

ESTHER'S PETITION AND REQUEST

--ESTHER 7:1-10—

INTRODUCTION:

The last time we were in Esther, Haman had built a gallows 50 cubits high, which is approximately 75 feet high to hang Mordecai on. But when he had gone to the palace to ask permission to hang him, at that moment the king had just heard the account of Mordecai saving his life by exposing an assassination plot. Instead of getting his wish, Haman was humiliated as he led Mordecai through the capital on a horse the king had ridden wearing a robe the king had worn while shouting, "This is what is done for the one whom the king desires to honor." Haman then returned home with his head covered in humiliation. He had barely related to his wife and friends what had happened when the king's eunuchs arrived to bring Haman to the second banquet that Queen Esther had prepared for the king and Haman. As he was hastily brought to the palace the words of his wife and his friends echoed in his ears, they said, "*If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish origin, you will not overcome him, but will surely fall before him.*" (Esther 6:13b, NASB95)

I. THE SECOND BANQUET (Esther 7:1-2)

- a. Our old _____, our flesh, represented by Haman will threaten, shout, strut, domineer, sulk, plot, creep, beg, plead, or sob whatever the situation may demand in the interests of its own survival.
- b. This second chapter opens near the end of the _____ when the king and Haman were enjoying a glass of wine with Esther.

II. ESTHER'S PETITION AND REQUEST (Esther 7:3-6)

- a. Esther does not immediately _____ Haman.
- b. As Esther spoke these words, I am sure the color drained from _____'s face.
- c. The king is shocked that Esther must ask for her own _____ to be spared.

- d. This is the place God wants to bring each person who has put their _____ in Jesus Christ, to the place of self-discovery. (Romans 7:14, 15, 17-18, 20-25)

III. THE KING'S WRATH (Esther 7:6b-10)

- a. When Esther thus named Haman, we read that Haman went from humiliated to _____ before the king and queen.
- b. Haman was _____ on the couch where Esther reclined begging for his life at the moment when the king returned from the garden.
- c. What an amazing picture this is. Haman _____ on his own gallows—the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. (John 8:44; Hebrews 2:14; Romans 8:3)
- d. When the Lord Jesus Christ _____ for you, He not only paid the price of your redemption, but identified with Him and nailed to His cross was that old sinful nature. (Romans 6:6)

CONCLUSION:

This is the truth that is been expressed in the language of the book of Esther, when Haman was nailed or impaled upon the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. No longer could Haman exercise the executive powers and abuse the king's authority or bring disgrace upon the kingdom, through his hateful evil influence. The kingdom was no longer to be the instrument of Haman's evil acts, but by his death it would become ineffective and inactive for evil. As Haman died on his gallows, the stage was set for that radical change of government producing so great a change in behavior, that the whole kingdom would know that something very wonderful had happened in the palace. The wrong man was out—and the right man was in.

What about you? Who has dominance in your life? If it is the old nature still ruling, you need to send him to the cross. Then and only then will you be able to echo Paul's words in Galatians 2:20, "*I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.*" (Galatians 2:20, NASB95)