

I. God Reveals the Plans of the Wicked (1-6)

A. The king's generous offer (1-2) - **“So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. 2 And on the second day, as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king again said to Esther, “What is your wish, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.””**

B. Esther's unexpected news (3-4) - **“Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be granted me for my wish, and my people for my request. 4 For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have been silent, for our affliction is not to be compared with the loss to the king.”**

C. Haman's exposed plot (5-6) - **“Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has dared to do this?” 6 And Esther said, “A foe and enemy! This wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.”**

II. God Reverses the Plans of the Wicked (7-10)

A. Look who is in control (7) - **“And the king arose in his wrath from the wine-drinking and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm was determined against him by the king.”**

1. The king was drunk and raging - “And the king arose in his wrath from the wine-drinking...”

2. Haman was terrified and begging “...Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm was determined against him by the king.”

3. Esther was protected and empowered

B. Things went from bad to worse for Haman (8a) - **“And the king returned from the palace garden to the place where they were drinking wine, as Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. And the king said, “Will he even assault the queen in my presence, in my own house?””**

C. Destruction found the destroyer (8b-10) - **“8b As the word left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face. 9 Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Moreover, the gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, is standing at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.””**

D. Justice delayed was not justice denied (10) - **“So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the wrath of the king abated.”**

Ecclesiastes 8: 11-13 - “Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed speedily, the heart of the children of man is fully set to do evil. 12 Though a sinner does evil a hundred times and prolongs his life, yet I know that it will be well with those who fear God, because they fear before him. 13 But it will not be well with the wicked, neither will he prolong his days like a shadow, because he does not fear before God.”