

GOD'S GOOD HAND

SERVING UNDER SOVEREIGNTY

Addressing Adversaries and Adversity

Ezra 4:1-5, 24

January 25, 2026

Context

1. Under the leadership of King _____, the Persian Empire peaked around 539 B.C. by defeating the Babylonians and absorbing a vast territory, including the land of Israel and Judah.
2. Before the peak of the Persian Empire, Jews were taken into _____ in Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C.
3. King Cyrus allowed the Jews to return home to _____ around 538-537 B.C.
4. Jews traveled back to Jerusalem (and surrounding areas), _____, and settled into their houses.
5. Jews rebuilt an _____ for burnt offerings to God.
6. Jews laid the foundation for the _____.
7. Jews praised the LORD and _____ Him after completing the temple's foundation.
8. Residents of Jerusalem and surrounding areas _____ the continuation of work on the temple, the city's development, and the wall of protection.

Sovereign Truth: Working for God always brings opposition.

- I. The _____ among God's Work
 - A. Local residents _____ to help God's people work for Him.
 - B. Local residents _____ God's people of their devotion to their God and their work.
- II. The _____ for God's Work
 - A. God's people _____ involvement of adversaries.
 1. Contemplations
 - a. The Samaritans offered to help _____ the temple.
 - b. The Samaritans indicated that they have been _____ to God for years.
 - c. The Samaritans did not have _____ as their ancestor.
 - d. The Samaritans did not have _____ like Abraham, even though they claimed to worship Israel's God.
 - e. The Samaritans worshiped _____.
 2. Conclusions
 - a. _____ commanded the Jews to rebuild the temple.
 - b. _____ were not qualified to rebuild the temple.
 - c. _____ declined the Samaritans' help.
 - B. God's people _____ involvement of adversaries.
- III. The _____ of God's Work
 - A. Adversaries _____ God's people from working for Him.
 - B. Adversaries _____ God's people from working for Him.
 - C. Adversaries _____ others to work against God's people working for Him.



WORSHIP GATHERING

"He Is Our God"

PRAYER & WELCOME

"Serve the Lord with Gladness"

"Kings and Kingdoms"

PRAYER

MESSAGE

PRAYER AND COMMITMENT

CLOSING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Due to the frigid temperatures hindering participation today, all SEND Weekend activities along with the Quarterly Business Meeting (including the Phase 1 vote), church meal, and Missions Fair, have been rescheduled to next weekend.

Everyone is encouraged to join us for **SEND Weekend** Saturday, January 31 & Sunday, February 1! The events begin Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Boatner Hall. Hear stories of God's work in the nations from IMB missionaries, Mick & Dalese Stockwell, who served 31 years in Ukraine and Prague. All ages are encouraged to attend (childcare provided for K5 and under). Lunch will follow around 11:00 a.m. Scan the QR code or sign up at the Welcome Center. Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m., all students and college-age are invited to meet with our IMB guests at the 2nd Mission House—522 Manchester Drive, Pearl (supper provided). SEND Weekend continues Sunday (after the business meeting at 4:30 p.m.) with our Meal & Message at 5:15 p.m. followed by the 2026 Global Missions Fair. Don't miss this exciting weekend as we seek to fulfill our mission statement: Park Place glorifies God by making disciples of all nations.



Everyone is urged to attend the next **Meal & Message** Sunday, February 1. The evening will begin with the **quarterly business meeting** (and vote on the campus expansion) at 4:30 p.m. in the gym. The meal following the business meeting will be catered by Fernandos (\$5 per meal / \$20 family max). Childcare will be available (4 and under) during the teaching portion. The Missions Fair will follow.

The **Wednesday evening church-wide fellowship meal** menu for this week is baked potato, baked chicken, and salad. 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. Sign up at the Welcome Center or with the QR code. The deadline to sign up is Monday at 9:00 a.m.



Senior adult domino game night is Thursday, February 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Boatner Hall. Bring finger foods to share.

All preschoolers and their families are invited to **Frosty February** Saturday, February 7 at 10:30 a.m. in the Game Room. Enjoy crafts, snacks, and other fun winter activities!



The **senior adult monthly fellowship meal** is Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m. in Boatner Hall. The program guests will be the Song Birds. Sign up near the elevator.

Attention married/engaged couples of all ages: You are invited to attend a **Couples' Night** Saturday, February 14 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in Boatner Hall. This special night includes dinner, games/prizes, and a panel discussion designed to enhance relationships with couples. Childcare will be provided by our student ministry as a fundraiser for summer camp. The cost is \$30 per couple. Scan the QR code or sign up at the Welcome Center.



CONTRIBUTION REPORT
1/18/26

Weekly Budget Receipts	\$17,405
Weekly Budget Required	\$35,629
Giving over (under) budget	(18,224)
Global Impact	\$240
Construction & Renovation	\$0
Other	\$295
Total Received	\$17,940

YTD Budget Needed	\$106,886
YTD Budget Received	\$71,620

REJOICING OVER
DECISIONS MADE

This Week



Chris & Delisa Jones
(John Luke)

*Requesting Church Membership
by Transfer of Letter*



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Office Hours

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