

# GOD'S GOOD HAND

## SERVING UNDER SOVEREIGNTY

### *Requirements for the Road*

Ezra 8:1-36

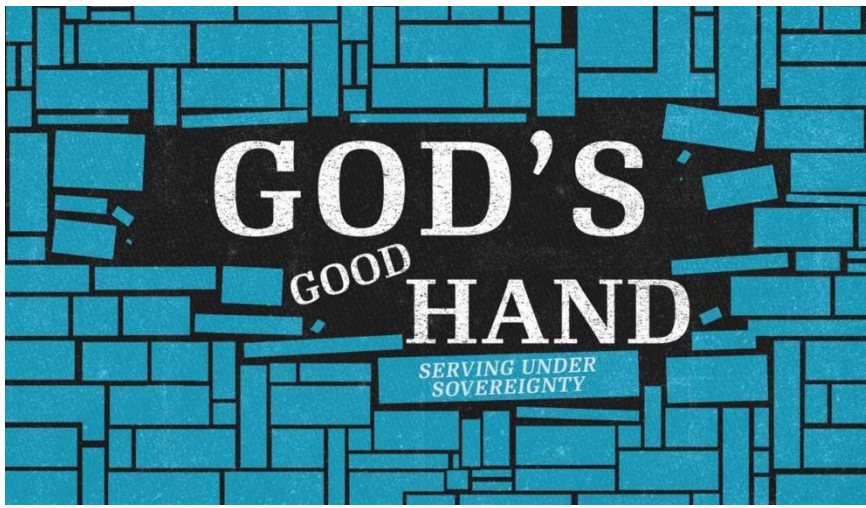
February 15, 2026

#### **Fast Facts**

1. King Cyrus of Persia captured Babylon in 539 B.C. and reigned over his empire including Jews exiled in \_\_\_\_\_.
2. King Cyrus allowed Jews to return home to \_\_\_\_\_ around 538-537 B.C.
3. Jews (approximately 50,000) traveled back to Jerusalem (and surrounding areas) and \_\_\_\_\_ into the land.
4. Jews rebuilt the \_\_\_\_\_ in 516 B.C.
5. \_\_\_\_\_, a Jewish priest and scribe skilled in the Law of Moses, departed from Babylon and arrived in Jerusalem in 458 B.C. (along with about 7,000 Jews).
6. God provided and protected descendants of Abraham and David so that Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_, would come to earth (less than 500 years later) according to the covenants and Scripture.

#### **Sovereign Truth: God hears and answers His people's prayers as He powerfully accomplishes His purposes.**

- I. The \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ leading men from Israel to go with him.
    1. To help \_\_\_\_\_ the priesthood in Jerusalem.
    2. To help \_\_\_\_\_ the claims of the Davidic house to rule in Judah.
  - B. Ezra and the leading men \_\_\_\_\_ before the trip.  
*Takeaway: God's people often gather to prepare for something \_\_\_\_\_.*
- II. The \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ the make-up of the group.
  - B. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ the addition of Levites to the group.  
*Takeaway: Godly leaders survey groups, spot the needs, and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ with God's help.*
- III. The \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ a fast so they would humble themselves and seek blessings from God.
  - B. Ezra and the people fasted and \_\_\_\_\_ asking God for protection.
    1. "God, please protect us and our \_\_\_\_\_."
    2. "God, please protect all our \_\_\_\_\_."  
*Takeaway 1: Spiritual leaders sometimes ask others to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*Takeaway 2: Church staff and members sometimes humble themselves, fast, and pray for God to \_\_\_\_\_.*
- IV. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ the priests, silver, gold, and utensils to be used in the "house of our God."
  - B. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ the priests to guard the silver, gold, and utensils on the journey.
  - C. Ezra \_\_\_\_\_ that the priests guarded and recorded the silver, gold, and utensils.  
*Takeaway: Generally speaking, pastors should teach/preach God's Word, pray, care for the flock, and \_\_\_\_\_.*
- V. The \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. "According to the good hand of our God upon us" - God \_\_\_\_\_ Levites and temple servants for service.
  - B. "The hand of our God was over us" - God \_\_\_\_\_ from harm, danger, and sickness.  
*Takeaway: We must always give God \_\_\_\_\_ for all good things in our lives and in the church.*



## WORSHIP GATHERING

*"Thousand Tongues"*

PRAYER & WELCOME

*"Your Will Be Done"*

*"Sovereign Over Us"*

PRAYER

*"O What A Friend"*

MESSAGE

PRAYER AND COMMITMENT

CLOSING PRAYER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Everyone is encouraged to attend **Bibliology Basics: The Formation of Scripture** (doctrinal study) led by Daniel Bray Sunday, February 22 from 4:15-6:30 p.m. in Boatner Hall. Where did we get the Bible? In this in-depth study, we will walk step-by-step through the formation of Scripture—from the original texts of the Old Testament to the development of our modern English translations. Learn about authorship, canon, manuscripts, and translation, and gain a deeper understanding and confidence in God's Word. For all ages. Childcare will be provided for birth-K5.

The **Southeast Asia mission trip interest meeting** is today in Room 125 following morning worship.

If you've ever considered using your gifts in our **music ministry**, we invite you to join us as we prepare for our Palm Sunday Night of Worship. Rehearsals begin today at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Childcare is provided.

The **Wednesday evening church-wide fellowship meal** menu for next week is Ramey's chicken tenders, mashed potatoes & gravy, and green beans. Meals are served in Boatner Hall from 4:45-5:45 p.m. The meals are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children, and \$25 family max. Scan the QR code or sign up at the Welcome Center by Monday at 9:00 a.m.



Ladies, you are invited to a **wedding shower** for Ashley Adamson (bride-elect of Matthew Wise) Saturday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Jenny Cochran (306 Loring Cir., Brandon, MS).

All ladies are invited to **Galentine's Night** Friday, February 27 at 6:00 p.m. in Boatner Hall. Bring something sweet/savory/salty to share with the group. Scan the QR code or sign up at the Welcome Center.



Come support the **PPCA drama** students as they present *"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"* Thursday & Friday, February 26-27 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

**Paid childcare workers are needed** for Sunday evenings and special events. Contact Korbi McQueary at 601-454-0066 for more information.

## CONTRIBUTION REPORT 2/8/26

Weekly Budget Receipts	\$39,969
Weekly Budget Required	\$35,629
Giving over (under) budget	\$4,340
Global Impact	\$0
Construction & Renovation	\$0
Other	\$50,334
Total Received	\$90,303

<b>YTD Budget Needed</b>	<b>\$213,771</b>
<b>YTD Budget Received</b>	<b>\$179,083</b>

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

If you are interested in learning about becoming a member of Park Place or ready to request church membership, please call the church office, submit a blue membership request card (give to a staff member or place in a giving box in the sanctuary), or contact a church staff member. One of our staff members will be glad to meet with you to get to know you and to discuss "Membership Matters." Glory to God for the way He continues to add to the Park Place family!



Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers continue serving communities impacted by last month's winter storm in our northern counties. Two of our own have been among the volunteers. As of the latest report, there have been **1,245 work requests** with **305 completed jobs** and **four professions of faith!** See Mike McPhail for more information on how to get involved with this ministry.



5701 Hwy 80 East  
Pearl, MS 39208  
601.939.6282  
www.ppbc.net

*Office Hours*  
Mon. - Thurs. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.