

11 – THE DELIVERANCE OF THE JEWS (ESTHER 8:1-10:3)

I. The Second Proclamation (Esther 8:1-17)

A. Mordecai Elevated (Esther 8:1-2)

- On the day that Haman was executed, Xerxes I gave Esther the house of Haman.
- Mordecai was brought before the king because Esther told the king that they were family.
- The king gave Mordecai his signet ring and Esther appointed Mordecai over Haman's house.

B. The Second Decree (Esther 8:3-14)

- Esther once again pleaded for the plight of her people before the king.
- The king extended his golden scepter to Esther and she asked for a second decree.
- The second decree would revoke the instructions of the first decree.
- The king gave Esther and Mordecai authority to write the decree.
- The king's scribes were called at Mordecai's command and the decree was sent out.
- It allowed the Jews to gather and protect themselves against their enemies on a certain date.
- The decree was sent out into all of the provinces throughout the empire.

C. The Jews Rejoice (Esther 8:15-17)

- Mordecai went out from the king's presence wearing royal robes and a crown.
- The Jews in the Shushan and the provinces of the empire rejoiced over the decree.

II. The Vengeance of the Jews (Esther 9:1-19)

A. The Jews Take Vengeance (Esther 9:1-10)

- At the appointed day, the Jews turned the tables and overpowered those who hated them.
- No one could withstand the Jews because the fear of the Jews fell upon all peoples.
- The officials of the empire helped the Jews because they feared Mordecai.
- They defeated their enemies throughout the empire and they destroyed 500 men in Shushan.
- Those who were killed in Shushan included the ten sons of Haman, the enemy of the Jews.

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- Though their enemies were killed, the Jews did not take the plunder.

B. The King's Reaction (Esther 9:11-14)

- The king received the report concerning those killed in Shushan.
- He asked Esther if she had a petition, since it would be granted her.
- Esther asked for an additional day for the Jews to destroy their enemies in Shushan.
- She also asked that the bodies of Haman's sons be hung for public display.
- The king issued a decree granting the additional day of vengeance.

C. Further Vengeance (Esther 9:15-19)

- On the next day, the Jews killed an additional 300 men, but they did not take the plunder.
- The Jews in the provinces had protected themselves by killing 75,000, but took no plunder.
- After the day of vengeance against their enemies, the Jews rested and feasted in celebration.

III. The Feast of Purim (Esther 9:20-32)

A. The Feast Established (Esther 9:20-25)

- Mordecai sent letters to the Jews throughout the province commanding a yearly celebration.
- The Jews were to set aside the 14th and 15th day of Adar for the celebration.
- It was a celebration to mark the days that the Jews had rest from their enemies.
- The Jews accepted the custom because Haman had plotted against them and was destroyed.

B. The Binding of Purim (Esther 9:26-32)

- The Jews called this celebration Purim and imposed the celebration upon their descendants.
- Queen Esther wrote with full authority to confirm the establishment of Purim.

IV. The Greatness of Mordecai (Esther 10:1-3)

- The writer records that Xerxes I imposed a tribute throughout the empire.
- The writer also lists where the account of Xerxes I and Mordecai are written.
- Mordecai was second only to Xerxes I and was well received by his Jewish brethren.