

"Mordecai Remembered"**Part 2****Esther 6**

Introduction: When we left the book of Esther we were watching as God kept the king from sleeping and led him to desire to hear the book of records. When the book was opened, it was opened to the page where it was recorded of Mordecai's intervention as he moved to save the king's life. The king was made aware that nothing had been done for Mordecai which was not normal. At that very time Haman had entered the king's court and he was hoping to get permission from the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows on that very day. Haman came early because he did not want to delay the execution of Mordecai. He was controlled by a spirit of vengeance. Mordecai would not move or bow, and Haman was determined to make Mordecai suffer for it. Haman is a picture of two of the seven things which God hates.

Proverbs 6:16-19

¹⁶ *These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:*

¹⁷ *A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,*

¹⁸ **An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,**

¹⁹ *A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.*

But God had arrived at the king before Haman and allowed the intervention of Mordecai to be made known. All of this was in the plan of God to exalt Mordecai and that is exactly why Esther had postponed her request. God had stopped Esther somehow and in some way because He desired to manifest the intervention of Mordecai. But let us understand that this is not about Mordecai. This entire section is about God being glorified.

Isaiah 49:1-3

Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

² *And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me;*

³ *And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, **in whom I will be glorified.***

Notice Esther 6:4-6

Haman has no idea what the king is planning. His thoughts are all about himself. Notice the words of Swindoll:

"Is this a great moment or what? The sun is barely over the horizon, and here comes Haman, rushing to the palace as early as he can so he will be the first to have an audience with the king and finish off his hated enemy. Suddenly, out of the inner court, comes the voice of the king, "Call him in. Call Haman in." The king is calling for him. This will be even easier than he anticipated. Now is my chance, he thinks. He glances out the window with a sinister sneer, Just a minute, gallows, somebody will be on you. And with the stride of a peacock he struts into the court of the king."

When the king asks the question in verse 6, Haman is so sure the king desires to honor him. He never even considers another person because in his mind he deserves to be honored. This is the opposite of how we as believers are to see ourselves.

Philippians 2:1-4

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

² *Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.*

³ *Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*

⁴ *Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.*

Haman was only concerned about Haman. He did not even consider that the king would desire to honor someone else and especially Mordecai. Notice the words of Guzik:

"God often allows fallen man to set his own trap; allowing Haman to make his pride and arrogance be the cause of his ultimate humiliation."

I believe we can clearly see this today. Sinful man in his desire for power and control is setting a trap that will eventually destroy himself for he is setting the stage for the Tribulation. They are rejecting God and trying to keep others from serving God because they desire for the government to be the "god" of the people. It will be the very things they are pushing to establish that will eventually bring about their destruction if they live

to see the Tribulation. They desire a one world government but what they do not understand is that when the one world government comes so will the mighty wrath of God.

Revelation 6:12-17

¹² And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

¹³ And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

¹⁴ And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

¹⁶ And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

¹⁷ For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Notice Esther 6:7-9

Clearly Haman is describing what he would like to have done for himself and he has no idea it is for Mordecai.

Let us understand that Haman is reaping what he has sowed.

Esther 3:6-8

⁶ And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

⁷ In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

⁸ And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse

from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.

We see here in verse 8 that Haman concealed the identity of those whom he desired to kill. He knew they were Jews, but he never revealed that to the king. Now in Esther chapter 6 Haman reaps what he has sowed. The king does not reveal who is to be honored. The king did not realize what he was doing by not mentioning Mordecai, but God was using the king to allow Haman to experience the very thing he had done.

Galatians 6:7-8

⁷ *Be not deceived; **God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.***

⁸ *For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.*

Notice the words of Moody on Galatians 6:7:

"We might as well try to blot the sun out of the heavens as to blot this truth out of the Word of God. It is heaven's eternal decree. The law has been enforced for six thousand years. Did not God make Adam reap even before he left Eden? Had not Cain to reap outside of Eden? A king on the throne, like David, or a priest behind the altar, like Eli; priest and prophet, preacher and hearer, every man must reap what he sows. I believed it ten years ago, but I believe it a hundred times more to-day.

