

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

## ...THE JEWS SHOULD BE READY AGAINST THAT DAY TO AVENGE THEMSELVES ON THEIR ENEMIES.

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR

SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 7, 2020

SCRIPTURE READING: **ESTHER 8:1-17**

**Esther 8:13-14**, *The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that **the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.** 14: So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.*

### 1. BACKGROUND

Refer to the Evening message May 31, 2020

### 2. INTRODUCTION

Refer to the Morning message May 31, 2020

### 3. ELEVEN POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

#### o. And Mordecai came before the king;

1. **Esther 8:1-2**, *On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. **And Mordecai came before the king;** for Esther had told what he was unto her. 2: And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.*
2. The question is now that Haman is dead, is the crisis over?
3. As we look deep into God's Word, we find the crisis is not over.
4. The law to destroy the Jews is still in effect.
5. It was a law by the Medo-Persians and could not be changed, even by the king. Once it had gone out, it could not be reversed.
6. We include this chapter to give you the solution to the problem as it unfolds.
7. Esther makes known for the first time that Mordecai is her adopted father. **Esther 2:7**, *And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.*
8. If you recall Mordecai was the man who refused to bow down to Haman and that was the occasion for this terrible decree, which involved 15 million Jews.

9. Haman wanted to hang Mordecai on the gallows and the tides has turned.
10. Now we find the king promotes Mordecai and sets him over the house of Haman.
11. He gives it to Esther first then Esther turns and gives it to Mordecai.
12. Mordecai is now the prime minister.
13. This reminds me of a verse where God said He would make Israel the head and not the tail. **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:**
14. Mordecai is in charge, but this terrible decree is still in effect.

**p. And Esther spake yet again before the king,**

1. **Esther 8:3, And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.**
2. Esther goes once again for help.
3. Even the king could not change this law, but we will see what happens as everything unfolds.
4. The king is still gracious to Esther and holds out his golden sceptre and she advances.

**q. Let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman...**

1. **Esther 8:4-6, Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king, 5: And said, If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces: 6: For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?**
2. Esther makes quite a plea before the king.
3. Of course, she has a way with the king. She had Haman hung on the gallows and she is still asking the king to do something about the decree.

**r. I have given Esther the house of Haman,**

1. **Esther 8:7, Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.**
2. The king was not aware of what was in the first decree, neither is he aware of what will happen in the second decree.
3. The king was quite free with his ring. He has given it to Mordecai and Mordecai must work with the problem.
4. Things are still no better for the Jews than they were.
5. Notice what the king's command is.

**s. Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you,**

1. **Esther 8:8**, Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.
2. The king has given full authority to develop whatever is necessary to save the Jews.
3. This new decree had to be put in effect by the month of June because the original decree was in April and the deadline was approaching.
4. Now that Mordecai is the new prime minister he must act quickly.

**t. Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month,**

1. **Esther 8:9**, Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieutenants, and the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.
2. The scribes are called to expeditiously develop a new decree.
3. Notice that this goes out in every single language.
4. God tells us the vast distribution of this new decree.

**u. To gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay,**

1. **Esther 8:10-12**, And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries: **11: Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay,** and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey, **12: Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.**
2. Now the original decree is not altered in any way; but another decree is developed and signed by the king and sealed his ring.
3. It is evident that the whole kingdom is on the side of the Jews now because of the new decree.
4. The entire picture has changed.
5. The Jews are filled with joy and gladness. The only thing they have to do now is **believe** the decree and **act** upon it.
6. This is a great illustration of God's plan of salvation set forth in the Preserved Word Of God.
7. 127 provinces were involved in this process. Literally hundreds of copies were made.
8. God gives us the distribution and every means of communication of the Jews. It is amazing, now the Jews have a way of escape.
9. The old decree is not changed.

