

1. GOING DEEPER

Esther 9:1-19

1) a) In Esther 9:1 "...the Jews gained mastery over those who hated them." What lessons do we learn from this turn around in fortunes for the Jews? _____

b) Why is unity so important when it comes to overcoming the strategies of the enemy?

c) Given the reaction of the officials in verse 3, what could have been the driving motivation for their behavior? Discuss.

2) a) Compare and contrast the request of Esther in chapter 7: 3 and that of chapter 9:13?

b) What was the significance of hanging Haman's sons? (9:14)

3) a) Given the fact that Mordecai's decree allowed the Jews to plunder the enemy's goods, discuss why the Jews would "lay no hands on the plunder" (Verses 10, 15 & 16)?

b) How have you experienced God's help or deliverance in your life? List some of the ways that you can establish the validity of your confidence in God.

2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

1) To what extent do you trust God to defend you in times of trouble?



I struggle
With trusting that
God will defend me



I am growing in confidence
that God will defend me



I am confident that God
will always defend me

2) What can you do to have greater trust in God's protection?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. APPLICATION

Of the list above, which one(s) will you be intentional about working on this week?

_____. I will ask _____ to hold me *accountable* in this.

Key Verse

Esther 9: 3 (ESV)

"All the officials of the Provinces and the satraps and the governors and the royal agents also helped the Jews, for the fear of Mordecai had fallen on them."

Sermon Main Points

Sermon Highlights

God defends His people and as such we should:

- 🔦 Stand United - You Will Overpower the enemy
- 🔦 Press Forward! - Avoid the distraction of early success
- 🔦 Be Assured! - God will complete the mission
- 🔦 Be Joyful! - Celebrate the victory

- 🔦 The enemy is orchestrating divisive plans far greater than you can even imagine, but we have a God that is greater than any other, more powerful than any other and always present, a characteristic that no other possesses
- 🔦 The greatest power God's children have over darkness is unity. The arch enemy loves to divide and conquer as he knows full well that we are stronger together.
- 🔦 A single drop of water is a weak and powerless thing; but an infinite number of drops, united by force of attraction, will form a stream, and many streams combined will form a ravenous river with such strength that it defies the power of man

5 Day Study Plan ("Study to show yourself Approved unto God...")

Day 1

2 Corinthians 4:8-9

What I learned (observation / interpretation):

How I will Respond (application):

Day 2

Philippians 1:6

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 3

Deuteronomy 7:9

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 4

Hebrews 3:6

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 5

1 Corinthians 1:10

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Inductive Bible Study Method



Observation (What does the text say?)

This phase is about observing exactly what the text is saying.

Pretend you're an investigator who's just gathering the facts. Ask yourself the five W's and H: (Who, what, where, when, why, how).



Interpretation (What does the text mean?)

Discover what the author is trying to communicate. And to do this, you need to look at the context to determine

- 🔦 What is the **main theme** and what is the **meaning** of key words;
- 🔦 Examine **cross references**
- 🔦 Compare **translations**
- 🔦 **Summarize** the text
- 🔦 **Use commentaries** (last resort)



Application (How should this affect Me?)

Don't study the bible just for knowledge – study for application. If you stop at the interpretation stage, you are selling yourself short. Based on what you have learnt, ask yourself "How should this change the way I think, speak and behave?"

Seek to identify if there are - **Sins** to confess; **Promises** to claim; **Examples** to follow; **Actions** to obey or **Knowledge** to grow in.