

WHEN GOD LOOKS FOR A MAN  
EZEKIEL 22:30

**INTRODUCTION**

Here we find what the Bible shows to be a *timeless truth*. A *timeless truth* is one that we find to have been true in the past, it is still true in the present, and will still be true into the future until time is no more and we enter eternity.

From the very beginning of time...in every generation in the past and still today, **God looks for men (and women) who will step up and separate themselves to be used for His purposes and to affect their generation for eternity!** e.g. **Abel** after his mom and dad sinned in the garden.

**Seth** after Cain killed Abel.

**Enoch** in the days before the flood.

**Noah** to preserve life.

**Abraham** to be the father of Jews and faith.

**Moses** to deliver His people from bondage.

**Esther** to deliver God's people from the plot of wicked Haman.

**Mary** the mother of our LORD

**Saul**, who became the Apostle Paul to affect both Jew and Gentile to the glory of God in his time. **Others...**

In this particular instance in our text God was looking for a **MAN!** But make no mistake about it, God is looking for **BOTH men and women** He can use for His will!

**First, we know that God is looking for those who, in repentance and faith, will surrender themselves to God's Great Salvation in Christ Jesus!**

God has been seeking for the lost souls of men to return to Him ever since the man fell in the garden! *Genesis 3:9—“And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?”*

The Bible is very clear in this matter—**Jesus Christ came into this world to both seek and to save lost souls!** *Luke 19:10—“For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”*

There is not one of us who would have ever gone looking for God if He hadn't come looking for us first! *Romans 3:10-11—“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one. 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.”*

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**However, Ezekiel 22:30 is not about God looking for men in salvation, but about God looking for men to LIVE FOR HIM and TO SERVE HIM!**

**I'm glad God came looking for me in service!** In Paul's words to Timothy: *1 Timothy 1:12—“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;”*

*Philippians 1:6—“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:”*

**I. WE SEE THE PERIOD WHEN WAS GOD LOOKING.**

This chapter explains why Jerusalem was already under the judgment of God with more judgment to come!

**A. This Was A Time Of Sinful Practice! (Ezekiel 22:1-12)**

The LORD points to Israel's sins before Him in these verses: *vs. 2 — “...yea, thou shalt shew her all her abominations.”*

They were guilty of **shedding blood**, of **idolatry**, of **oppression**, of **vexing the fatherless and the widow**, of **despising God's holy things** and **profaning His Sabbaths**, of **committing lewdness**— including both **incest and adultery**. They were also guilty of **perverting judgment**, of **charging usury**, and **extortion!**

If ever there was a time when God's people needed to **repent**, it was then...If ever there was a time when God's people needed **revival** and to turn back to Him, it was then!

**B. This Was A Time Of Severe Punishment! (Ezekiel 22:13-22)**

God will judge sin and **He speaks of the chastisement that He had already begun to bring in the midst of His people as well as the chastisement that was still to come!**

God loves His own too much to leave them in their sin!  
*(That was true then and now—Hebrews 12:5-11)*

Look at where He speaks of His refining process in **Vs. 19-22.**

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*A Time Of Sinful Practice...A Time Of Severe Punishment...*

**C. This Was A Time Of Spiritual Pollution! (Ezekiel 22:25-28)**

It is a great tragedy when there is corruption in spiritual leadership.

If there was ever a time when God needed a man to step up and separate himself and be different than those around them, it was then!

Think of the perilous times that Paul described to Timothy in 2 Timothy 3. He encouraged Timothy (and us) not to get caught up in the drift of the last days, but rather to continue in the things he had been taught and to just keep on keeping on for the LORD!

*THE PERIOD WHEN GOD WAS LOOKING...*

**II. THE PLEA WHEN GOD WAS LOOKING. (EZEKIEL 22:30)**

**A. The Pursuit. (“I sought for a man”).**

**God can use whatever he desires:**

- 1. God Can Use Angels.** (*Genesis 19:1-Lot*)
- 2. God Can Use A Burning Bush.** (*Exodus 3:2-Moses*)
- 3. God Can Use A Donkey.** (*Numbers 22:28-Balaam*)
- 4. God Can Use A Raven.** (*1 Kings 17:6-Elijah*)  
An unclean bird.
- 5. God Can Use A Heathen King.**  
(*Daniel 1:1-2-Nebuchadnezzar*)
- 6. God Can Use Rocks.**

*Luke 19:37-40—“And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; 38 Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest. 39 And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. 40 And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.”*

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**7. God Can Use Whatever He Wants To, But God Looks For A MAN!**

*The Pursuit. (“I sought for a man”)*

**B. The Place. (“Among Them,” – Among God's People.)**

*Ephesians 2:10—“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”*

*Matthew 16:24—“If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”*

**C. The Plan. (“That should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap”).**

*Ezekiel 13:5 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.*

**D. The Purpose. (“That I should not destroy it”).**

*Hosea 4:6—“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:”*

**E. The Problem. (“But I FOUND NONE”)**

*Luke 10:2—“Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.”*

*THE PERIOD...THE PLEA WHEN GOD WAS LOOKING...*

**III. THE PERSON FOR WHOM GOD IS LOOKING.**

Is God still looking for people today! Yes He is!

**A. GOD IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WITH CONVICTIONS!**

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**1. Convictions Regarding Godly Doctrine!**

*Galatians 1:8*—“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”

*1 Timothy 4:13*—“Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.”

*Titus 2:1*—“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:”

**2. Convictions Regarding Godly Deeds!**

*1 Corinthians 10:31*—“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

**B. GOD IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WITH COMPASSION!**

*Jude 22*—“And of some have compassion, making a difference:”

**1. Compassion For The Sinner!**

*Psalms 126:6*—“He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

**2. Compassion For The Saints!**

*1 John 3:17*—“But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?”

**C. GOD IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WITH COURAGE!**

*Psalms 27:14*—“Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.”

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**1. The Courage To Fight!**

*1 Timothy 6:12*—“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”

**2. The Courage To Follow!**

Exp. Moses had died, Joshua had to go on.

*Joshua 1:7*—“Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.”

*Hebrews 13:7*—“Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.”

**3. The Courage To Finish!**

*2 Timothy 4:7*—“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:”

**D. GOD IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WITH CONSECRATION! (Romans 12:1-2; 2 Timothy 2:20-22)**

1. He Needs People With A Clean Voice!

2. He Needs People With A Clear Vision!

3. He Needs People With A Clean Vessel!

**Conclusion**

I believe God is looking for a person or persons in our day and time just as he was looking back in Ezekiel’s day. The question is, will he find any?

Could you be that man or woman God is looking for?

Do you have the convictions, compassion, the courage, and the consecration to be used by God?