This text applies to the individual, whether he be saint or sinner or hypocrite who thinks he is a saint; it applies to the family; it applies to society; it applies to nations. I say the law that the result of actions must be reaped is as true for nations as for individuals; indeed, some one has said that as nations have no future existence, the present world is the only place to punish them as nations. See how God has dealt with them. See if they have not reaped what they sowed. Take Amalek: "Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt; how he met thee, by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, even all that were feeble behind thee, when thou wast faint and weary; and he feared not God." What was to be the result of this attack? Was it to go unpunished? God ordained that Amalek should reap as they sowed, and the nation was all but wiped out of existence under King Saul."

Notice Esther 6:10

These words must have been a great shock to Haman! He expected to be honored and to have Mordecai put to death. This never crossed his mind. There is a New Testament passage that comes to mind here.

Romans 12:17-21

¹⁷ *Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.*

¹⁸ *If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

¹⁹ *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*

²⁰ *Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.*

²¹ *Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*

Mordecai could have sought to retaliate because of Haman's death sentence on the Jews. He could have drove himself crazy trying to even the score. But as it appears Mordecai gave it to the Lord. He did what he could by exhorting Esther to go to the king and by fasting and praying but he did not seek vengeance on Haman.

Application:

This is exactly how we are to handle people who are set against us. We are to feed them if they are hungry, and we are to give them drink if they are thirsty. But we are not to seek vengeance nor are we to attempt to get even for the harm which they have caused us. We are to overcome evil with good.

When we do not surrender the situation over to the Lord then we will harbor unforgiveness and that will have ill effects upon our lives. Let us remember the parable of the unforgiving servant.

Matthew 18:32-35

³² *Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:*

³³ *Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?*

³⁴ And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

³⁵ So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

Notice Esther 6:11

Haman was chosen to lead the horse upon which Mordecai rode and he then had to loudly proclaim his greatness before the people. Oh, how humiliating for Haman. The words he had to proclaim had to have been like gravel in his mouth.

There event has a parallel picture in the New Testament.

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Revelation 1:7

⁷ Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

There have been many who have rejected Jesus Christ and refuse to bow to Him. They have come to hate Him, just as Haman did Mordecai. But there is coming a day when they will bow the knee but, in that day, it will be too late.

Notice Esther 6:12

After the trip through the city Mordecai goes back to the gate where he continues his work and Haman goes home in deep sorrow. Mordecai is a picture of how God's people are to handle recognition and promotion.

Notice the words of an unnamed teacher:

"How clearly the character of the man comes out in that single touch of description--that one item of information given us, that he came again to the king's gate. A proud ambitious

man would have said to himself, "No more of the king's gate for me! I shall direct my steps now to the king's palace, and hold myself ready for honour, office, emolument (compensation), which surely must now be at hand." Mordecai seems to have said with himself, "If these things are designed for me in God's good providence, they will find me. But they must seek me, for I shall not seek them. Those who confer them know my address: 'Mordecai, at the king's gate,' will still find me. Let the crowd wonder and disperse. I have had enough of their incense. Let Haman go whither he will, he is in the hands of the Lord. Let my friends at home wait; they will all hear all in time . . . I can wait best at the old place and in the accustomed way—at the king's gate."

Notice Esther 6:13

How quickly things have changed for Haman. His wife told him to kill Mordecai and now she tells him he will die at the hands of Mordecai. He does not know it, but he is living *Genesis 12:3*.

Genesis 12:3

³ And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Notice Esther 6:14

Haman has no time to reply or to make a plan. He is quickly swept away to the banquet where he will receive his death sentence.

Conclusion:

There are many lessons to be seen in all of this, but there is one lesson that really stands out and is seen in the lives of both Mordecai and Haman. Things can change overnight. A person can go from the point of death and be raised to an exalted life. A person can go from an exalted life to walking through death's door. Things in this life are always changing. But our relationship with God and our eternal inheritance never changes. Let us learn to live for the things of eternity and not for what the world offers.