

**"Mordecai Remembered"**

**Part 1**

**Esther 6**

**Introduction:** If there is one word that often does not sit well with us it is the word "WAIT". We have become used to getting whatever we desire very quickly. If you belong to Amazon Prime you usually get deliveries in two days or less. We can go through a drive through and get an entire meal in about five minutes or so. We have microwaves in our homes to heat things quickly. So we have been conditioned to receive things quickly and when we must wait, we struggle with it.

In Esther chapter 5 when Esther first came into the presence of the king, he knew that she needed something.

**Notice Esther 5:1-3**

The king desired to meet her request up to half of the kingdom but she made the choice invite the king and Haman to a banquet which she had prepared and then reveal her request.

**Notice Esther 5:4-8**

When the king and Haman came to the banquet God somehow revealed to Esther that it was not the proper time to make her request. So she invited the king and Haman to come to a second banquet in which she told the king she would make her request known.

**Application:**

The point I want you to see is the delay. God delayed Esther's request two times. As we considered before, we do not know how Esther knew to postpone the request but somehow God made it known. As we shall see today in our study there was a very good reason for the delay. Mordecai will go from almost dying in the gallows to being honored by the king. This will all set the stage for the Jews to be rescued from the death sentence.

Let me remind you of something that we often forget.

**Ephesians 6:10-12**

<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

<sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

*<sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

We are in a spiritual battle and in our day the battle has been ramped up. Now let us consider our enemy.

**John 8:43-45**

*<sup>43</sup> Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.*

*<sup>44</sup> Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

*<sup>45</sup> And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.*

Our enemy is a murderer. When Jesus walked the face of the earth Satan tried his best to murder Him. Now Satan's focus is upon us who are the body of Christ.

**Acts 1:1-2**

*The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach.*

*<sup>2</sup> Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:*

We see here that Jesus began the work of the church and today it continues through us. So we are the targets of Satan. Let me remind you of one more point then I will pull all of this together.

**Jude 1:9**

*<sup>9</sup> Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.*

Satan is the most powerful being ever created by God. Michael the archangel was very careful about disputing with Satan because of his power. He rebuked him in the name of the Lord.

Now, I point all of this out because Satan desires to murder us and he would absolutely do so if he could. But our God knows the plans of Satan and therefore He protects us.

**Psalm 46:1-3**

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

*<sup>2</sup> Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;*

*<sup>3</sup> Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.*

With all of this said we need to understand that as God protects us there are often going to be delays and times when our plans do not materialize. Just as with Esther there may be delays and changes. Our problem is that we often forget about God's protection and when there are delays and changes, we do nothing but complain and look for someone to blame. Let us be reminded that God is in everything in our lives and when there is a delay or a change it is for a reason. There may be a trap that Satan has set to kill us, and God has changed or delayed our plans in order to protect our lives from the trap. Let us also keep in mind that the purpose which God is working in our lives is His own glorification. Instead of complaining we should be praying the Words of the Psalmist.

**Psalm 31:1-4,14-15**

*In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.*

*<sup>2</sup> Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.*

*<sup>3</sup> For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.*

*<sup>4</sup> Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou art my strength.*

*<sup>14</sup> But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my God.*

*<sup>15</sup> My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.*

Let us now see the reason for the delayed request of Esther.

**Divine Insomnia**

**Notice Esther 6:1**

There is so much here to consider. The words "ON THAT NIGHT" show the faithfulness of God. He is showing up at the eleventh hour to save the life of Mordecai. The gallows are built, and Haman is going in the morning to seek permission to hang Mordecai. God steps in at the last minute. One point that stands out to me is that fact that Haman has no idea how close he is to death. I just wonder how many times we have been in the same situation, and we were completely unaware of God's hand in our rescue.

It was on this very night that while all the people in the Persian Empire slept, that God kept the king awake.

**Proverbs 21:1-2**

**The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.**

*<sup>2</sup> Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.*

Not only does God keep the king awake but he also moves him to ask for the book of chronicles to be brought and read to him. Let us understand that the king had many ways to fill his sleepless night. He was the king, so he had almost everything at his fingertips. He could have requested soft music or even singers. But of all he had he requested the book of records to be read that night because there was an event that needed to be remembered.

**Notice Esther 6:2**

The book that was brought contained many recordings, but it just so happened that night that it was opened to the page where Mordecai's intervention was recorded. This was the event that took place in Esther 2.

**Esther 2:21-23**

*<sup>21</sup> In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those which kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus.*

*<sup>22</sup> And the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name.*

*<sup>23</sup> And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.*

**Application:**

The events of Esther 6 are all recorded so that we can clearly see how God works even in the everyday affairs of His people. There is nothing that happens by chance.

**Esther 2:1-3**

*And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.*

<sup>2</sup> *And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after him in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.*

<sup>3</sup> *And she went, and came, and gleaned in the field after the reapers: and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Elimelech.*

**Proverbs 16:9**

<sup>9</sup> *A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.*

David's words of Psalm 31 are fitting for this thought.

**Psalm 31:15**

<sup>15</sup> *My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.*

Now these thoughts are easy to accept when everything that happens is for our favor. But what about when the events that unfold are painful and heart breaking?

**Romans 8:28, 31-32**

<sup>28</sup> *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

<sup>31</sup> *What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*

<sup>32</sup> *He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*

Let us notice the words of Guzik:

*"Esther wasn't lucky to be queen; Mordecai wasn't lucky to have overheard the assassination plot; it wasn't luck or chance that made Haman enter the royal courts at this time with this heart. All of these events were orchestrated by God and not by luck.*

*This becomes difficult, of course, when bad things happen to us. It is easy to see God's management of all things when we see good things happen. But what about the bad? Even then, we must trust God's total plan, realizing that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28). We understand that Paul says all things work together; any one event, taken in isolation may seem to make no sense, but when we see all things working together, we then see the ultimate wisdom of God's plan."*

**Notice Esther 6:3**

When the king inquired, he found that nothing was done for Mordecai. This was unusual for rewards were to inspire others to report when there was anything planned against the king.

**Notice Esther 6:4**

As the morning approaches the king hears someone in the court. It is Haman and he has come very early to get permission to hang Mordecai. He desired to be the first in the presence of the king on that day, but he was not. God was several steps ahead of Haman.

**Conclusion/Application:**

As we study this letter it is so obvious that our God is in control of the affairs of our lives. He goes before us to prepare a way. He moves hearts and His timing is perfect. He allows sinful man to carry out his deeds, but He works it all together to glorify Himself.

**Ephesians 1:11**

<sup>11</sup> *In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:*

**Hebrews 4:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> *There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.*

<sup>10</sup> *For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.*