

I've Read the Back of the Book
and We Win
Esther 10:1-3

INTRO: Do you like happy endings? If so, then you'll like the way things have turned out in the book of Esther. The fellow in the white hat, Mordecai, wins, and the fellow in the black hat, Haman, gets hung. The book of Esther does not mention the name of God, yet He is everywhere in the book. His unseen hand is directing the outcome of what goes on. All over the world today, folks are ignoring God, not mentioning His name, forbidding the posting of His Commandments, and telling students they cannot pray. But He is here in the world, and He is in control now and will be forevermore.

Things really look bad for Mordecai, Esther, and the Jews. They were headed for destruction, but God provided deliverance for them.

For you and I, Gentiles, things looked dark and dreadful. But in our time of need, God sent His Son to rescue us from danger, to snatch us from the arms of destruction, to save us, rescue us and deliver us from sin (Mt 1:18-23).

The wrath of God was resting on us (Jn 3:36b "...He that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." We were children of wrath (Eph 2:2-3) headed for hell.

The Law of God had cursed us, just as the Law of the Medes and the Persians had cursed the Jews. And just as God sent a deliverer for the Jews in their time of need, God has sent a deliverer for us at just the right time to deliver us from the curse of the Law (Gal 4:4-6, 3:13-14, 1:4).

Charles Swindoll says: "The book of Esther stands on history's shelf like a condensed version of life itself. Though the fate of God's people hung precariously in the balance, in the end God triumphed over the impending tragedy."

I. Vs 1, SAME KING— A BETTER KINGDOM

A. King Ahasuerus is on the throne in chapter one and is on the throne when we come to chapter ten.

1. Many things have not changed from chapter one on through chapter ten. We have the same king, same kingdom, the same country, and same form of government.
2. But several things have changed between the pages of the ten chapters of the book of Esther. Around the throne, there is a real difference.
 - a. Esther is queen, not Vashti.

- b. Mordecai is Prime Minister, not Haman.
 - c. Confusion, defeat, dejection, and fear have been replaced by peace of mind, joy, feasting, and generosity (9:22). Who made the difference? God did!
 - 2. I live in the same country, same state, and under the same form of government that I was born under, yet several things have changed.
 - a. Whereas I lived for 19 years in confusion, defeat, dejection, and lack of inner peace, I now have peace and victory within.
 - b. What changed? What made the difference? God did! (II Cor 5:17).
- B. Ahasuerus was a great king, but I have a greater King. My King is even greater than Solomon. He is King Jesus (Mt 12:42).
 - 1. Ahasuerus was great in the eyes of the Medo-Persian Empire.
 - 2. Solomon was great in the eyes of the Jews and of the then known world.
 - 3. King Jesus is great in the eyes of His people, the people He came to save. Truly we can as Christians say, “Worthy is the Lamb...” (Rev 5:9-12). Our King is so great that one day every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord (Phil 2:9-11).

II. VSS 2-3, THE NAME OF MORDECAI

- A. Vs 2, The greatness of Mordecai is recorded in the “Chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia.”
 - 1. Mordecai is a man with a good name (Prov 22:1).
 - 2. Mordecai stood by his principles when he was unknown and when he was greatly known.
 - a. God used a gate keeper, an unlikely subject to bring about His plan and victory.
 - b. Mordecai is somewhat like David in that each came from humble beginnings and ascended to great heights— one as a Prime Minister and the other as a King (Psa 78:70-72).
 - c. God can use you. He can take little things and do great things with them.
- B. Vs 3, The description of Mordecai given here is one of humility.

Mordecai sought the wealth of his brothers and sisters.

1. We need to be selfless as Mordecai who truly sought to stay out of the limelight and help others (Phil 2:3-4). Lowliness is a characteristic of our Lord Jesus (Phil 2:5-8).
2. Mordecai was a peace maker. We need to be peace makers in all seasons of the year, "speaking peace to all..." The only way to truly speak peace in our day is to preach the gospel of Peace. Yes, we need to be kind and gentle, but no one will know true peace until they know the Prince of Peace (Rm 10:15; Eph 6:15; Isa 9:6).

CONCLUSION: All who know the Prince of Peace are winners now and are winners in the end. I have read the back of the book of Revelation, and we win (Rev 21:4).

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