

## FINDING JESUS IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER

### Esther Chapter 8

#### I. WHAT'S THE MAIN IDEA IN CHAPTER 8?

I. Main Idea: Esther has unceasing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at the thought of her people perishing; therefore, she pleads with Ahasuerus for their \_\_\_\_\_.

#### II. WHAT'S GOING ON IN CHAPTER 8?

A. Esther \_\_\_\_\_ & Mordecai \_\_\_\_\_ (8:1-2)

1. Esther lavished with Haman's \_\_\_\_\_ (v.1)

2. Mordecai given \_\_\_\_\_ ring & given to place of \_\_\_\_\_ (v.2)

**B. Esther's \_\_\_\_\_ for her people's \_\_\_\_\_ (8:3-6)**

1. Esther persevered passionately to \_\_\_\_\_ past \_\_\_\_\_ (v.3,5)

2. The King's \_\_\_\_\_ of Esther's \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 4)

3. Esther pointed out who is set to lose: Her \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (v.6)

**C. King Ahasuerus's \_\_\_\_\_ (8:7-8)**

1. He was \_\_\_\_\_ with his action (v.7)

2. He lacked \_\_\_\_\_ (v.8)

**D. Mordecai's Plan To \_\_\_\_\_ (8:9-10)**

1. Hope \_\_\_\_\_: Letters to \_\_\_\_\_, all \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (v.9)

2. Hope \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_ ring & \_\_\_\_\_ bred horses (v.10)

**E. Jewish People's Legal \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_: (8:11-13)**

1. To assemble, defend, kill & protect their \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (v.11)

2. Time for defense fixed on \_\_\_\_\_ of 12th Month of \_\_\_\_\_ (v.12)

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ established as a law (v.13)

**F. The Jewish People \_\_\_\_\_ (8:14-17)**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the proclamation of the law (v.14)

2. Mordecai's \_\_\_\_\_ as Prime Minister (v.15)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ into \_\_\_\_: Time of joy, gladness & feasting (v.16 & 17a).

4. Fear of Jews: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (v.17b)

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### III. LESSONS WE CAN LEARN FROM ESTHER 8

**A. Let us not be so content with our \_\_\_\_\_ that we \_\_\_\_\_ for those without it:**

1. Esther was not just concerned for her own survival, but the survival of her \_\_\_\_\_ as well : “Saved Alone” -- Not her policy.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ : *1 With Christ as my witness, I speak with utter truthfulness. My conscience and the Holy Spirit confirm it. 2 My heart is filled with bitter sorrow and unending grief 3 for my people, my Jewish brothers and sisters. I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them.*
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - *For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ.*
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - *When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

**B. Let us \_\_\_\_\_ in pleading to the Lord for others to come to \_\_\_\_\_ or to Grow in \_\_\_\_\_:**

1. Three approaches to pleading:
  - a. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer (like Esther’s perseverance)
  - b. Ask God to send \_\_\_\_\_ into harvest (Matt 9:38)
  - c. Not only pray for people to come to Christ, but also for them to grow in Christ. He prayed for their \_\_\_\_\_ but also for their \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Great example of Paul’s prayer for Christians \_\_\_\_\_ in Colossians 1:9-14
  - a. New believers to know what God \_\_\_\_\_ (1:9)
  - b. So they will \_\_\_\_\_ what He wants (1:10)
  - c. Do it in God’s \_\_\_\_\_ (1:11)
  - d. Do it because of the \_\_\_\_\_ (1:12-14)

**C. Our Discipleship Should Be our loudest Declaration:**

1. Esther 8:17 shows us that many of the people in Susa, became Jews. But were the other ethnic groups in Persia just switching to the \_\_\_\_\_ without experiencing true \_\_\_\_\_?
2. Likewise our discipleship is not just \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_. Our conversion has to be genuine and not just declaring ourselves to be something we are not.

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### IV. FINDING JESUS IN ESTHER CHAPTER 8

#### 1. Jesus dealt with the righteous \_\_\_\_\_ of God

1. Esther 8:8 - *But remember that whatever has already been written in the king's name and sealed with his signet ring can never be revoked.* –
  - a. We might think of Haman as in the place of our enemy, \_\_\_\_\_, and joyfully await the day God puts him away. But we still must deal with the \_\_\_\_\_ decree of God that demands our death.
  - b. The soul who \_\_\_\_\_ shall die (Ezekiel 18:4). In our sins, we not only have an \_\_\_\_\_ (Satan), but we also have a legal \_\_\_\_\_ from a \_\_\_\_\_ against us.