10. If they will believe and act upon the new decree, then their lives would be spared.
11. This is one of the most wonderful pictures of salvation that one could ever come across in Scripture.
12. We do not hear it used very often. Now we have a case where God is given us a picture. **1 Corinthians 10:11, Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Hebrews 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**
13. God sent out a decree.
14. **Lost man, you need to listen to this.** God sent out a decree and that decree cannot be changed.
15. It does not make any difference that man wants to rid himself of sin; God's decree says the soul that sins will die. **Ezekiel 18:4, Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.**
16. This does not refer to a certain group of people. It levels the playing field for all. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
17. The Lord comes back and says our good works, religion, doing the best we can and keeping the Ten Commandments cannot get us there. **Isaiah 64:6, But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.**
18. God cannot save us by our own righteousness; He cannot lower His own standards to save us.
19. The law was never given to save mankind. The problem is in the heart. **Jeremiah 17:9, The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?**
20. Regardless of the messages that are coming across the pulpit of liberals - those who water down the gospel, God's standard is still in effect.
21. This is a decree that can never be changed.
22. The Lord Jesus Christ came, and He gave us a new decree. **Matthew 5:17, Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.**
23. He met the requirements of the law and fulfilled it in every single category. He is the only one whom God the Father has said this is my beloved Son. **Mark 1:11, And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**
24. Thank God for the other decree. The other decree says in **2 Corinthians 5:20, Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. Galatians 2:20, I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**
25. God has allowed us to be reconciled. **The only thing we need to do is realize**

**we are lost and turn to the Saviour. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **2:** By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **3:** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; **4:** And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

26. The Jews needed to realize there was a new decree. They needed to believe it and act upon it.
27. God says in **Romans 6:23**, *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
28. He has already paid the penalty. So we must conclude that everything that is required to go to Heaven has already been done by the Son. **John 19:30**, **When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.**
29. **You cannot keep yourself saved and you cannot save yourself. Romans 8:31**, *What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*
30. **Acts 16:31**, *And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. Have you put your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ? If you have not you have a problem.*
31. God made provisions for us. A new decree has gone out, God will save sinners.
32. We do not go to Heaven because we are good, and we do not go to hell because we are bad.
33. You must understand that accepting God's plan of salvation gives us a robe of righteousness. His righteousness. **Romans 3:22**, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:
34. He told Nicodemus Ye must be born again. **John 3:7**, *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. 1 Peter 1:23*, *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*
35. If we believe the Word accept and embrace the promises that God has given us, we can be saved. **2 Peter 1:4**, *Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*
36. God has allowed Esther and Mordecai to develop another decree to save the Jews. **God sent the Lord Jesus Christ to die on the cross for us to save mankind. Galatians 4:4**, *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, Galatians 4:5*, *To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.*
37. **2 Corinthians 5:20**, *Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.*

v. ...The Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

1. **Esther 8:13-14**, *The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that **the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.** 14: So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.*
2. Notice there is a need for haste. This decree must arrive in time with respect of salvation. We must make reservations for heaven before breath leaves our body.
3. God has provided the Lord Jesus Christ. **Galatians 4:4**, *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,*
4. The Lord Jesus Christ was born of a virgin, born in a manger, is ready to save mankind from their sins.
5. Mordecai, as prime minister, has done the job.

w. **The city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.**

1. **Esther 8:15**, *And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and **the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.***
2. It is undoubtedly that Mordecai at one time, sat at the king's gate in sackcloth and ashes. At that point he could do nothing.
3. Notice that God has providentially provided.
4. The first decree brought sorrow and the second decree goes out brings joy. **1 Corinthians 15:45**, *And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: Romans 5:18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.*
5. The Bible says **Luke 15:10**, *Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.*
6. Pleasure in sin for a season will not do the job. **Hebrews 11:25**, *Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*
7. Accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and knowing where you are going is what will make a difference in this life. One must understand that this life is only a preparation for eternity. **Amos 4:12**, *Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, **prepare to meet thy God.** O Israel. Ecclesiastes 12:13*, *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.*

x. **The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.**

1. **Esther 8:16**, *The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.*
2. Light comes only from the Lord Jesus Christ. **John 8:12**, *Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*
3. We know He brings joy; we know He gives the sinner dignity, and God was manifested in the flesh. **1 Timothy 3:16**, *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*
4. This enables the sinner to walk through the valley of the shadow of death in this life. Joy comes from the heart. **Psalms 23:4**, *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*
5. The soul is what gets saved and not the flesh. Do you have that salvation my friend?

y. **The Jews had joy and gladness.**

1. **Esther 8:17**, *And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.*
2. There was large cry and accepting of the Jewish religion. The Jewish religion will not get us to Heaven.
3. The only thing that will get us to Heaven is the blood of Christ.
4. The nation of Israel has always been a witness to the world. These are God's chosen people. He has not forgotten them.
5. The Jews were able to solve the problem of the first decree.
6. **Romans 3:2**, *Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. They have passed it on to us through the Preserved Word of God.*

## 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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