

Marks of a New Life

Everyone has moments that change everything— Moments that shift your thinking, open your eyes to a better path, and mark the beginning of something new.

In 474 B.C.—God’s people had one of those moments. A fresh start. A new beginning. And from that point forward, they were never the same.

What happened? **God saved them.** And when He did, everything changed. That rescue didn’t just spare their lives— it reshaped their lives. They didn’t return to business as usual.

Their priorities suddenly shifted. Their outlook completely changed. Their lives began to look different and new.

Because here’s the example we see in the final chapters of Esther—

SAVED PEOPLE LIVE NEW LIVES.

As we close this book of Esther, God’s people give us a beautiful example — God’s people show us **five marks of a new life.**

Mark #1 – A New Moment Defines You (Esther 9:20-23)

God's people had just experienced a remarkable rescue—death was at their doorstep, but God intervened and turned their sorrow into celebration. And rather than move on and forget about it, they did something intentional: **They marked the moment, so they would never forget.**

Mordecai, now second-in-command under the King, sent out letters to Jews across the Persian Empire, telling them to set aside two days every year to remember what God had done. This wasn't just a historical event. This was *the* moment—the turning point of their lives.

What moment defines your life? For the person who has believed in Jesus for eternal life—the defining moment is the day God saved you.

Mark #2 – A New Outlook Shapes You (Esther 9:24–26a)

When God saves you, He doesn't just change your destiny—**He changes the way you see**

everything. Your entire perspective begins to shift. You start to realize: life isn't random. This world isn't the product of coincidence. Something bigger is going on. There's a God behind it all. A God who made you. A God who rules over history.

Haman—the enemy—wanted to destroy God's people. So how did he choose the date for their destruction? He rolled the dice. Literally. He cast lots—what the Persians called *Pur*—to decide the most “lucky” day for the slaughter. But what looked like chance... wasn't.

Because *God* was in it. And *God* was using it. And *God* was setting the stage for a rescue.

Proverbs 16:33 says: “The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.”

Even the roll of the dice is under God's control. And so the people named their new holiday *Purim*—to remind themselves: “Even when it looked random... God was at work.”

That's what a new outlook does. It gives you an anchor. It helps you trust that **even in life's chaos, God has a plan.**

Mark #3 – A New Lifestyle Forms You (Esther 9:26b–28)

When God saves you, He doesn't just give you a clean slate and leave you to yourself—**He begins to shape your future.** And one of the most visible ways He does that is through your *lifestyle*.

You start to value different things. You spend your time differently. You develop new habits, new priorities, and a new rhythm of life. Not because of pressure. Not because someone handed you a list of rules. But because something has changed deep inside you.

God's people took this new celebration and they made it **a priority**.

They said: "We're not going to let this moment pass us by. We're not going to forget what God did." They rearranged their calendars. They taught their children. They put it on their schedule.

Mark #4 – A New Authority Leads You (Esther 9:28–32)

We live in a world filled with opinions. Everyone's got one.

But when God saves you, something changes. You begin to realize: "I'm not the authority anymore."

Your thoughts and opinions are no longer the most important thing.

Your preferences and feelings are no longer your compass.

Because now, a new authority has taken the lead in your life.

And that authority... is **God's Word**. And we see a glimpse of that in Esther 9:28–32.

Mark #5 – A New Legacy Follows You (Esther 10:1–3)

We've made it to the final chapter of Esther. It's just three short verses, but it speaks volumes—about legacy. About what follows a life changed by God.

1. Taxes. God's people, saved from destruction, now lived in peace under the Persian king—and they paid taxes like everyone else. Romans 13:7

2. Historical record. The writer says, “Are not all these things written in the Book of the Chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?” In other words—“Go check the records.” This really happened. That matters for us, too. Our faith in Jesus is not built on myth.
3. The legacy of a man. Mordecai used his influence not to promote himself—but to bless others. He led with humility. He spoke peace. He gave his life to seeking the good of God's people.

If God were writing the final paragraph about your life, what would He say?