INTRODUCTION:
1. Judah had turned her back on God and worshipped idols like backsliding Israel.
2. She failed to keep the Sabbaths, which were tokens of the covenant made with God.
3. Judah no longer trusted God, but made alliances with foreign nations.
4. Ezekiel points out the sins of Jerusalem and her impending doom:
   B. Priests were violating, instead of teaching the law - Ezekiel 22:26.
   C. Civil rulers were like wolves after the sheep - Ezekiel 22:27.
   D. People oppressed the poor and strangers - Ezekiel 22:29.
5. God sought for a man to stand in the gap - Ezekiel 22:30.
   A. To rebuke God's people for their sins.
   B. To stand against the tide of wickedness.
   C. To teach the truth in the midst of error.
   D. To prevent their destruction by a heathen nation.
6. But no one would stand in the gap, so the city would experience the wrath and indignation of God - Ezekiel 22:30, 31.
7. Today, there is a gap between God and his people, because of an increasing disregard for truth - 3 John 1-4.
8. The question needs to be asked; “Who Will Stand In The Gap?”

BODY:
1. TOO MANY ARE CONTENT TO STAND ON THE SIDELINES WHILE OUR STRONGHOLDS ARE BEING BOMBARDED.
   A. The essentiality of baptism, obedience, Bible authority, marriage-divorce and remarriage, a cappella singing, etc. are all facing bombardment from both within and without.
   1. Many are pre-occupied with worldly concerns - 2 Tim. 4:10; Luke 8:14; Hag. 1:2-6; Mt. 6:19-21; Luke 12:33.
   2. Many are thinking our cry is much ado about nothing.
      A. Legion is the number that say, “Leave it alone, it will die out” - Acts 5:33-39.
      B. Many say, “You are just envious of their success” - Rom. 1:16; Mark 16:15-16; Gal. 1:6-9; 2 John 9-11; Mt. 7:21-27.
      C. Many say, “Preach Jesus and leave issues alone.”
         1. However, that cannot be done because to preach Jesus is to preach the “issues” he is concerned with - Hosea 4:6; Acts 20:20, 26-27; Titus 3:10, 11.
   3. Many are waiting for someone else to stand for them - Eph. 6:10-17; Mt. 16:24.
   4. Many are inviting the adversary to have his way, thinking it is for the best.
      A. God's way is best - Prov. 14:12; Jere. 10:23; Prov. 3:5-7; Josh. 24:14-16.
2. WHO SHOULD BE STANDING IN THE GAP?
   A. Those who love God and His word - 2 Cor. 5:14, 15; Jere. 20:8, 9.
B. Those that have and hope to benefit from the truth.
   1. Preachers - 1 Cor. 9:14.
   2. Brotherhood schools - 2 Tim. 2:2; Gal. 6:6.
C. All who have obeyed the truth - John 8:31-32; Luke 17:17, 18.
E. Teachers and Professors - James 3:1; 1 Tim 4:16; 1:3.

3. WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT STANDING IN THE GAP?
   A. Compromise of the truth - 1 Tim. 4:1-3.
   B. Abandonment of the truth - 2 Tim. 4:1-3.
   C. Increase of ungodliness - Rom. 1:18-32.
   D. Indignation and wrath of Almighty God - Rom. 2:7-11.

CONCLUSION:
1. The gap is real and broadening rapidly.
2. More and more people are refusing to stand in the gap.
3. Let us not have to experience God's wrath before we decide to stand in the gap, and support those who do.
4. Will you stand for God, in the gap?