



### Times of Worship

- Sunday Bible Classes:** 9am
- Sunday AM Worship:** 10am
- Sunday PM Worship:** 5pm
- Wednesday Bible Study:** 7pm

### Join us Online

**Church Website:**

<https://www.westfayettechurchofchrist.com/>

**YouTube Channel:**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGckN8D9NwwX3KUuQ4GRKyA>

### Interested in a Bible Study?

Please send an email to [patcawthon@gmail.com](mailto:patcawthon@gmail.com)

### Evangelist

Patrick Cawthon

## Evil Plans vs Pleasant Words

**Proverbs 15:26** - *“Evil plans are an abomination to the LORD, But pleasant words are pure”*

The proverbs in this section of the book are called contrasting proverbs or opposite proverbs. Usually, the first part of the proverb will be in contrast to the second part. That is helpful in figuring out what the proverb means and its application for us. The opposites found in this proverb are evil plans and pleasant words as well as an abomination and pure.

First lets discuss the idea of “evil plans.” When people focus their discussion and energy in coming up with an evil plan, that is an abomination to the LORD. When people scheme against others, there is nothing good that happens in this scenario. They desire the downfall of a person instead of their success.

Why do people devise evil plans against others? Most of the time it is because that person has done something against them. Since they hurt me, I’m going to scheme against them and make sure they fail. No matter what the reason is, it is never good to devise evil plans against other people.

One of the most wicked people that has ever lived did just this. When king Ahab complained to his

## Week of January 14

### Attendance

- ♦ **AM Service** - 55
- ♦ **PM Service** -
- ♦ **Wednesday** -

### Contribution

- ♦ Weekly Budget \$2,400
- ♦ Contribution - \$2,469

### Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ♦ Lou Scott (2/4)

### Calendar Items

**Song Learning Class** on January 14 at the building at 4pm

**Women's Bible Study** will resume January 23rd

**Teen's Bible Study** at the Cawthons on Friday January 26 from 7-9:30

**Men's Meeting** on January 28 at the building at 4pm

wife Jezebel of Naboth not letting him have his vineyard, she devised a wicked plan. She got two worthless men to lie about Naboth and had him killed. After his death, Ahab got his vineyard.

How did God feel about Jezebel and Ahab's evil plans? God told Elijah to tell Ahab, "Have you killed and also taken possession?" And you shall say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: "In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick your own blood." (1Ki 21:19) What this husband and wife team did was truly an abomination to the LORD.

The second part of this proverb is what we should do instead - speak pleasant words. If someone has done something against you or made you mad, instead of scheming against them, say something pleasant to them. One of the most difficult things to do is to be nice to those who are mean to you. Jesus commands us to "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Mat 5:44)

Some of the most pleasant words we can ever say is going to God in prayer for our enemies. It is easy and natural to wish evil for them and hope they fail. Solomon is teaching us how to be pure and holy before God. If our greatest desire is to please God, one of the best ways we can do that is to speak pleasant words to everyone.

There's another example of someone who is even worse than Jezebel at scheming evil plans - Satan. The apostle Paul knew this about Satan better than most. He tells the Christians in Corinth not to be taken advantage of by Satan "for we are not ignorant of his schemes." (2Co 2:11) If we scheme against others that would put us in the same camp as Satan. Instead may we speak pleasant words to everyone who will listen.

Patrick