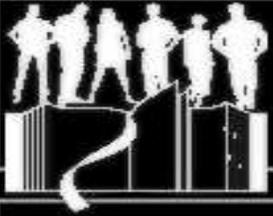


Among the Lions: Esther and Mordecai



God's Victory!
Esther 5-7



Esther 5:

1 ¶ Now it came about on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace in front of the king's rooms, and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the throne room, opposite the entrance to the palace.

2 When the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight; and the king extended to Esther the golden scepter which was in his hand. So Esther came near and touched the top of the scepter.

3 Then the king said to her, "What is troubling you, Queen Esther? And what is your request? Even to half of the kingdom it shall be given to you."

A Time for Courage...



If I die, I die...”

A real possibility... BUT GOD!

Do your best and trust God to do His will!

“she obtained favor”

She touched the scepter... death if not!

Up to half the Kingdom!!! (3)

Look who's coming to dinner???



- I have dinner prepared... and bring Haman!! (4)
 - Why not just ask...
 - Wisdom of patience... timing!
 - Please the King, put enemy at ease...
- Vs. 6 – what is your request...
 - Come to dinner tomorrow! If I have favor (8)
 - And Haman... spots a standing Mordecai! (9)



Esther 5

12 Haman also said, "Even Esther the queen let no one but me come with the king to the banquet which she had prepared; and tomorrow also I am invited by her with the king. 13 "Yet all of this does not satisfy me every time I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate." 14 Then Zeresh his wife and all his friends said to him, "Have a gallows fifty cubits high made and in the morning ask the king to have Mordecai hanged on it; then go joyfully with the king to the banquet." And the advice pleased Haman, so he had the gallows made.

Can anyone say “TUMS?”



- The King can't sleep...
 - No TV or internet... read me the book of records...
 - Ugh...
 - Remember that little thing that happened??? (3:12-15)



Esther 6

2 It was found written what Mordecai had reported concerning Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs who were doorkeepers, that they had sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.

3 The king said, "What honor or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?" Then the king's servants who attended him said, "Nothing has been done for him."

Can anyone say “TUMS?”



- The King can't sleep...
 - No TV or internet... read me the book of records...
 - Ugh...
 - Remember that little thing that happened???
- Hmm, I need advice on this... anyone out there?
 - And who 'just happens' to be in the court...
 - Haman! Waiting to kill Mordecai...



Esther 6:

6 So Haman came in and the king said to him, "What is to be done for the man whom the king desires to honor?" And Haman said to himself, "Whom would the king desire to honor more than me?" 7 Then Haman said to the king, "For the man whom the king desires to honor, 8 let them bring a royal robe which the king has worn, and the horse on which the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown has been placed; 9 and let the robe and the horse be handed over to one of the king's most noble princes and let them array the man whom the king desires to honor and lead him on horseback through the city square, and proclaim before him, 'Thus it shall be done to the man whom the king desires to honor.'

Good, Go and DO IT...



- Haman thinks he has it all... celebrating too soon
 - Do so for **Mordecai the Jew**!!!! (10)



Ben Payne/Scott Overall

Haman honors Mordecai!



- He now has to do all the things he said!!!
 - Leads him on horseback, in the King's robe!!!
 - He had torn his clothing!!! God is good!!!
- And then... it is time for dinner!!!
 - God has woven the strings together
 - Esther has been obedient and wise...
 - No better team than that!!!



Esther 7:

3 Then Queen Esther replied, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me as my petition, and my people as my request; 4 for we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed and to be annihilated. Now if we had only been sold as slaves, men and women, I would have remained silent, for the trouble would not be commensurate with the annoyance to the king." 5 Then King Ahasuerus asked Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who would presume to do thus?" 6 Esther said, "A foe and an enemy is this wicked Haman!" Then Haman became terrified before the king and queen.

Haman honors Mordecai!

- God's idea of victory...
 - Mordecai is HONORED
 - Esther is FAVORED
 - Haman is HUNG ON HIS OWN SPIKE!
- And God's people?
 - They are permitted to not only defend themselves, but to destroy their enemies! See CH 9



Esther

9:29 Then Queen Esther, daughter of Abihail, with Mordecai the Jew, wrote with full authority to confirm this second letter about Purim.

10:3 For Mordecai the Jew was second only to King Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews and in favor with his many kinsmen, one who sought the good of his people and one who spoke for the welfare of his whole nation.