

Esther
Part 5
“The Day of Battle”

Story leading up to where we are now:

- Esther, the orphan Jewish girl who has been raised by her cousin Mordecai was chosen by the king to be his queen. Esther took the place of the former queen Vashti
- Because Esther is like a daughter to Mordecai; Mordecai stays as close as he can to Esther and is often found at the King’s gate.
- Haman the Agagite is exalted and given a seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles. When all the royal officials at the king’s gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor.
- Haman hates Mordecai and out of his hatred for him arranges a declaration from the King to kill Mordecai and all his people, the Jews. Haman arranged this while giving the king only vague details.
- When Mordecai and Esther find out that a decree has gone out to kill all the Jews throughout Persia on the 13th day of the 12th month they are overwhelmed and set themselves to prayer and fasting.
- Esther after 3 days of fasting approaches the king uninvited. This was not normally and could cost her life. The king is favorable towards her and extends the tip of his Golden Scepter allowing her to enter and giving her opportunity to speak. Esthers only wish is that the king would come to a banquet she has prepared with Haman where she will present her request.
- That night the king can’t sleep and is reminded from the Chronicles that Mordecai saved the king’s life from two guards who plotted his assassination. The king decides to honor Mordecai and puts Haman

in charge of honoring Mordecai publicly with placing the king's royal robe on him and leading Mordecai on the King's horse throughout the city.

- In Chapter 7 the King and Haman come to Esther's Banquet where she reveals Haman's evil plan to kill her and the Jews. King Xerxes has Haman impaled on the 75ft post he set up for Mordecai.
- Haman's estate is then given to Esther and she gives it to Mordecai.
- The king explains that the decree set in place by Haman cannot be cancelled because it had the king's seal. He then gives Esther and Mordecai permission to write another decree to counter act Haman's decree and protect the Jewish people.
- In Mordecai's decree he gives the Jewish people the write to protect themselves on the 13th day of the 12th month. The king's edict granted the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.

Esther 9 NIV

1 On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out. On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them.

- The dreaded day intended to destroy the jews finally arrived. It's been hanging over there heads for 11 months.

Vs. 1b On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them.

- They are called the enemies of the Jews not because they Jews hated them, but because these (other nationalities) hated the Jews.
- I'm sure 99.9% of the Jewish population couldn't help but wonder why they were so hated. Have you ever been hated for no reason? Have you ever been hated and you couldn't understand why? This is what the Jewish people have experienced from the beginning.
- This kind of undeserved hate would catch anyone by surprise and seems to follow everything God loves. Why is that? I believe it reveals the spiritual real and spiritual conflict that exists beyond the physical and we as Christians we are not exempt from it.

John 15 NIV

18 "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. **19** If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

Matthew 10 NKJV

10

Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. **12** Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Vs. 2-4

2 The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those determined to destroy them. No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them. **3** And all the nobles of the provinces, the satraps, the governors and the king's administrators helped the Jews, because fear

of Mordecai had seized them. **4** Mordecai was prominent in the palace; his reputation spread throughout the provinces, and he became more and more powerful.

- God positioned his people for this dreaded day. He positioned Esther as Queen, for such a time as this. He positioned Mordecai in the palace, for such a time as this. He has positioned the hearts of the people, for such a time as this and now “No one can stand against them.”
- This is what the Holy Spirit does, he positions his people...
 - Have you ever had a sense that something is coming? That doesn't mean it's a bad thing, maybe just an unexpected opportunity. Often times the Holy Spirit will prepare your heart before the opportunity arrives, before a phone call, before a conversation happens so that when it does you are positioned and ready for it.

Vs. 5-10

5 The Jews struck down all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them, and they did what they pleased to those who hated them. **6** In the citadel of Susa, the Jews killed and destroyed five hundred men. **7** They also killed (**Parshandatha, Dalphon, Aspatha, 8 Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha, 9 Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai and Vaizatha**) **10** the ten sons of Haman son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews. But they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

Vs. 5 NKJV

Thus the Jews defeated all their enemies...

- This greatly dreaded day has turned out to be a day of triumph, because the Lord has prepared them and helped them. Because of this great triumph Purim and the eve of Purim is still celebrated and remembered to this day.

- If there is one thing the Jewish people do well, it's remembering what God has done for them...
- We as Christians should also remember how God has helped us and delivered us from dreaded things.

Romans 8:31 NKJV

What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who can be against us?

Vs. 11-17

11 The number of those killed in the citadel of Susa was reported to the king that same day. **12** The king said to Queen Esther, "The Jews have killed and destroyed five hundred men and the ten sons of Haman in the citadel of Susa. What have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? Now what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? It will also be granted."

13 "If it pleases the king," Esther answered, "give the Jews in Susa permission to carry out this day's edict tomorrow also, and let Haman's ten sons be impaled on poles."

14 So the king commanded that this be done. An edict was issued in Susa, and they impaled the ten sons of Haman. **15** The Jews in Susa came together on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar, and they put to death in Susa three hundred men, but they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

16 Meanwhile, the remainder of the Jews who were in the king's provinces also assembled to protect themselves and get relief from their enemies. They killed seventy-five thousand of them but did not lay their hands on the plunder. **17** This happened on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar, and on the fourteenth they rested and made it a day of feasting and joy.

