

TURNING THE TABLES*(sorrow turned into gladness and mourning to joy)*

Esther 8.1-10.3

Central Idea: *When all seems lost, God works His perfect plan through imperfect people.*

Definition of **to turn the table** = to change from being in a weaker position in relation to someone else to being in a stronger position

How did this *turning of the tables* take place?

1. [3.13] 13th day of 1st month ... a decree is issued to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews in the Persian Empire on the 13th day of the 12th month

2. [8.1] On that day, that is, the day Haman died

3. [8.9] 23rd day of the 3rd month ... a little less than two months has gone by, and now another decree is issued giving the Jewish people the ability to defend their lives by taking the lives of those who would seek to kill them on the 13th day of the 12th month

4. [9.1] 13th day of the 12th month – the day has arrived when Haman’s plan would be put into action

5. [9.11] On that day – that is, the 13th day of the 12th month ... the day continues ... and Esther requests two things of the king

6. [9.17] ... on the 14th day of the 12th month ... they celebrated ... this is the beginning of the Feast of Purim

Lessons to Live by ...

1. Believe ...

2. Be available ...

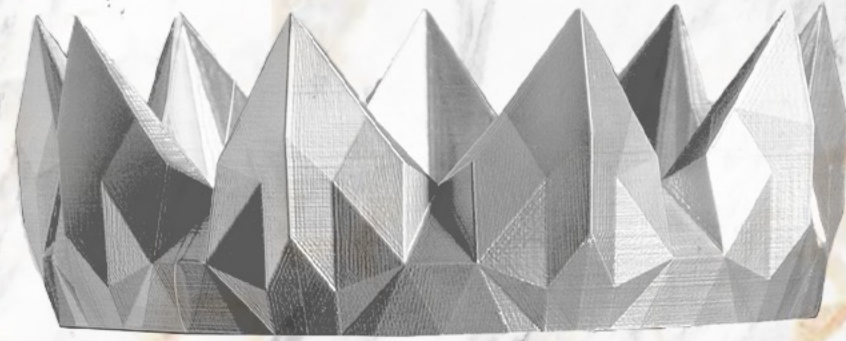
3. Be encouraged ...

Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion

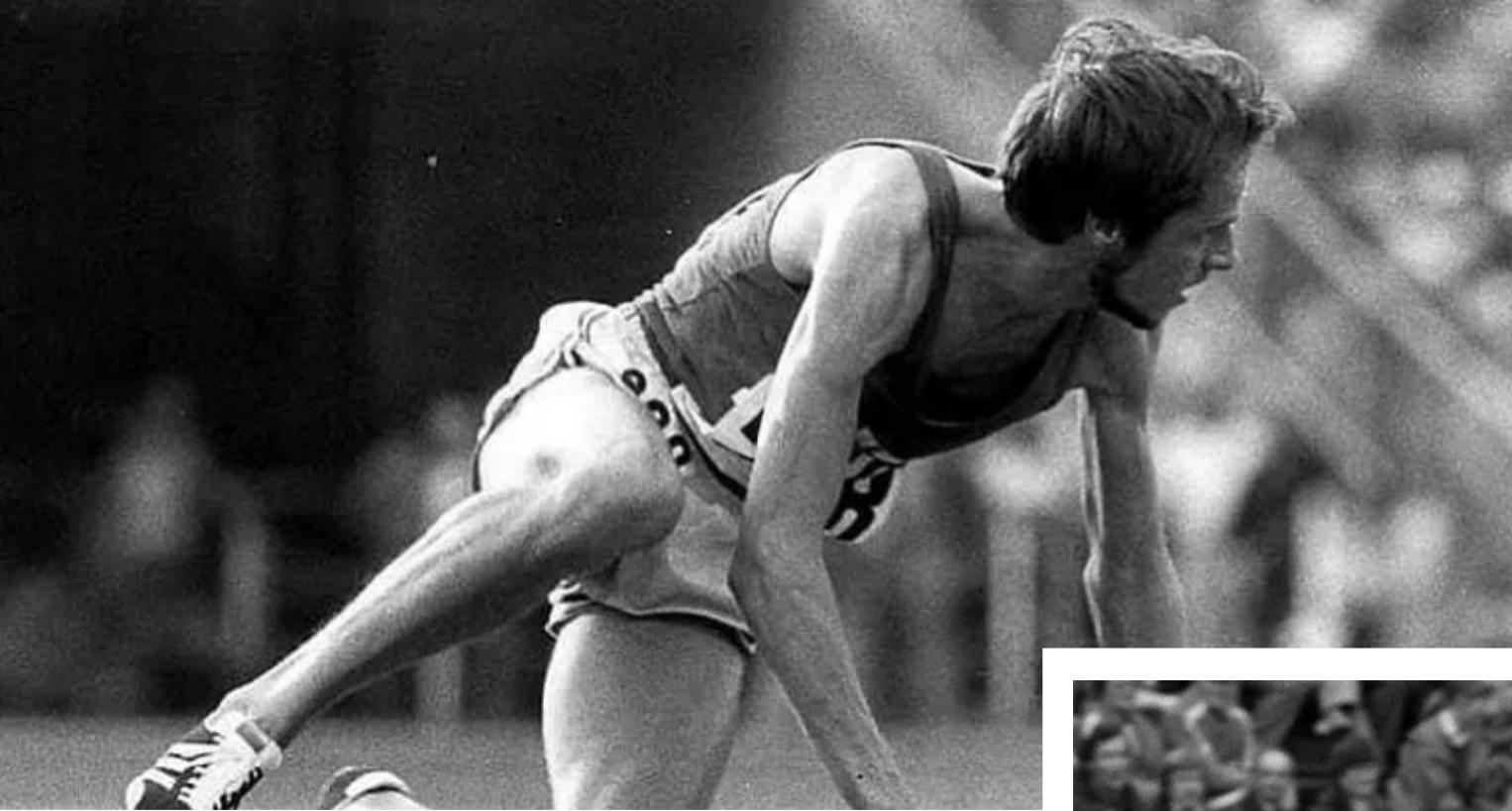
1. What reversals have you seen the Lord bring about in your life? How have you seen Him turn to good what others intended for your harm?
2. How do we reconcile the ending of the book of Esther with our Savior’s call to love our enemies and pray for them?
3. Does seeing what God did for Esther and her people during the Persian Empire mean that every individual Christian or group of Christians can expect God to protect them from violent death? Explain your answer.
4. Read the following passages: Job 12.23; Ps 103.19; Ps 104; Ps 121; Ps 139.16; Mt 10.29-30; Rom 8.28-30; Eph 1.11; Gal 1.15-16. What do these verses teach about the extent of God’s providence in our lives?
5. What have you learned or appreciated through our study of Esther?

