Seeing God

LIBERTI

in the Shadows

Week Ten

E. PROVIDENCE LIBERTI

Esther 9:20-10:3

²⁰ And Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹ obliging them to keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same, year by year, ²² as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

²³ So the Jews accepted what they had started to do, and what Mordecai had written to them. ²⁴ For Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur (that is, cast lots), to crush and to destroy them. ²⁵ But when it came before the king, he gave orders in writing that his evil plan that he had devised against the Jews should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

²⁶ Therefore they called these days Purim, after the term Pur. Therefore, because of all that was written in this letter, and of what they had faced in this matter, and of what had happened to them, ²⁷ the Jews firmly obligated themselves and their offspring and all who joined them, that without fail they would keep these two days according to what was written and at the time appointed every year, ²⁸ that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, in every clan, province, and city, and that these days of Purim should never fall into disuse among the Jews, nor should the commemoration of these days cease among their descendants.

²⁹ Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew gave full written authority, confirming this second letter about Purim. ³⁰ Letters were sent to all the Jews, to the 127 provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, in words of peace and truth, ³¹ that these days of Purim should be observed at their appointed seasons, as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther obligated them, and as they had obligated themselves and their offspring, with regard to their fasts and their lamenting. ³² The command of Esther confirmed these practices of Purim, and it was recorded in writing.

¹ King Ahasuerus imposed tax on the land and on the coastlands of the sea. ² And all the acts of his power and might, and the full account of the high honor of Mordecai, to which the king advanced him, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia? ³ For Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Ahasuerus, and he was great among the Jews and popular with the multitude of his brothers, for he sought the welfare of his people and spoke peace to all his people.

REMEMBER

ESTHER 9:25-26 ESV

²⁵ But when it came before the king, he gave orders in writing that his evil plan that he had devised against the Jews should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows. ²⁶ Therefore they called these days Purim, after the term Pur. Therefore, because of all that was written in this letter, and of what they had faced in this matter, and of what had happened to them,

REMEMBER

Esther 9:20 - "And Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far."

Esther 9:29 - "Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew gave full written authority, confirming this second letter about Purim."

REMEMBER

PSALM 78:4 ESV

⁴ "We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and His might, and the wonders that He has done."

1. By being in His Word daily

PSALM 1:1-2 ESV

¹ "Blessed is the who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; ² but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night."

2. By gathering together each Sunday

HEBREWS 10:24-25 ESV

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

3. By partaking in communion

4. By gathering in Gospel Communities during week

5. By thanking God for the big and the small blessings

When we REMEMBER what GOD HAS DONE, it causes us to REJOICE!

ROMANS 8:28 ESV

²⁸ "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."

ESTHER 9:26 ESV

²⁶ Therefore they called these days Purim, after the term Pur. Therefore, because of all that was written in this letter, and of what they had faced in this matter, and of what had happened to them,

PROVERBS 16:33 ESV

²⁶ "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD."

GENESIS 50:19-20 ESV

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.



"In the Jewish calendar, the year begins and ends around March. It begins with a celebration of the Passover and ends with a celebration of Purim. That is, it begins with a celebration of how God delivered His people from the oppression of Pharaoh in a foreign land, and it ends with a celebration of how God delivered His people from the oppression of Hamon in a foreign land." **BRYAN GREGORY**

"In many ways, the application for the whole book of Esther is right here in this section of Esther chapter 9. The answer to the question, "What is the book of Esther intended to do in the hearts of its readers? is here. Here is the "So what?" question answered regarding Esther. The whole thing is designed to explain why the Jews observe Purim, that is, why do we rejoice and celebrate? Here's what you do with the truths of the book of Esther—you remember grace and you rejoice." **DAVID STRAIN**

1. Where have we seen God's grace within our own lives that we can be rejoicing in?

"But the secret to joy is to keep seeking God where we doubt He is."

ANN VOSKAMP

"The Jews did it at Purim; it's what we do every Lord's Day... Part of our task, as we seek to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, is to do what the Jews do here at Purim, to remember to rehearse again the "old, old story of Jesus and His Cross," that we might reignite the flames of rejoicing in our hearts...Today, brothers and sisters, of all days, we have reason for joy. Jesus Christ lives and reigns and has won a victory for us." **DAVID STRAIN**

EPHESIANS 2:4-5 ESV

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved

REVELATION 5:9 ESV

⁹ "Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open its seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation."

ESTHER 9:22 ESV

²² as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

REVELATION 21:3-4 ESV

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His Word Just to rest upon His promise, Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!" Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more! **TIS SO SWEET**