



Stand In The Gap
2 Chronicles 29:1-30

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Ezekiel 22:30-31 "I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the **gap** on behalf of the land so I would not HAVE to destroy it, but I found none. ³¹ So I will pour out my wrath on them and consume them with my fiery anger, bringing down on their own heads all THEY have done, declares the Sovereign LORD." (NIV)

"The destinies of societies are shaped by great men and women who act boldly at **key** times." (Historian Thomas Carlyle)

2 Chronicles 29:3-6 "In the first year of Hezekiah's reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the Lord and repaired them. ⁴ Then he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them in the East Square, ⁵ and said to them: "Hear me, Levites! Now **sanctify** yourselves, **sanctify** the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and carry out the **rubbish** from the holy place. ⁶ "For our fathers have trespassed and done evil in the eyes of the Lord our God; they have forsaken Him, have turned their faces away from the dwelling place of the Lord, and turned their backs on Him."

1. NATIONAL AWAKENING HAPPENS WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE CLEAN OUT THE **JUNK** FROM THEIR LIVES. (2 Chronicles 29:3-5)

The word sanctify means to **set apart** for God.

2. AWAKENING HAPPENS WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE COME BACK TO THE BIBLE AS THEIR SOURCE OF **TRUTH**. (2 Chronicles 29:15; 30)

- A. 2 Chronicles 29:15; 30 “When they had assembled their brothers and consecrated themselves, they went in to purify the temple of the LORD, as the king had ordered, following the **Word** of the LORD.; ³⁰ King Hezekiah and his officials ordered the Levites to praise the LORD with the **Words** (from the Book of Psalms) of David and of Asaph the seer. So they sang praises with gladness and bowed their heads and worshiped.” (NIV)
- B. John 1:14 “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace **and** truth.” (NIV)
- C. Truth without grace is harsh religious fundamentalism. Grace without truth is meaningless sentimentality. One without the other is not a faithful representation of Jesus or **God’s Word**. For us to properly represent Jesus requires BOTH grace and truth.

3. AWAKENING HAPPENS WHEN GOD’S PEOPLE **INTERCEDE** ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATION. (2 Chronicles 30:18; 20; 27)

2 Chronicles 30:18; 20; 27 “...King Hezekiah prayed for them...saying, “May the LORD, who is good, pardon everyone...; ²⁰ And the LORD listened to Hezekiah’s prayer and healed the people.; ²⁷ ... God heard their prayer from his holy dwelling place.”

First, **pray**.

Second, **vote**.

Third, **speak up**.

The Action Steps I Will Take This Week Are...

- This week I will open my life up to God for Him to clean it up. I will willingly repent of areas in my life which need to be changed.
- I open my heart to be like Jesus living with **both** Grace and Truth.
- I will intercede for my nation by praying for it regularly.
- If I am age 18 and above, I will register to vote in the Commons today if I am not already registered.
- Sign me up to receive **no more than** 1 – 3 social action emails per month. I understand the Sugar Creek group monitoring this information distribution will strive to be more Biblically based than politically partisan as it communicates information that needs my response related to religious freedom and Biblical moral issues. I will let my voice be heard.

