



Esther 3

The Plot Thickens

1

The Amalekites

Who Are They??

"YHVH will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

Jacob v.
Esau

Gen. 25

Battle of
Rephidim

Ex. 17

King
Agag

1 Sam. 15

Haman

Esther

"Remember what the Amalekites did to you along the way when you came out of Egypt. When you were weary and worn out, they met you on your journey and attacked all who were lagging behind; they had no fear of God. When the LORD your God gives you rest from all the enemies around you in the land he is giving you to possess as an inheritance, you shall blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven. Do not forget!

Deut. 25:17-19

2

Esther 3:1

After these events, King Xerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agate, elevating him and giving him a seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles.

- Haman is promoted to Vice President or Prime Minister
- He is essentially the same as:
 - Pharaoh
 - Hitler
 - Arafat
 - Isis?

3

Esther 3:2

All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor.

- All but one elderly man bowed down

4

Esther 3:3

Then the royal officials at the king's gate asked Mordecai, "Why do you disobey the king's command?"

5

Esther 3:6

Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai.

Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.

- Satan's Strategy (Gen 3:15)
- This would include all the Jews who went back to Israel
- All racism is bad - but Anti-Semitism is Satanic b/c it sets out to stop the plan of God

6

Satan's Game Plan

The World

Israel

Tribe of Judah

Family of David

Jesus

7

Esther 3:7

*In the twelfth year of King Xerxes, in the first month, the month of Nisan, they cast the **pur** (that is, the lot) in the presence of Haman to select a day and month. And the lot fell on the twelfth month, the month of Adar*

• "We may throw the dice, but the LORD determines how they fall."
(Proverbs 16:33)

8

Esther 3:9

*"If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will put **ten thousand talents of silver** into the royal treasury for the men who carry out this business."*

9

Esther 3:10

So the king took his signet ring from his finger and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agate, the enemy of the Jews

- The signet ring would be pressed into the clay as a way of certifying the document - notary public

10

Esther 3:11

"Keep the money," the king said to Haman, "and do with the people as you please."

- "As you please" = Confiscation of Assets - This act would be repeated throughout history: Spanish Inquisition, Nazi Germany

11

Esther 3:12

Then on the thirteenth day of the first month the royal secretaries were summoned. They wrote out in the script of each province and in the language of each people all Humans orders to the king's satraps, the governors of the various provinces and the nobles of the various peoples. These were written in the name of King Xerxes himself and sealed with his own ring.

- The 13th of Nisan - the day before the Crucifixion

12

Esther 3:14

A copy of the text of the edict was to be issued as law in every province and made known to the people of every nationality so they would be ready for that day.

- The decree was sent out in March 474 B.C.
- They would have basically a year to prepare

13



14

Esther 4:1

When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly.

- Mordecai now realizes his rebelling against Haman is about to cost him and all the Jews their life
- He also knows the amount of money Haman spent to because he had a copy of the edict

15

Esther 4:3

In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

• "In every province" - All the Jews throughout Asia to Africa were given a death sentence and a date they would be killed

16

Esther 4:8

He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict for their annihilation, which had been published in Susa, to show to Esther and explain it to her, and he told him to urge her to go into the king's presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people.

17

Esther 4:10-11

*Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai,
"All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that he be put to death. The only exception to this is for the king to extend the gold scepter to him and spare his life. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.*

18

Esther 4:12-13

When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer:

"Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape."

19

Esther 4:14

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and **deliverance** for the Jews will arise from another place, but you are your **father's family** will perish. And who but that you have to royal position **for such a time as this?**

20

Esther 4:15-16

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai:

*"Go father together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink **for three days** night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. **And if I perish I perish**"*

• "For three days" - Why 3 days??

21

Esther 4:17

So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

- "Esther's instructions" - Mordecai would have had the influence to have the people in the local area all commit to this

22

Bible Bootcamp

Taking Your Bible Seriously!

Next Week

- The Most Suspense-filled Scenes In All Literature
- Read **Chapters 5, 6 & 7**
- The Banquet of Banquets!

- (You won't be able to put it down!)

23
