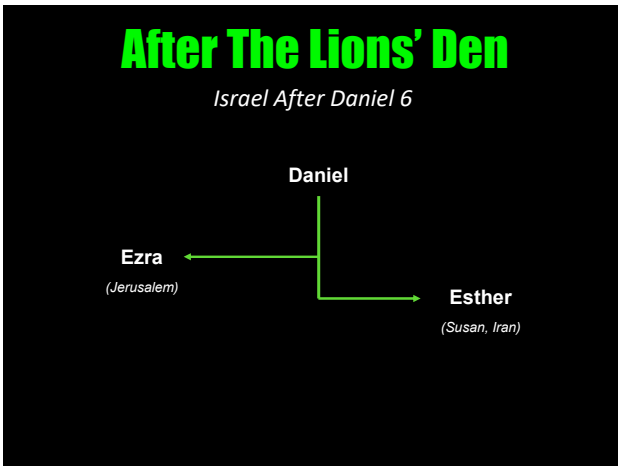




1



2



3

Esther 5:1

On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the palace, in front of the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance.

- "On the third day": The 17th Day of Nisan
- "and stood in the inner court": The entire fate of the Jewish race hinges on this moment

4

Nisan 17th

Just A Coincidence?

Flood of Noah Ends	Gen. 8
Enter Egypt and Escape The Famine	Ex. 2
The Red Sea Parts and The Escape From Pharaoh	Ex. 14
Israel Enters The Promised Land	Joshua 5
Hezekiah Cleanses The Temple	2 Chronicles 29
Esther Saves The Jews	Esther 7
Jesus' Resurrection!	Gospels

"First Fruits"

God's Integrated Message To Us Of NEW BEGINNINGS

5

Esther 5:7-8

Esther replied, "My petition and my request is this:

*If the king regards me with favor and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, **let the king and Haman come tomorrow** to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the king's question."*

6

Why A Second Banquet?

• Theories:

- Esther got nervous
- King Xerxes not in the best of moods
- Supernatural intervention?

Whatever the reason this 24-hour interval turns out to be essential for God's purpose!

- Haman is being set-up

7

Esther 5:13

'But all this gives me no satisfaction as long as I see that Jew Mordecaid sitting at the king's gate.'

8

Haman

Attack On The Line of Abraham

- Haman is so obsessed over this one elderly man who won't bow the knee to him that he can't even experience the joy of his new position, wealth, etc.
- He medicates his anger and anxiety by inviting friends over with his family to brag over his political status, wealth, and the number of children he has
- *"When little men cast long shadows, it's a sign the sun is setting"*

Walter Savage Landor, 1775-1864



9

Behind The Scenes

- God sends blindness to those who he means to destroy
- Haman had no perception of the influences which were working against him: *Jeremiah 17:5-9*
 - God had given Mordecai the faith to be a hero
 - God had strengthened a reluctant Esther
 - God had Haman killed by his own design

10

Esther 5:14

His wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Have a gallows built, seventy-five feet high, and ask the king in the morning to have Mordecai hanged on it. Then go with the king to the dinner and be happy." This suggestion delighted Haman, and he had the gallows built.

11

"Gallows" = Impalement

The Forerunner To Crucifixion

- "Gallows" - tree, wood, stick, timber, stock, etc.
- The Persians would down the road invent crucifixion and they would pass it on to the Greeks and then the Romans
- This was their early innovation of it



12

Esther 6

O, What A Tangled Web We Weave

*The entire course of history for the nation of Israel was changed because a pagan king, hundreds of miles from the center of God's activities in Jerusalem, could not sleep.
Romans 8:28 baby!*

13

Esther 6:1

That night the king could not sleep; so he ordered the book of the chronicles, the record of his reign, to be brought in and read to him.

- **Book of the Chronicles:** Historiographers were assigned to the Persian court and traveled with the kings wherever they went
- Ezra
 - They have documented many things in history

14

Esther 6:2

It was found recorded there that Mordecai had exposed Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, who had conspired to assassinate King Xerxes.

