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? Behold, I have come out to stand against you, because [your] way is perverse before Me.

Another example:

Ezra 9:9 NKJV - "For we [were] slaves. Yet our God did not forsake us in our bondage; but He extended mercy to us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to revive us, to repair the house of our God, to rebuild its ruins, and **to give us a wall** in Judah and Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 1:3 NKJV - And they said to me, "The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province [are] there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem [is] also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire."

So Nehemiah prayed...

Nehemiah 1:4 NKJV - So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned [for many] days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:5 NKJV - And I said: "I pray, LORD God of heaven, O great and awesome God, [You] who keep [Your] covenant and mercy with those who love You and observe Your commandments,

Nehemiah 1:6 NKJV - "please let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, that You may hear the prayer of Your servant which I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel

Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You.
Both my father's house and I have sinned.

Nehemiah told the king and the king sends him back

Nehemiah 2:2 NKJV - Therefore the king said to me, "Why [is] your face sad, since you [are] not sick? This [is] nothing but sorrow of heart." So I became dreadfully afraid,

Nehemiah 2:3 NKJV - and said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' tombs, [lies] waste, and its gates are burned with fire?"

Nehemiah 2:4 NKJV - Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 2:5 NKJV - And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it."

He had opposition:

Nehemiah 6:1 NKJV - Now it happened when Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies heard that I had rebuilt the wall, and [that] there were no breaks left in it (though at that time I had not hung the doors in the gates),

But Nehemiah didn't give in!

Nehemiah 6:15 NKJV - So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth [day] of Elul, in fifty-two days.

He built the spiritual wall and taught the word of God:

Nehemiah 8:2 NKJV - So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who [could] hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month.

Nehemiah 8:3 NKJV - Then he read from it in the open square that [was] in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people [were attentive] to the Book of the Law.

The people wept..

Nehemiah 8:6 NKJV - And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with [their] faces to the ground.

Nehemiah 8:7 NKJV - Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, **helped the people to understand the Law**; and the people [stood] in their place.

Nehemiah 8:8 NKJV - So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and **helped [them] to understand the reading**.

As ministers do on the Sabbath..

Nehemiah 8:9 NKJV - And Nehemiah, who [was] the governor, Ezra the priest [and] scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day [is] holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep." **For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law.**

And Nehemiah began to have the people live by the laws of God:

Nehemiah 13:1 NKJV - On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people, and in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever come into the assembly of God,

Nehemiah 13:2 NKJV - because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a blessing.

Nehemiah 13:3 NKJV - So it was, **when they had heard the Law, that they separated all the mixed multitude from Israel.**

Nehemiah 13:4 NKJV - Now before this, Eliashib the priest, having authority over the storerooms of the house of our God, [was] allied with Tobiah.

Nehemiah 13:5 NKJV - And he had prepared for him a large room, where previously they had stored the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithes of grain, the new wine and oil, which were commanded [to be given] to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests.

Nehemiah 13:15 NKJV - In those days I saw [people] in Judah treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and loading donkeys with wine, grapes, figs, and all [kinds of] burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. **And I warned [them] about the day on which they were selling provisions.**

Nehemiah 13:16 NKJV - Men of Tyre dwelt there also, who brought in fish and all kinds of goods, and sold [them] on the Sabbath to the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 13:17 NKJV - Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, **"What evil thing [is] this that you do, by which you profane the Sabbath day?**

Nehemiah 13:18 NKJV - "Did not your fathers do thus, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us and on this city? **Yet you bring added wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath."**

Nehemiah 13:19 NKJV - So it was, at the gates of Jerusalem, as it began to be dark before the Sabbath, that I commanded the gates to be shut, and charged that they must not be opened till after the Sabbath. **Then I posted [some] of my servants at the gates, [so that] no burdens would be brought in on the Sabbath day.**

2 John 1:5 NKJV - And now I plead with you, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment to you, but that which we have had from the beginning: that we love one another.

2 John 1:6 NKJV - This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.

2 John 1:10 NKJV - **If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him;**

2 John 1:11 NKJV - for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

Don't allow things into your home via the internet. Keep the walls up!

We need to build a wall around us and not let the world in.

1 Peter 2:4 NKJV - Coming to Him [as to] a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God [and] precious,

1 Peter 2:5 NKJV - **you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**

We are part of the wall. We are stones.

God is building a house and a wall

Revelation 21:9 NKJV - Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."

Revelation 21:10 NKJV - And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

Revelation 21:11 NKJV - having the glory of God. Her light [was] like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

Revelation 21:12 NKJV - Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are [the names] of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

Revelation 21:15 NKJV - And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall.

Revelation 21:16 NKJV - The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal.

The wall needs to be made, and we need to be willing to stand in the gap.

Isaiah 58:1 NKJV - "Cry aloud, spare not; Lift up your voice like a trumpet; Tell My people their transgression, And the house of Jacob their sins.

Our people = church

Jacob = show them their sins!

Isaiah 58:12 NKJV - Those from among you Shall build the old waste places; You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; **And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach,** The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.

Let's be the people that build the wall and stand in the gap whenever the opportunity arises!