

## 10 – THE DOWNFALL OF HAMAN (ESTHER 5:1-7:10)

### I. The Throne Room (Esther 5:1-5)

- On the third day, Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the palace.
- The king sat on his royal throne in the royal house facing the entrance.
- When the king saw Esther standing in the court, she found favor in his eyes.
- The king held out his golden scepter to Esther and she touched the top of it.
- The king asked for her request and stated that he would give half the kingdom to fulfill it.
- Esther invited the king to bring Haman to a banquet that she had prepared for them.
- The King called for Haman and they went to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

### II. The Banquet (Esther 5:6-8)

- At the banquet, the king once again asked Esther what her petition was.
- Esther requested that they attend a second banquet where she will make her request known.

### III. Haman's Decision About Mordecai (Esther 5:9-14)

- Leaving the banquet joyful, Haman became indignant when he saw Mordecai not honoring him.
- Restraining himself, Haman went home and called his family and friends to join him.
- Haman expounded on his honor from the king and the invitation to the banquet by the queen.
- Haman states that this means nothing to him as long as he sees Mordecai sitting at the King's gate.
- His wife and friends suggested that he build a gallows and ask the king to hang Mordecai on it.
- In Persia, gallows were a pole that a victim would be hung from or impaled on.
- Once Mordecai is hung on the gallows in the morning, Haman can then attend the banquet with joy.
- Haman was pleased with the advice and made arrangements for the building of the gallows.

### IV. Mordecai Honored (Esther 6:1-14)

#### A. The King's Sleeplessness (Esther 6:1-3)

- That evening the king was having trouble sleeping, so one had to read a book of records to him.

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- It was found in the records that Mordecai exposed a plot to kill Xerxes I.
- The king questioned what honor had been bestowed on Mordecai as a reward.
- The servants reported to the king that no honor was given to Mordecai.

### B. The King Seeks Advice (Esther 6:4-9)

- The King asked who was in the court and he was informed that Haman had entered the palace.
- Haman had come to the king in order to request Mordecai's execution on the gallows.
- As Haman came in, the king asked what should be done for the one the king wants to honor.
- Haman assumed that the king was speaking of him since who else could there be.
- Haman suggested that the man be honored with a royal robe and ride on the king's horse.
- He also suggested that a most noble prince carry out the instructions.
- The prince is then to take the man, parade him through the city and make a proclamation.
- The prince is to proclaim that "this is done to the man whom the king wants to honor."

### C. The Command Concerning Mordecai (Esther 6:10-11)

- The king then told Haman to do all that he suggested for Mordecai the Jew.
- Taking the robe and horse, Haman arrayed Mordecai and paraded him through the city.

### D. Haman's Shame (Esther 6:12-14)

- After fulfilling the king's command, Haman went home with his head covered and mourning.
- Haman told his wife and friends everything that happened.
- They told Haman that if Mordecai was of Jewish descent, he will not prevail.
- They told him that he will surely fall before Mordecai.
- As Haman was speaking with them, the king's eunuchs came for him to attend the banquet.

## V. The Second Banquet (Esther 7:1-10)

### A. Esther's Petition (Esther 7:1-6)

- At the banquet, the king once again asked Esther what her petition was.

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- Esther requested that her life be given to her and to her people.
- She pointed out that she and her people have been sold to be annihilated.
- The King wanted to know who the man was that would dare presume such an act in his heart.
- Esther identified the man as Haman, who quickly became terrified in their presence.

### B. Haman's Downfall & Execution (Esther 7:7-10)

- The King went out into the palace garden angry and Haman pleaded with Esther for his life.
- Haman understood that evil was determined against him by the king.
- When the king returned, Haman had fallen across the couch where Esther was seated.
- The king questioned whether Haman would assault the queen while he was in the house.
- They covered Haman's face, as he was then hung on the gallows that he had made.