

Esther 6

Jesus

- **Ahasuerus** King of Persia
 - **Esther** Queen of Persia
 - **Mordecai** Her cousin. Both Jews
 - **Haman** Servant of the King promoted to 2nd in Kingdom
1. **Hates Jews** for what did to descendants Amalekites especially Agag
 2. **Hates Mordechai** the Jew. Does not yet know Esther also a Jew. King doesn't know either
 3. **Tricks the King** to signing decree to **annihilate all Jews** in world

Mordecai to Esther: Approach King to stop slaughter of our people. Such a time?

- **Esther's Courage:** Agrees to approach King risking her life/King raises scepter
- **King Offer: Q.** Half the Kingdom? **A.** Come to feast I prepared for Haman
- **Esther's Banquet:** Doesn't confront the King about Haman's plan/Invites both to second banquet

In mean time... Haman happily heads home till sees Mordecai.
Filled w/rage goes home to brag/complain

- I have Riches/Children/and Queen Esther invited **only me and King to her banquet...**

Esther 5:13 Yet all this avails me nothing, **so long as I see Mordecai the Jew** sitting at the king's gate. "Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a gallows be made, fifty cubits high, and in the morning suggest to the king that Mordecai be hanged on it; then go merrily with the king to the banquet." **And the thing pleased Haman; so, he had the gallows made.**

**God's Name not mentioned in Esther...Yet God intimately involved
Wicked will Reap what they Sow**

Proverbs 26:27 Whoever digs a pit **will fall into it**, and he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him.

- Haman is having gallows constructed in his back yard for Mordecai...
- Preparing to go to 2nd banquet of the Queen...Mordecai's cousin

I. Mordecai Honored by the King

1 That night the king **could not sleep.**

God is always working...here causing/allowing this pagan king to suffer insomnia
Supernatural or Spicy Persian Burrito...or Both?

1b... So one was commanded to bring the book of the records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king. **2** And it was found written that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, the doorkeepers who had sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.

- **Chronicles of the King:** Israel/other nations record of events
- **Bedtime Story for the King:** Help fall asleep w/cup of warm milk

Reads about the day Mordecai thwarted a plan to assassinate the King

3 Then the king said, "What honor or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?" And the king's servants who attended him said, "Nothing has been

done for him.”

- King’s desire to **reward loyalty...**

There is a reward for loyalty to God

2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.

God shows Himself strong of those who are loyal to Him. Victorious.

- **Loyal.** heb. *shā·lam’* lit. Perfect/Complete, at peace with Him
 1. **Consistency** in our walk
 2. **Blameless** in our conduct
 3. **Faithful** with our time/gifts

What did we do for that Mordecai fellow?

As Haman prepares to impale Mordecai/King prepares to reward Mordecai

- **For Believers...**
 1. No coincidences
 2. No accidents
 3. No events that God will not use in/for His purpose/plan...in spite of us

Proverbs 16:9 A man’s heart plans his way, **But the Lord directs his steps.**

- **Late at night:** King seeks advice as to how to honor Mordecai for saving his life...

4 So the king said, **“Who is in the court?”** Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king’s palace to **suggest that the king hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.** 5 The king’s servants said to [the king], **“Haman is there,** standing in the court.” And the king said, **“Let him come in.”** 6 So Haman came in, and the **king asked him,** “What shall be done for the man whom the king **delights to honor?”** Now Haman thought in his heart, “Whom would the king delight to honor **more than me?”**

- **God hates pride.** Why?
 1. God alone deserves the glory
 2. Pride is the enemy of God/Root of all sin/Separated man from God

James 4:6 God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

Psalms 138:6 Though the Lord is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the **proud He knows from afar.**

Proverbs 6:16 These six things the Lord hates, Yes, **seven** are an abomination to Him: 17 **A proud look...**

- **Since God hates pride... what does He love; i.e. delight in?**

1. The one who is humble before Him/others
2. The one who knows who he is/who he's not...

1 Corinthians 15:9 ... I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. **10 But by the grace of God I am what I am**

- Haman thought more of himself than he deserved...

"Whom would the king delight to honor **more than me?**"

7 And Haman answered the king, "For the man whom the king delights to honor, 8 let a royal robe be brought which the king has worn, and a horse on which the king has ridden, which has a royal crest placed on its head. 9 Then let this robe and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that he may array the man whom the king delights to honor. Then parade him on horseback through the city square, and proclaim before him: 'Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor!'"

- **Haman's creates a kind of Birthday Registry for himself**

1. **Royal Robe...** Which the King has worn
2. **Royal Horse...** Which the King has ridden [w/royal crest on its head]

Let one of the King's princes deliver them "to that man"

Let the Prince lead the man on horseback in the midst of all the people shouting...

This is what is done for the man whom the king delights to honor!
That's what I think this great man deserves...

10 Then the king said to Haman, "Hurry, take the robe and the horse, as you have suggested, and **do so for Mordecai the Jew** who sits within the king's gate! [Wait what?]

Great Idea... You're kind of a prince, aren't you Haman?

Take my robe/ my horse and lead Mordecai through the midst of all the people

10b... Leave nothing undone of all that you have spoken."

- **King to Haman:** Don't forget the part about shouting his praise. I like that.

11 So Haman took the robe and the horse, arrayed Mordecai and led him on horseback through the city square, and proclaimed before him, "Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor!"

- At this point Haman has no choice but to obey the King
- There will come a time when the wicked will have no choice ever again...

Philippians 2:10 ... at the **name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord...

- **Even Satan will be humbled...forever**

Isaiah 14:15 [Satan said he will be as God...] Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. 16 "Those who see you will gaze at you, And consider you, saying: '**Is this the man who made the earth tremble**, Who shook kingdoms, 17 Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities, Who did not open the house of his prisoners?'

- **Haman Humbled/Humiliated:** Made to do for Mordecai all he hoped for himself

12 Afterward Mordecai went back to the king's gate. But Haman hurried to his house, mourning and with his head covered.

Psalm 147:6 The Lord **lifts up the humble**; He casts the wicked down to the ground.

Psalm 75:7 ... God is the Judge: He puts down one, **And exalts another.**

Question is not will we be humble but *when and by who?*
Will we humble ourselves now or be humbled by God later?

Matthew 21:44 ...whoever falls on this stone [Jesus] will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will **grind him to powder.**"

- Mordecai went outside to the Kings Gate **Humbled Himself**
- Haman ran home with head covered shamed **Humbled by God**

Word of God never tells us to ask God to humble us but to humble ourselves

Matthew 23:12 ...whoever exalts himself will be humbled/ he who humbles himself will be exalted.

We are to humble ourselves. But if we don't...God will

- **Humble ourselves now or be humiliated later...**

1. Circumstances/Health
2. Job/Failure
3. Relationships etc....

Man's Pride exalts itself as the enemy of God/He will take it down

Pride comes before the Fall...

13 When Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him, his wise men and his wife Zeresh said to him, "If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish descent, you will not prevail against him but will surely fall before him."

- **Wisdom/Logic even from Pagans...** put your house in order Haman...

Mordecai the Jew now has favor with the king. You don't. So, when the king finds out Mordecai is Jewish and that you put a hit out on him; **well...**

14 While they were still talking with [Haman], the king's eunuchs came, and

hastened to bring Haman to the banquet which Esther had prepared.

- No choice but to go to 2nd banquet
- King knows nothing about gallows/Haman's hatred toward Jews/Jewish wife

SUMMARY Mordecai Honored by the King