

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

ON THAT NIGHT COULD NOT THE KING SLEEP,

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SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 7, 2020

SCRIPTURE READING: **ESTHER 6:1-14 & 7:1-10**

Esther 6:1, On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

1. BACKGROUND

Refer to the Evening message May 31, 2020

2. INTRODUCTION

Refer to the Morning message May 31, 2020

3. FOURTEEN POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

a. On that night could not the king sleep.

1. **Esther 6:1,** On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.
2. God interrupts the king's sleep prior to the second meeting with Esther to reveal vital information with respect to Mordecai.
3. I am of the opinion during that time and looking at the Kings of Israel, as to how quickly they came to the throne and how quickly they were annihilated by someone who was jealous of them, many times kings feared for their lives.
4. They never knew who their enemies were; they might even be members of their own family.
5. Other than the fact that this king could not sleep, I want you to notice that this is a turning point in the Book of Esther.
6. It is the Providence of God, where God is overruling.
7. So, when the king could not sleep, what he wanted was the *records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.*
8. During this reading, not by accident, but by the Providence of God, he discovers that Mordecai had saved his life. **Esther 2:21,** *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 hand on the king Ahasuerus. 22: And the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name. 23: 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.

9. The king's question, what honour and dignity has been done to Mordecai for saving his life.

b. What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this?

1. **Esther 6:2-3**, *And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus. 3: And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.*
2. Can you imagine? The king has discovered Mordecai overheard there were people about ready to destroy the king. He passed that up to Esther and she notified the king and as a result, the situation was brought under control.
3. Can you see the providential hand of God?
4. Esther did not make known what she wanted at the first banquet, but now the king cannot sleep, goes, and gets the chronicles and discovers that Mordecai had saved his life and had never been rewarded.
5. At the same time Haman is about ready to come to the king to ask that Mordecai be hung. **Esther 5:14**, *Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.*
6. Notice the hand of God as He provides a way of escape for the Jews. **1 Corinthians 10:13**, *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*

c. Now Haman thought in his heart,

1. **Esther 6:4-6**, *And the king said, Who is in the court? Now Haman was come into the outward court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him. 5: And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in. 6: So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?*
2. What a selfish man. He is now in the presence of the king thinking he has the eye of the king in every way.
3. The king did not tell him he found out in the chronicles, that Mordecai had saved his life and was to be honored.
4. Haman thought the honor was for him. As a result, in his heart he was wishing to be king one of these days.
5. Haman gives an elaborate picture of what should be done to the man that the king desired to honour, not knowing that this man was Mordecai.

d. And Haman answered the king,

1. **Esther 6:7-9**, And Haman answered the king, *For the man whom the king*

delighteth to honour, **8**: Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head: **9**: And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

2. Haman had not done his homework. He did not know who the king wanted to honour. Had he known it was Mordecai he would certainly have laid out a different plan.
3. Haman was doing all of this to introduce himself to the people, thinking that one of these days he will be sitting on the throne.

e. Then the king said to Haman,

1. **Esther 6:10**, Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.
2. The king says move out with all deliberate speed and do this to Mordecai.
3. Remember Haman is there for the very purpose of destroying Mordecai. Now the king wants to honour him. What a dilemma Haman finds himself in.
4. The king emphasizes to him, *let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.*

f. Then took Haman the apparel...and arrayed Mordecai,

1. **Esther 6:11**, Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.
2. Remember at the same time this man is speaking and honoring Mordecai that he intended to request of the king that Mordecai be hung on the gallows.
3. Notice the providence of God in action.

g. If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews,... thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.

1. **Esther 6:12-14**, *And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house mourning, and having his head covered. 13: And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him. 14: And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.*
2. Remember Esther had invited them a **second time** to the banquet.
3. In midst of all the problems this man has with Mordecai; the parading through the streets and the king honoring Mordecai, Haman is not going to come to the king with his request to hang Mordecai.
4. God is overruling in everything and Haman's plot does not succeed.

h. So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

1. **Esther 7:1-2**, So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen. 2: And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the

banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

2. The king tells Queen Esther again that she has a blank check; the only thing she must do is expose her petition.
3. Esther is going to see if she has favour.

