

Esther 6

I. Mordecai's actions are REVIEWED (v.1-2)

- A. "That night", same night as Haman's plan for the gallows
- B. King couldn't sleep- asks for the book of chronicles to be read to him
- C. "Found written" , Mordecai foiled the assassination plot

II. Haman's plan is REVERSED (v.3-14)

A. The king SEEKS a solution (v.3)

- 1. "What honor and dignity", original lang has 'and', not 'or' - both nouns – honor, root='precious, king's honor – dignity, root=greatness
- 2. Dignity or greatness of the king, Haman falls into this self-centered trap – heart of man always focuses on self

B. Haman SUGGESTS a solution (v.4)

- 1. Came with one agenda, soon thrust into another – "dignity"
 - A. (Isa 10:15) Same form employed to show how evil man (cf. v.12, king of Assyria) attempts to magnify himself against the Lord
 - B. (Eze 38:23) This in the reflexive voice – subject acting for itself in its own interest – God shows that he is great to all nations
 - C. (Dan 11:36-37) Same word that the willful king (Antichrist) uses to exalt himself as omnipotent
- 2. A word meant as a means to show greatness and magnificence of God is hijacked by man to elevate himself – exactly what Haman does
- 3. Haman returns to see the king, suggest Haman be hanged – what time is it? King can't sleep but Haman comes to see him

4. (v.6) “what shall be done?” – Haman “thought in his heart”

A. “thought”, to think, affirm, promise – not necessarily “to say” - (Psa 14:1) – to “promise”, ie. Haman’s promise to the king for payment to kill the Jews (4:7)

B. “in his heart”, totality of man’s inner or immaterial nature – the wants of the world originate within the selfish corruption of the heart

C. (Pro 16:18) Pride “goes” before destruction, haughty spirit before a fall – lit: before destruction, pride and before a fall a haughty spirit – “pride”, exaltation, arrogancy

D. (Pro 15:25) The LORD will destroy the house of the proud, but He will establish the boundary of the widow. – not just the act of pride (which is not inherently wrong) but it’s the disposition of a type of conduct – this type of prideful attitude inevitably leads to destruction:

1. “before”, lit: “face” root=“to turn”, sense of turning your face – Bible uses the face not only as an instrument of one’s physical form but also being engaged in some form of behavioral pattern

2. “destruction”, root=breaking, crushing, destroy by pieces

3. “a fall”, lit: to stumble, stagger, root=totter, stagger like from weakness – **Jer 18:15: Because My people have forgotten Me, they have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves to stumble in their ways, *From* the ancient paths, to walk in pathways and not on a highway** – people forgot the Lord and caused themselves to stumble in their ways, path of life

4. “haughty spirit”, lit: high, exalted – often used in the physical as well as the positive sense – what does it mean to have an exalted spirit?

C. Haman SUBMITS to the solution (v.7)

1. Haman is convinced that he is the object of the king’s delight/honor – tells the king his idea of what should be done:

A. (v.8) IDENTITY with the king – a royal robe that the king has worn

B. (v.8) AUTHORITY from the king – a horse that the king has ridden, wearing a royal crest on his head

C. (v.9) ROYALTY from the king – a robe and horse given to the hand of one of the king’s noble princes – “most noble”, borrowed Persian word meaning a nobleman, only hear and in Daniel – “array”, lit: to dress him; sign of royalty, honor, position, prosperity (Gen 41:42-43)

D. (v.9) PUBLICITY by the king – lit: to mount and ride, idea of a parade – “proclaim”, to call out

2. (v.10) Haman is forced to do these things for Mordecai – “leave nothing undone”, do exactly as you said – all of it, don’t leave out the details

D. Haman is SHAMED by the solution (v.13)

1. Haman does everything for Mordecai – Haman goes home quickly, with “haste” – same word in 3:15, idea of thrusting, getting the thing out there quickly

2. (v.13) Haman shares his misery with wife and friends, everything that happened – “wise men” give counsel, with wife – an ominous warning about Haman’s doom

3. “befallen”, lit: come to meet, cause to happen – like joining of beams during construction (Psa 104:3) – all this happened for a reason

4. “if”, more like “since”, Mordecai is a Jew – “begun to fall”, begun = to pierce, bore through – voice in ‘begun’ indicates completed action

5. Haman won’t overcome the damage – Isa 53:5

6. “fall”, to be cast down, fall down – “surely fall”, same word twice – a certainty because of Mordecai the Jew

7. (v.14) Haman is whisked away – “hasted”, quickly came to get Haman for the banquet