

For Such a Time as This

Week 3: Victory

Living as Exiles with Kingdom Vision

Key Scriptures

- **John 18:36** — “*My kingdom is not of this world...*”
- **Hebrews 13:14** — “*We do not have an enduring city here...*”

Core Truth

- This world is **not our home**.
- We live as pilgrims in a foreign land.

Our Identity

- **Ekklesia = called-out assembly**
- **Ephesians 4:1** — *Live worthy of the calling you have received.*

Framing Question

- What does it look like to live worthy of this calling?

The Story of Esther

What We've Seen So Far

- Faithfulness of Mordecai in small things
- Mordecai speaking life into Esther
- Esther stepping into identity, gifting, and purpose
- God quietly positioning His people
- Faithfulness in obscurity → courage called forth

Today's Focus

- What happens when:
 - faithful obedience
 - courageous surrender
 - meet **divine authority**

Gospel Connection

- The king defeats the “adversary and enemy” (Est. 7:6)
- Our King has defeated **our adversary**, the devil, through Jesus

Honest Question

- If the enemy is defeated, why does the world still feel broken?

Esther 8–9:4

God's work of redemption is never incomplete.

- God does not only remove the threat, He:
 - restores authority
 - invites participation
 - leads His people into victory

I. RESTORATION - Esther 8:1–2

What Happens in the Text

- Haman's estate → given to Esther (**territory restored**)
- King's signet ring → given to Mordecai (**authority restored**)
- Power transfers from enemy to God's people

The Story of Restoration in Scripture

Creation

- **Genesis 1:28** — Dominion given to humanity

The Fall

- **Genesis 3**
 - Authority surrendered through disobedience
 - **Romans 6:16** — Slaves to what we obey
 - Satan becomes “ruler of this world” (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)

Present Reality

- **1 John 5:19** — World under the sway of the evil one
- **2 Corinthians 4:4** — Minds blinded by the god of this age

Redemption in Christ

- **Colossians 1:13** — Transferred from darkness to the Son's kingdom
- **Hebrews 2:14** — Jesus destroys the power of death
- **Matthew 28:18** — All authority belongs to Jesus

Believers Reinstated

- **Matthew 28:19** — Sent as representatives
- **Romans 5:17** — Reign in life through Christ
- **Luke 10:18–19** — Authority over the enemy

Biblical Principle

- Restoration is not just healing—it is **reinstatement into authority and inheritance**.

Key Truth

- God does not simply rescue us from danger—He restores us to purpose.

II. AUTHORIZATION — Esther 8:3–8

What Happens in the Text

- Esther approaches the king with boldness
- She intercedes for her people
- The king affirms authority already given
- Esther writes a new decree in the king's name
- The decree is sealed with the signet ring

New Testament Echoes

Bold Access

- **Hebrews 4:16** — Approach the throne with confidence

Kingdom Authority

- **Matthew 16:19** — Authority to bind and loose

Acting in Jesus' Name

- **John 14:12–13** — Greater works through His name

Biblical Principle

- God authorizes the restored to act in His name.

Key Insights

- Prayer shifts from **request** → **responsibility**
- Authority is not just possessed—it is exercised
- Esther doesn't cancel the old decree; she releases a greater one
- Authority flows from proximity to the throne

Key Truth

- Intercession aligns our hearts; authorization empowers our actions.

Important Reminder

- Authorization doesn't remove opposition immediately.
- God's word is spoken—but it must be lived out **together**.

III. VICTORY — Esther 8:9 – 9:4

What Happens in the Text

- God's people stand unified on the appointed day
- Enemies are overcome
- No one can withstand them
- Fear falls on surrounding peoples
- Unity + authority = complete victory

Jesus' Prayer For Unity

- **John 17:21–23** — Unity reveals Christ to the world

Understanding the Real Enemy

- **Ephesians 6:12** — Not flesh and blood

Unity Brings Life

- **Psalm 133** — Unity commands blessing and life

Biblical Principle

- Victory is secured when God's people stand united under God's authority.

Spiritual Insights

- The threat still existed, but the outcome was already decided
- Victory flows from alignment, not aggression
- God's people move from survival → dominion

Key Truth

- The enemy is not overcome by isolated believers, but by a unified people who know who they are and whose they are.

CALL TO ACTION

1. Receive Restoration

- Stop living as though you're still defeated
- Live from what God restored, not what you survived

2. Step Into Authorization

- You are restored to be sent, not just safe
- Pray boldly
- Speak in His name
- Represent His kingdom where you are

3. Commit to Unity

- Victory is corporate, not individual
- Refuse isolation
- Walk in forgiveness
- Stand shoulder to shoulder with the body of Christ