- Those who intended to murder (unjustly kill) the Jews, were brought justice in return. The Jews in response to the murdering spirit of Haman, fought back (killing justly) and had no intent to take the plunder of their enemies.

Exodus 20:13 KJV

Thou shall not kill

Exodus 20:13 NKJV

Thou shall not murder

rāṣaḥ - to murder, slay with premeditation

- The fact that the Jews took none of the plunder of their enemies supports Vs. 16 that says “the remainder of the Jews... assembled to protect themselves and get relief from their enemies.”
- The desire of the Jews was not plunder but peace and the right to live.

18th-century philosopher Edmund Burke

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing,”

Vs. 18-28

18 The Jews in Susa, however, had assembled on the thirteenth and fourteenth, and then on the fifteenth they rested and made it a day of feasting and joy.

19 That is why rural Jews—those living in villages—observe the fourteenth of the month of Adar as a day of joy and feasting, a day for giving presents to each other.

20 Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far, **21** to have them

celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar **22** as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

23 So the Jews agreed to continue the celebration they had begun, doing what Mordecai had written to them. **24** For Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them and had cast the *pur* (that is, the lot) for their ruin and destruction. **25** But when the plot came to the king's attention, he issued written orders that the evil scheme Haman had devised against the Jews should come back onto his own head, and that he and his sons should be impaled on poles. **26** (Therefore these days were called Purim, from the word *pur*.) Because of everything written in this letter and because of what they had seen and what had happened to them, **27** the Jews took it on themselves to establish the custom that they and their descendants and all who join them should without fail observe these two days every year, in the way prescribed and at the time appointed. **28** These days should be remembered and observed in every generation by every family, and in every province and in every city. And these days of Purim should never fail to be celebrated by the Jews—nor should the memory of these days die out among their descendants.

- The word Purim comes from the word *pur*: The Hebrew meaning of the word is lot. Specifically the lots cast by Haman for the date of the Jews destruction.
- The word *Pur* or lot could also be understood today as “Date of Death Sentence”. As someone who received a death sentence would know that on a certain date their life would end.
- God miraculously delivered the Jews from there Purim experience.

- God has also delivered us from our Purim or Death Sentence by sending Jesus to die for us on the date of the passover, thus he became our passover lamb.
- When we read the story of what Jesus faced in the Garden of Gethsemane. The pressure and anguish he felt was His Purim for the world. He took the lot or death sentence for all of us. It says in **Matthew 26:39** “he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

Isaiah 53 NIV

4

Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

5

But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;

The Ongoing Spiritual War against the Jewish People

As we look over history it's easy to see a pattern of undeniable hatred towards the Jewish people with the intent to kill their entire race. (1988 Hamas Charter)

From the account of the Amalekites attacking the Israelites at a vulnerable time on their journey out of Egypt in Exodus 17. As a result God tells Moses, “I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.”

This same spirit reemerges later in Haman the Agagite who is a descended of Agag the King of the Amalekites.

We see it in Sanballat as he opposes and threatens Nehemiah and the Jews while rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

Neo-Babylonian Empire (597 BC): Conquered the Kingdom of Judah, destroying the First Temple and exiled the population.

Roman Empire (1st–2nd Century): Destroyed the Second Temple in 70 CE, suppressed revolts, and expelled Jews from Judea taking them captive as slaves.

Adolf Hitler and the Nazi's (1933 and 1945): Sponsored state persecution and annihilation of the Jewish people.

These are just to name a few...

Here is a Question for you?

What happened to all these groups who were demonically used to persecute Israel?

What happened to the Amalekites? The ancient Amalekite nation does not exist as a distinct, identifiable group today; they were a nomadic people believed to have been largely destroyed in antiquity.

What happened to Sanballat? He failed in resisting Nehemiah.

What happened to the Babylonian Empire? The Babylonian empire fell to Cyrus the Great of Persia in 539 B.C

What happened to Rome? It's a mystery to this day, but they don't exist.

What happened to Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party?

What day was Purim for the Jews this year? March 2-3

What happened on February 28, 2026? the United States and Israel launched "Operation Epic Fury," a coordinated, large-scale strike against Iran following declared exhaustion of diplomatic efforts regarding Iran's nuclear program. The attacks killed Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and severely damaged Iranian military infrastructure.

This is the result of Iran having been found with nearly 1000lbs of enrich uranium and have made their intent clear to make a Nuclear bomb and whip Israel off the map.

Google says on March 2nd & 3rd (Purim): the United States and Israeli forces reigning down fire on Iran with over 140 Iranian vessels damaged and intense regional fighting reported.

Psalm 122:6

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

God's Promise to Abraham

Genesis 12 NKJV

1 Now the Lord had said to Abram:

“Get out of your country,
From your family
And from your father’s house,
To a land that I will show you.

2

I will make you a great nation;
I will bless you
And make your name great;
And you shall be a blessing.

3

I will bless those who bless you,
And I will curse him who curses you;
And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”