Community Bible Church
Rev. Charles Tschetter, Lead Pastor

This outline is provided to assist you in understanding and applying today’s message. *Turning the Tables* is the fifth and final message in a series on the OT book of Esther. This message can be listened to or downloaded at cbcomaha.org. You may also stream and download CBC podcasts from itunes or google play.

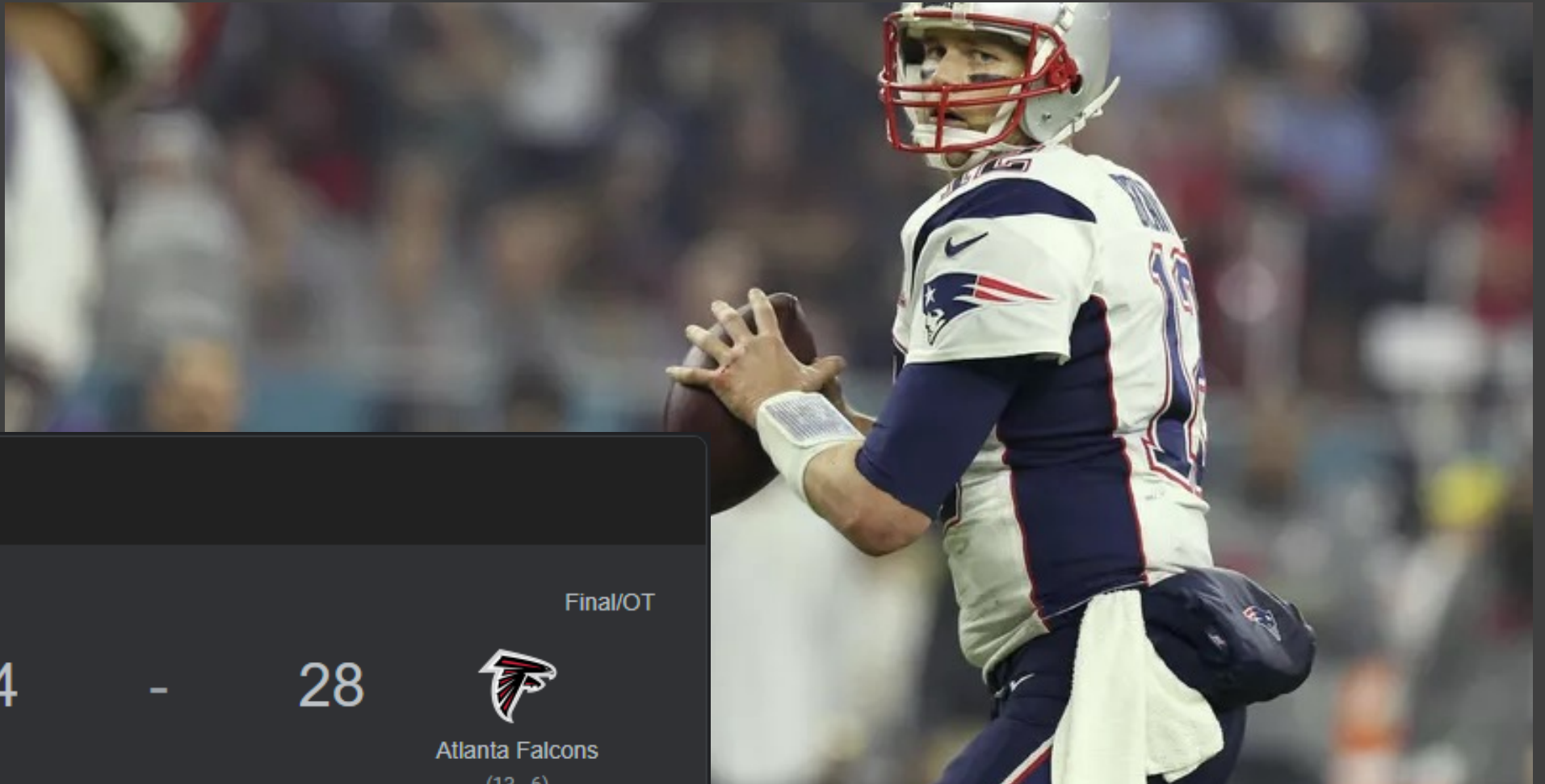


ESTHER



Lasse Viren





Super Bowl LI

NFL · Feb 5, 17

Final/OT



34

-

28



New England Patriots
(17 - 2)

Atlanta Falcons
(13 - 6)

Super Bowl

| Team | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | OT | T |
|----------------------|---|----|---|----|----|----|
| New England Patriots | 0 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 6 | 34 |
| Atlanta Falcons | 0 | 21 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 28 |

New England Patriots

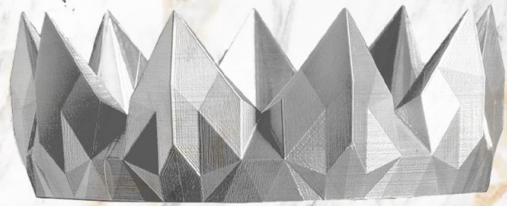


