



Esther

Lesson 5

Esther Chapter 7-8

Although he wasn't fully aware of it, King Xerxes had signed the death warrant for his new bride. He seems to think very highly of her, but the king doesn't know that Esther is a Jew. Even Haman doesn't seem to connect the relationship between Esther and Mordecai, and therefore, is oblivious to the deadly situation he has created for the new queen. And he also is unaware, despite the warning from his wife and counselors, that to plot against the Jews in his attempt to destroy them, is to battle against Yahweh Himself. Although God could have terminated Haman anytime on His own, instead He used human instruments of His own choosing that had no power in themselves to stop the devilish plans of their enemy. God's purposes for His people will not be overruled by the evil devising of Satan or the corrupt and sinful nature of human beings.

Though the Jews have been in captivity for many years, God has not forgotten them. The promises He made to Abraham, Isaac, and

Jacob to make them a great people, give them a land, and bless all nations through them are still active. The history of the Jewish nation, with all of its conflicts and rebellion, is simply a record of God's power and faithfulness to fulfill His covenant. The crisis in Persia is one of many attempts that have been made by Satan to eliminate God's people and denigrate God's character. It didn't work in Egypt through Pharaoh's actions, it didn't work when Haman devised his deadly plot, it didn't work when Hitler made his plan to rid the world of Jews, and it won't work through the efforts of today's enemies that are working diligently to destroy Israel. God is the sovereign controller of the past, present, and future of the Jewish nation, and His divine plan and purposes will not be thwarted. His people can walk in faith believing that truth no matter what threat comes upon them.

READ ESTHER CHAPTER 7

1. *How do you think serving the king with 2 banquets has affected his relationship with Esther?*

2. *Explain what Esther might be feeling right now.*

3. *How does Proverbs 29:23 and 16:18 describe this situation? Esther 7:3-6*

4. *Why do you think the king left the room when Esther identified the traitor to be Haman? 7:6-7*

5. *How was the decision made to hang Haman? 7:8-10*

READ ESTHER CHAPTER 8

6. *Though the one who instigated the destruction of the Jews was dead and Mordecai is exalted in Haman's place, the decree made to destroy the Jews cannot be revoked. What does the king do to counter the decree? 8:5-14*



When a criminal was executed, everything that belonged to him became the property of the crown and was disposed of according to the king's pleasure. It pleased Ahasuerus to make over to Esther the house of Haman, with, no doubt, all its content, attendants, furniture, and treasure. Pulpit Commentaries

7. *What was the outcome? 8:16-18*

8. *How might this event have produced a new faith in God and His promises to them? How does Psalm 97:9-12 give a picture of this?*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
