

I N T H E S I L E N C E

"GOD IN THE SILENCE" WEEK 2 NOTES **JANUARY 8**

KEY THOUGHTS

- Life Lesson #2 from book of Esther: Bitterness costs much more than you think.
 - Esther 3:1-6 – Bitterness seeks much more than just justice.
 - Haman wanted the life of Mordecai just because he was jealous! He was seeking more than to just "put things right" in his eyes.
 - Esther 5:9-13 – Bitterness sours the enjoyment of good things.
 - Haman couldn't even enjoy his own blessings because of bitterness toward Mordecai.
 - Esther 5:14 – Bitterness takes us to degrees that level-minded people won't go.
 - Why a gallows of 75 feet?! 7 feet would have been more than enough.
 - Esther 6 – God's hand is everywhere, even in things which could reveal your bitterness.
 - Mordecai could have become bitter himself, but he trusted God to work it out.
 - Esther 7 – Bitterness is a self-punishment.
 - Haman is hung on the very gallows he had built for Mordecai. Our own bitterness hurts nobody as much as it hurts us.
 - So why did Haman get bitter, but not Mordecai?
- Bitterness comes from not trusting God to do what only He should do.
- As we'll see later, vengeance is God's job, not ours.
- Bitterness amplifies the silence of God.
 - It's why if you find yourself bitter with someone, you aren't hearing God as you should.

SCRIPTURES

- Esther 3-7

PRACTICAL & REFLECTION

- How do you find justifying your own bitter feelings toward another person, or group of people, or type of person?
- Can you trust the Lord to do, in your situation, what only He should, or can, do?