

WALKING BY FAITH AND LEAVING THE RESULTS WITH GOD (5:1-14)

*Hebrews 11:6, 8, 32 - 40

*Principle to remember:

I. THE PERSONAL SELECTION OF ESTHER (1:1-2:23)

II. THE DIABOLICAL INTENTION OF HAMAN (3:1-4:3)

III. THE COURAGEOUS INTERCESSION OF ESTHER (4:4-5:14)

A. Her INITIAL REACTION to the News. (4:4)

B. Her WILLING RESPONSE to Cousin Mordecai. (4:5-11)

C. Her UNUSUAL REQUEST to the King at the Banquet. (5:1-14)

*Is God still on the throne and providential in your life?

*Does God know what injustices you are suffering? Does He care?

*What was the value of waiting, fasting, and praying for 3 days before approaching the king?

*What was Esther's initial action in contacting the king? (5:1)

*What can you learn from this about walking by faith?

*How did the king respond to Esther? (5:2-3)

*Can we have confidence as believers in coming before the God of the universe? Why?

*What surprise request did Esther make of the king? (5:4)

*Why did Esther not tell the King her real problem and request?

- *What was “risky” about this delay from a human standpoint?
- * How did the king respond again toward Esther? (5:5-8)
- *How was God’s providence evident in all this?
- *How does Haman react when he sees Mordecai? (5:9)
- *What happens when you live by your emotions and circumstances?
- *Did all of this serve to inflate Haman's pride? (5:10-12)
- *When do those who stand for the Lord become most evident?
- *What did Haman’s wife and friends recommend that he do to Mordecai? (5:13-14)
- *Is this chapter filled with ironies?
- * What can we learn from this?
 - ... about a mate?
 - ... about friends?
 - ... about bitterness and malice?
 - ... about walking by faith and faithfulness to God?
 - ... about God’s loving providence in your life?
 - ... about God’s grace toward you?