Eze 22:30 "I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one."

Let's get the context before coming to conclusions about this verse!

Writer: prophet Ezekiel (strong [is] God)

Speaker: the LORD

Readers: city of Jerusalem (v1 & 18) Time: after 586 BC fall of Jerusalem Key word: "I" (3x) + "Me" = the LORD

Summary: God sought a man.

Application: God's people need protection.

A wall protects a city.

A gap lets in the enemy.

A man is needed to build the wall.

A soldier is needed to stand in the gap.

The whole ckty is in danger without these.

How can we be sure this was a figure of speech or was it just a physical description of war in Israel?

The context!

cf. Eze 13:5 "You have not gone up into the breaches, nor did you build the wall around the house of Israel to stand in the battle on the day of the LORD."

cf. Isa 58:12 "Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will raise up the age-old foundations; and you will be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of the streets in which to dwell."

(the context of Is58v6-11 is "you will be like")

Mat 21:33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A WALL AROUND IT AND DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A TOWER, and rented it out to vine-growers and went on a journey."

Who is the man that can defend us?

Isa 59:16 "And He saw that there was no man, and was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him, and His righteousness upheld Him."

Is 53 makes it clear that 'the arm of the Lord" is Messiah, Christ!

He is the only one capable of protecting His people under the OT as well as under the NT today! PTL