

March 6, 2024 – Sermon Notes

## “No Glory for God” Esther 8:1-17

### Prel Rmks

Text ~ Title

### INTRO

A lot of good things have happened ...

Esther was received by the King

It worked out that she was able to expose Haman for who He was

Haman had been hanged – Esther, Mordecai and the Jews won't have to worry about him anymore

But there was still one lingering problem ... 13<sup>th</sup> day of Adar (12<sup>th</sup> month) {dark shadow}

That crazy Persian rule of law ...

The crisis is not fully over until that issue is solved ... Esther's work is not quite done.

### I. The Promotion of Mordecai 1-2

(1) **On that day** King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman, **compensation for her suffering** the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for **Esther had told how he was related to her**. (2) So the king took off his **signet ring**, which he had taken from Haman, and **gave it to Mordecai 3:10 to Haman**; 2<sup>nd</sup> in command in the empire – like Joseph in Egypt – more authority than Daniel had in Babyon or Persia (he was 3<sup>rd</sup> in line in Persia)

and **Esther appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman**.

### II. Unfinished Business 3-6

(3) Now Esther spoke again to the king, **fell down at his feet**, and implored him **with tears to counteract the evil of Haman** the Agagite, and **the scheme** which **he had devised against the Jews**.

(4) And **the king held out the golden scepter toward Esther**. So Esther arose and stood before the king, (5) and said, "If it pleases the king, and **if I have found favor in his sight and the thing seems right to the king and I am pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to revoke the letters devised by**

Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to annihilate the Jews who *are* in all the king's provinces.

(6) For how can I endure to see the evil that will come to my people? Or how can I endure to see the destruction of my countrymen?"

### III. The Master of Delegation 7-8

(7) Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and Mordecai the Jew, "Indeed, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows because he *tried to* lay his hand on the Jews. (8) You yourselves write *a decree* concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal *it* with the king's signet ring; **"you figure it out"**

for whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke." **"I see no way out"**

### IV. The Proposed Solution 9-14

(9) So the king's scribes were called at that time, in the third month, which is the month of Sivan, on the twenty-third *day* **June 25, 474 BC**; and it was written, according to all that Mordecai commanded, to the Jews, the satraps, the governors, and the princes of the provinces from India to Ethiopia, one hundred and twenty-seven provinces *in all*, to every province in its own script, to every people in their own language, and to the Jews in their own script and language.

By the time this was written 2 months and 10 days had passed.

It took them that long to come up with a solution and draft the counteracting edict.

(10) And he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus, sealed *it* with the king's signet ring, and sent letters by couriers on horseback, riding on royal horses bred from swift steeds.

**Here's the solution they came up with – it didn't revoke the King's previous edict, but it counteracted it.**

(11) By these letters the king permitted the Jews who *were* in every city to gather together and protect their lives—to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the forces of any people or province that would assault them, *both* little children and women, and to plunder their possessions, (12) on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth *day* of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. **March 7, 473 = 2501 years ago tomorrow.**

**(13)** A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province and published for all people, so that the Jews would be ready on that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. **(14)** The couriers who rode on royal horses went out, hastened and pressed on by the king's command. And the decree was issued in Shushan the citadel.

## V. Rejoicing Throughout the Empire 15-17

**(15)** So Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, with a great crown of gold and a garment of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad. **(16)** The Jews had light and gladness, joy and honor. **(17)** And in every province and city, wherever the king's command and decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a holiday.

Then many of the people of the land became Jews, because fear of the Jews fell upon them.

### Implications / Applications

1. We should not put our trust in human rulers or leaders:

Psalm 146

2. Do we fail to glorify God when things “work out” our way?  
May it never be said of us!

**Romans 1:21** ... although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

3. We are to get the Word out quickly at our King's command.

“Go you into all the world – deliver the message to every nation!”