i. If I have found favour in thy sight,

1. **Esther 7:3-4**, Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request: **4:** For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.
2. What Esther is revealing to both the king and Haman was a real eye opener. They did not know her nationality. **Esther 2:10**, **Esther had not shewed her people nor her kindred: for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it.**
3. She has now identified herself with her people. She has told them she was a Jew.
4. She has also reminded the king that there is a decree gone forth to destroy all the Jews.
5. Although the king would have suffered a great loss if he had allowed this plan to go through, it was a Medo-Persian law.
6. It could not be changed.
7. What an amazing thing that God is about to do here as Esther lowers the boom and states her request.

j. Who is he, and where is he,

1. **Esther 7:5**, Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?
2. The king wants to know exactly who it is that has devised this wicked plan to destroy the Jews.
3. Revealing Esther's nationality does not even faze the king.
4. He is concerned about the things she has brought to his attention. He wants to know who he is and where is he that presume in his heart to do so?
5. I do not know at this point if it dawned on Haman as to what was taking place; he is so full of himself and full of pride until he probably did not even catch what was going on. **Psalms 10:2**, *The wicked in his pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.* **Psalms 73:6**, *Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them as a garment.*
6. He is there at the banquet as prime minister thinking he has the full confidence of the king.
7. The king wants to know who hatched the plot. Esther now reveals her bravery and lays it on the line as to where it all came from.

k. The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman.

1. **Esther 7:6**, And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

2. I do not think Haman realized how much trouble he was really in, considering how full of himself he was.
3. God is moving behind the scenes. God is orchestrating all. **Isaiah 54:17**, No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.
4. God is going to bless the Jews regardless of what the circumstances are. One of these days He will gather them from the four corners of the earth. As he sits on the throne of David Israel will become the head of the nations. **Isaiah 11:12**, And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. **Deuteronomy 28:13**, And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:
5. Do not buy into the concept that God has forgotten about the Jews. **Romans 11:2**, God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,

i. And the king arising from the banquet...

1. **Esther 7:7**, And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.
2. Haman realizes he is in trouble. He tries to plead his case with the queen.
3. He is getting so close to the queen until the king is concerned that he might force the queen to do something.
4. Haman had the gift of gab, but he had come to his end. **Ecclesiastes 5:6**, Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?
5. The gallows he had prepared for Mordecai is going to be used as his final demise.
6. Haman believes he can plead his way out of the situation.

m. Then the king returned out of the palace garden...

1. **Esther 7:8**, Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.
2. In other words, Haman has nothing in his mind but to convince the queen to save his life. He realizes he is a coward and what he has done was wrong.
3. Notice what hatred and jealousy will do to the heart.
4. He was so indignant about Mordecai and wanting to destroy him that he finds out now that he is in deep trouble.

5. They arrest him and he will be the one hanging from the gallows.

n. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

1. **Esther 7:9-10**, *And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon. **10: So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.***
2. Haman died that same night on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai.
3. The revelation of the truth of the Word of God runs throughout the scriptures.
4. My unsaved friend, the Bible says **Galatians 6:7**, *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*
5. You might be preparing the gallows for someone else, but it might be your final lot.
6. Remember Jacob and Esau. Jacob broke down and wept because he was a trickster.
7. The apostle Paul played havoc against the church. He consented to the stoning of Stephen; however, Paul did come to know the True and Living God.
8. Haman experienced the same destruction he was preparing evil for Mordecai. **Psalms 37:35-36**, *I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. **36: Yet he passed away, and, lo, he was not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.*** The sad thing is that Haman lifted his eyes in hell.
9. When we look at how God has providentially taken care of the Nation Israel, we see we **all** stand guilty before God. **Romans 3:9**, *What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;*
10. You might say you have never committed a crime; well the Bible says **Psalms 51:5**, *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*
11. My friend, if you do not know Jesus as your personal Saviour you must realize that you are dead in trespasses and sins. **Ephesians 2:1**, *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*
12. Christ died on the cross to take our place. If you are willing to trust Him, He will save this very moment.

2. CONCLUSION

- a. The Bible says in **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- b. **Romans 3:10**, *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*
- c. **Ephesians 2:8-9**, *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **9: Not of works**, lest any man should boast.*
- d. **Romans 10:9-10**, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.***

e. Would you please stand?

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