#### 2. Confidence in the Power & Promise in His \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Esther 8:16-17 -- 16 *The Jews were filled with joy and gladness and were honored everywhere. 17 In every province and city, wherever the king's decree arrived, the Jews rejoiced and had a great celebration and declared a public festival and holiday.*
  - a. This joy came \_\_\_\_\_ the actual day appointed when the Jews would be attacked, yet able to defend themselves. Nevertheless, because of the decree of the \_\_\_\_\_, they can be assured of victory and rejoice in it \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. In the same way, our course is not yet run; our \_\_\_\_\_ of faith is not over – yet we can rejoice, because of our confidence in our \_\_\_\_\_ – *“being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ”*(Philippians 1:6).
  - c. If God's people are going to be saved, they have to fight to defend themselves. The Jews had \_\_\_\_\_ to defend themselves, but they would still have to do their \_\_\_\_\_. In Christ, we do not just have \_\_\_\_\_; we have the \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_ that fuel our \_\_\_\_\_ in him.

#### 3. Jesus Has the final \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ in our world: *“I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth”*(Matthew 28:18)

- a. Over the 127 provinces of Ahasuerus and in the beginning of Chapter 1, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ of any Jews at all. In Chapter 8, two of the three most powerful people are \_\_\_\_\_ people:
- b. Daniel 2:21a -- *“He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings”*.
- c. Jesus hold's the \_\_\_\_\_ of everything: John 19:11 - *Jesus answered, “You would have no \_\_\_\_\_ over Me, unless it had been given you from above;*
  - i. \_\_\_\_\_ - *But I have spared you for a \_\_\_\_\_—to show you my power and to spread my fame throughout the earth.*
  - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ - *The Lord has made everything for his own \_\_\_\_\_, even the wicked for a day of disaster.*

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d. Be encouraged in God's omnipotence & sovereignty. God sets governments up and brings it down for His \_\_\_\_\_.

**4. Jesus is better \_\_\_\_\_ than Esther. *You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel. (Hebrews 12:24)***

1. There is no one more qualified to plead on our behalf: *For, There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus.*(1 Tim 2:5).

2. Esther could barely gain \_\_\_\_\_ to the king for herself, but through Christ our \_\_\_\_\_ to the Father is never in doubt. (Read Hebrews 4:14-5:10)

**5. The Father completes our \_\_\_\_\_ through Christ:**

1. The King Ahasuerus needed much \_\_\_\_\_ to save God's people. But we have a heavenly King who does not need \_\_\_\_\_. We do not have to persuade God to rescue us.

2. It is the Father who is giving us to Jesus - *For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up.* (John 6:44)

3. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19: *18 And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of \_\_\_\_\_ people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.*

**6. God's \_\_\_\_\_ Transforms us. *We love Him because He first loved us.* 1 John 4:19**

1. Mordecai who used to walk around in \_\_\_\_\_ in contrast, he is walking around in new splendid \_\_\_\_\_: Esther 8:15 - *Then Mordecai left the king's presence, wearing the royal robe of blue and white, the great crown of gold, and an outer cloak of fine linen and purple.*

2. When we were dead in sin, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ us (Rom 5:8).

3. Ezekiel 16 depicts God's love for his people:

i. 16:1-5 : When they were \_\_\_\_\_

ii. 16:6-8 : He \_\_\_\_\_ them

iii. 16:9-14 : He \_\_\_\_\_ them with his transforming love.

Ezekiel 16:14 - *Your fame soon spread throughout the world because of your beauty. I dressed you in my splendor and perfected your beauty, says the Sovereign Lord.*

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**7. Jesus the source of our \_\_\_\_\_.** *Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you. Luke 10:19*

1. If the Jews celebrated in hearing that they could at least \_\_\_\_\_ for victory, how much greater should our rejoicing be since Christ has \_\_\_\_\_ ours?
2. Our hope is not figures crossed (hoping my team will winch game) but thumbs up (our hope is definite).

### **C. Remember our position of Victory**

3. We do not fight from a \_\_\_\_\_ position but from a \_\_\_\_\_ one. Not fighting \_\_\_\_\_ victory, \_\_\_\_\_ victory.
4. The news of Christ's victory also has implications for our \_\_\_\_\_ because Christ does not expect us to obey a single command on our own strength.