

THE END IS NEAR!

One of the most predictable questions we ask when experiencing difficulties is, *'when will this end?'* We pray and long for the pain to end. We want to be delivered from, fear, despair and all sorts of darkness. This is how the Jews in the Persian Provinces felt as they awaited their prescribed demise. Each new day reminded them of their impending annihilation. That's why Esther and Mordecai used their newly acquired influence to intervene. Their intervention resulted to an edict that brought hope to all Jews.

As Christians, we too long for the day the Lord Jesus will appear to deliver us from the presence of sin and be with Him in the Holy of Holiness. But as we wait, we yearn for His intervention on our daily struggles. We want to see God deliver us from pain or protect us from experiencing difficulties all together. The events in Esther chapter eight remind us that the end is near. If we do not give up, our Lord will show up in His own time as He has done before for His beloved children. The end is near because God is at work around us!



“...you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy.”

QUESTIONS

1. Can you recall moments in your life when you wished your difficulty would come to an end?
2. What kind of encourage can you derive from the Jews' experience in our passage?
3. In what ways can you apply today's message in the face of life's difficulties?
4. What one statement from the sermon spoke to you?