

The Lakeland Hills Leader

Lakeland Hills Blvd church of Christ

2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
(863) 688-4336

Schedule of Services

Sunday
9:00 AM Bible Study
9:50 AM Worship
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday
7:00 PM Bible Study

Visit our Website:

www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com
For Sermon & Class outlines,
Bible Study Materials and
Other Information.

Visit our Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/LakelandHillschurchofchrist for events,
information, and links to our
YouTube Archives

Visit us on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCu7AG_3jUtpBDIr2NPqB3iw for
Live Streams and Video
Archives.

Elders

Bob Marschall
Leon Miller
Larry Wisdom

Deacons

Bucky Day
Sherman Johnson
Michael Sadler
David Williams

Evangelist

Kent Heaton

I Sought for a Man

By Michael R Baggett

"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" (Ezel. 22:30).

Jerusalem was in dire straits because Babylon was on the verge of destroying the city along with its walls and temple. Jerusalem's leaders and her people would be carried into captivity over 600 miles away because of the immorality and idolatrous practices of the Jews living there. When Ezekiel writes chapter 22, Jerusalem was no longer the holy city, but the bloody city (Ezekiel 22:1-5). God's judgment would come swiftly because of their corruption. Ezekiel teaches us in Ezekiel 22:30 that God could not find a man to stand in gap and seek his mercy and be an advocate for the His people.

Moses is an example of such a man who did mediate and seek God on behalf of the Israelites. *"Therefore, he said that he would destroy them, had Moses, his chosen, not stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them"* (Psalm 106:23). Moses turned the wrath of God away from the disobedient Israelites on several occasions. Moses was the meekest man on earth, but not a weak man. Meekness is humility housed in quiet courage! Moses is an example of the kind of man God seeks.

In our society, when men appear manly and show qualities of manly authority they are being defined by some Universities as displaying *"toxic masculinity."* In present efforts to elevate women, some feel they must bring men down to a level that is less than the level of what has always defined as a man. The movies and commercials would rather show us a man waving goodbye to his wife as she goes to her career while he keeps the kids and keeps house, rather than to show us a man waving goodbye to his wife and family as he goes to work to provide for them (1 Timothy 5:8; Titus 2:3-5). The politically correct agenda would rather our children see men in women's roles with their faces pasted on boxes of Pampers rather than to see a father leading his wife and children to worship services on Sunday! (Eph. 5:22-6:4).

When Solomon became King of Israel, David instructed Solomon, *"Prove yourself a man"* (1 Kings 2:2, NKJV). God is not necessarily looking for strong men in the sense of a Samson, but men with a strong sense of moral leadership and spiritual discernment. God seeks men today who will stand up as spiritual leaders in the land like Moses. God seeks men who will be strong in the spiritual stand in the community like Ezra and Nehemiah. God needs men who will lead in the local church like James and Gaius. God seeks men who will lead, support, and protect their families like Joshua and Joseph. God seeks men like righteous Job who stood in the gap seeking God's grace on behalf of his sons and daughter's spiritual welfare (Job 1:5).

God seeks for men who will seek for Him and put Him first (Matthew 6:33). Would you not agree that what society, the community, the church, and home need today are the kind of men God was seeking in the days of Ezekiel? Are you working hard to be that kind of man?

The Lake Gibson Congregation – Will continue to meet at our building at 2pm on Sundays for Bible Study and Worship but will be joining us on Wednesday evenings for Mid-Week Bible Study until their building is repaired. Make a special effort to greet our brothers and sisters in the Lord and make them feel welcome.