Cleveland Cavs



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(Esther 8.1-10.3)

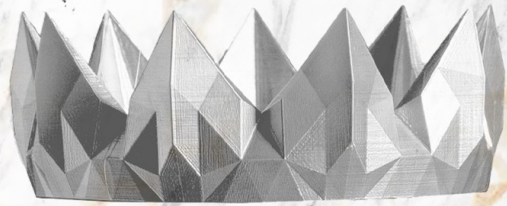


ESTHER

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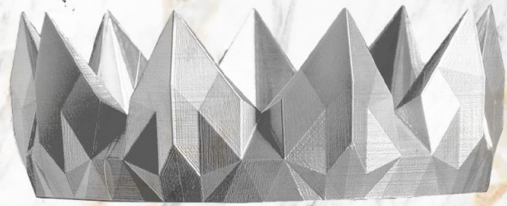
ESTHER

Turning the Tables ...

[3.13] 13th day of 1st month

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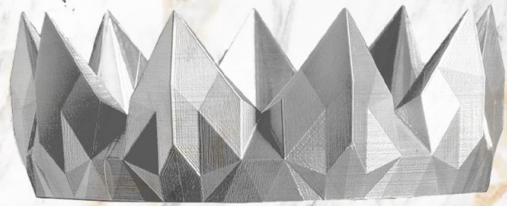
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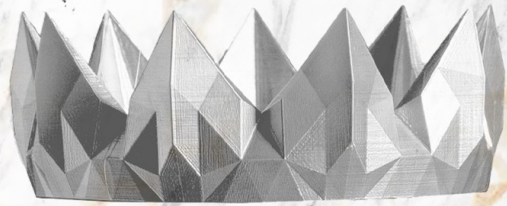
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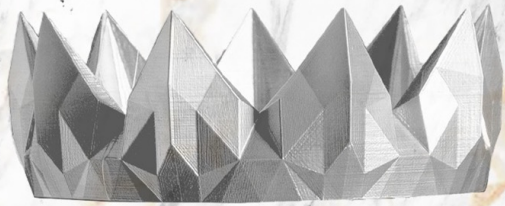
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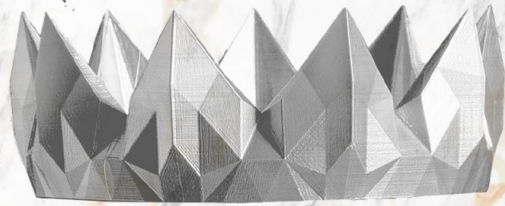
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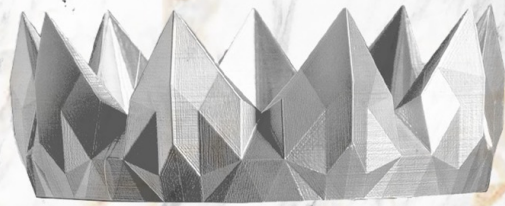
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ESTHER

Lessons to Live by ...

Believe ...
what God says

Be available ...
for God's use

Be encouraged ...
By God's providential
care