- **"It was found recorded":** HXerxes has been the king of the Persian Empire for 12 years now and has ruled over every nation from India to Ethiopia- of ALL the things that could have been selected to read in the records THIS is the one that was chosen by the librarian?!
- From **Esther 2:19-21**

15

Esther 6:3

*“What honor and recognition has Mordecai received for this?” The king asked.
“Nothing has been done for him,” his attendants answered.*

- **“Royal Beneficiaries”**: Not only should Mordecai have been recognized but these ‘Royal beneficiaries’ formed a special class in society and had their names inscribed on a special list

16

Esther 6:10

“Go at once,” the king commanded Haman. “Get the robe and the horse and do just as you have suggested for Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king’s gate. Do not neglect anything you have recommended.”

- Oops!
- **“Go at once”** - there’s already been a five year delay
- **“Mordecai the Jew”** - it’s believed that he said it that way because that’s how it was recorded

17

Turn Of Events

Haman’s Very Own Personal ‘Plot Twist’


- Big time turn of events for this guy and the ultimate irony!
- Mordecai, who he hated, had to be honored by Haman on the very day he was planning to oversee Mordecai’s impalement.
- He wanted respect from Mordecai and now he had to GIVE respect to him.



18

"Wise Men"

The Persian Magistrates



- "Wise men" - the Magi
- Hereditary priesthood of the Medes who would serve as advisors in the Persian empire and would later become the 'kingmakers' of the empire that succeeded them the Parthian Empire.
- Daniel, under Darius the Mede, was named the Rab Mag מג = "chief of the magi"

Daniel 6

19

Esther 7

A Twist Of Fate

20

Esther 7:4

For I and my people have been sold for destruction and slaughter and annihilation. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king.

- "For I and my people" - It's here that Xerxes realizes what her nationality was.....and Haman too!
- "Sold for destruction and slaughter" - She's explaining how her people have been bribed for extinction
- "Disturb the king" - She's also being very respectful to Xerxes here knowing how psycho he can get and what happened to Vashti back in Ch. 1

21

Reaping What You Sow

- **Gen. 27:** Jacob killed an animal and lied to his father pretending to be Esau
 - **Gen. 37:** Years later Jacob's sons killed an animal and lied to him, pretending that Joseph had died
- **Ex. 1:** Pharaoh ordered all baby Hebrew boys drowned
 - **Ex. 14:** Pharaoh's entire army would be drowned in the Red Sea chasing the Hebrews
- **2 Sam 11:** David took his neighbor's wife and committed adultery
 - **Ex. 14:** David's son Absalom would take David's concubines and openly commit adultery with them

22

Reaping What You Sow

- **2 Sam 11:** David kills Bathsheba's husband
 - **2 Sam 18:** Three of David's sons gets killed
- **Acts 8:1** Paul (Saul) cheers on the stoning of Stephen
 - **Acts 14:** Paul is stoned at Lystra

The mills of God grind slowly

23

Final Thoughts

"For Such A Time As This"

- There is a worse enemy than Haman living in our world right now, plotting our destruction.
- There is a worse fate than massacre for everyone who falls into the enemy's hands
- **Matt 3:7, Luke 3:7** God's Warning: *"Flee from the wrath to come"*
- Esther could never have dreamed of the opportunity the God of the Universe would give her and she won!
- **Q:** Why are you here and for what purpose?

24

The Remaining Challenge

The Story Continues

- The tables were turned on Haman, but the Jews still have a MAJOR problem.
- Xerxes' edict was signed with the official seal and can't be undone by Persian Law
Daniel 6
- Haman is dead, but his actions are still scheduled, by law, to be played out in several months.
- It's now the 3rd month and in 9 months there will be a slaughter of every Jew - total annihilation due to a dead man

25

Bible Bootcamp

Taking Your Bible Seriously!

Next Week

- Read **Chapters 8, 9, and 10**
- List out the Spiritual insights

In TWO WEEKS:

- *The Story Behind The Story and God's Invisible Hand That Was There All Along*

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