

THE ENEMY OF THE JEWS

Esther 2:19-3:15

FROM PASTOR MARK

It is sad to see antisemitism growing in our country! Why is hatred of the Jews so rampant? How does “silent sovereignty,” the theme of Esther, provide comfort and hope in a world like ours?

I. GOOD UNREWARDED (2:19-23)

- A. Mordecai’s Position (19)
- B. Mordecai’s Advice to Esther (20)
- C. Mordecai and Esther’s Good (21-23a)
- D. Mordecai’s Unrewarded Good Recorded (23b)
- E. *Life is a mystery; but God has His plan.*

II. EVIL PLOTTED (3:1-7)

- A. Haman’s Advance (1)
- B. Haman’s Fury (2-5)
- C. Haman’s Evil (6-7)
 - Antisemitism is against God and His plan (Gen. 3:15)
- D. *Humans do evil; but Satan promotes his plan* (Eph, 4:26-27. 6:12)

III. WILL EVIL PREVAIL? (3:8-15)

- A. Haman’s Lies (8)
- B. Haman’s Exorbitance (9)
- C. The King’s Passivity (10-11)
- D. The Widespread Shock (12-15)
- E. *Things may look bleak; but God’s people have hope.*

HOPE IN GOD:

1. Good may be unrewarded but the last chapter isn’t written.
2. The enemies of God and His people make their plans; but the decisive moves are God’s (Prov. 16:33 “*The lot...*”)
3. Evil may appear to be winning the day; but you can trust God’s promises (Gen. 12:1-3; Gen. 50:20; Rom. 8:32).

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

1. Where in our world does it seem that evil is winning and God’s people need to trust in Him?
2. Where in your life does it seem that God is silent and you need to trust in Him?

FOR NEXT TIME—Read Esther 4, *Where Is God?*