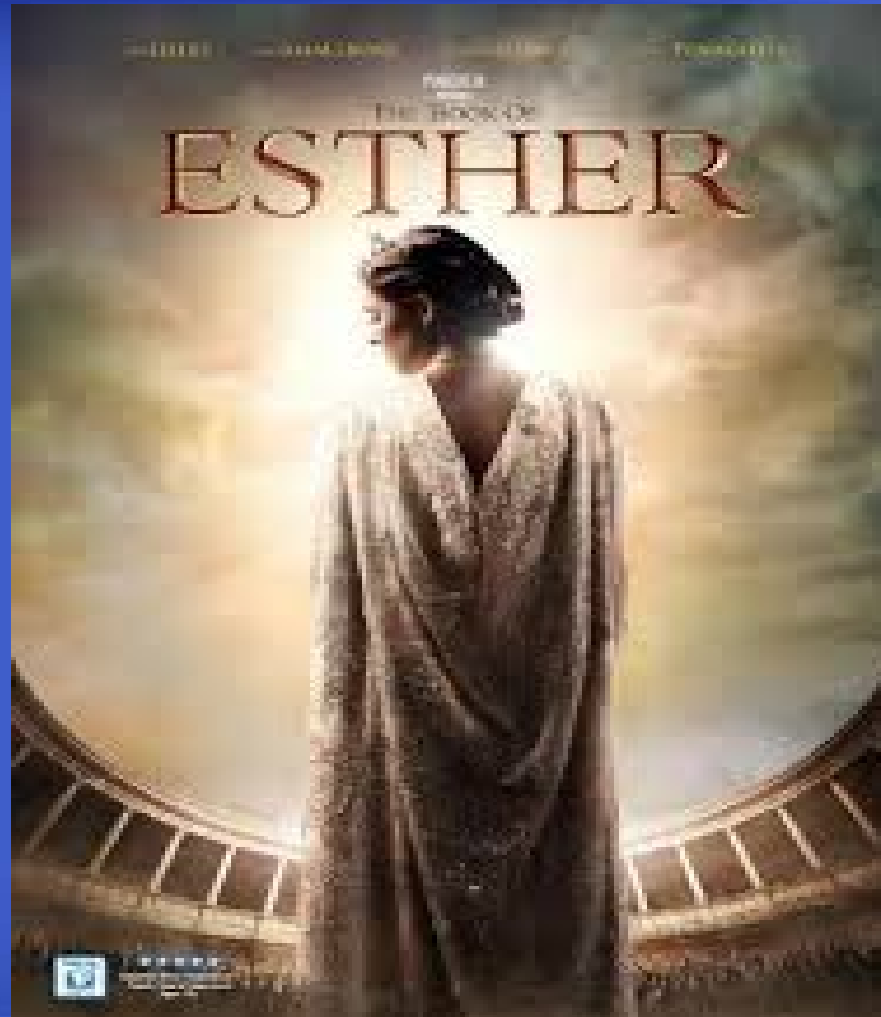


The Old Testament Story of Esther!



Let's Begin Our Journey!

The Text:

Esther 8:1-17!

The Title:

Only God Can Do The Undoable!

The Theme:

***The Providence and Sovereignty
of the God of Israel: Yahweh!***

The Outline for Our Journey:

- I. (1:1-3:15) The **DANGER** to God's People!
- II. (4:1-5:14) The **DECISION** of God's People!
- III. (6:1-10:3) The **DELIVERANCE** of God's People!

The Outline: Part One!

I. (1:1-3:15) The DANGER to God's People!

In the first three chapters we were introduced to an evil man by the name of Haman who was promoted to the highest position in the land. A position second only to the king. And we watched him use his power and position for evil purposes - to hang Mordecai on the gallows he prepared for him and to eliminate the Jewish people from the earth.

The Outline: Part Two!

- I. (1:1-3:15) The **DANGER** to God's People!
- II. (4:1-5:14) The **DECISION** of God's People!

In chapters 4 and 5 we watched as Mordecai discovered Haman's evil plan to annihilate the Jews. We witnessed his plea to Queen Esther to approach King Ahasuerus and beg for mercy on behalf of their people, Israel. And we waited to see what would happen as the Jews fasted and prayed, knowing that God would have to intervene on their behalf as Esther approached the king to ask for his help.

The Outline: Part Three!

III. (6:1-10:3) The **DELIVERANCE** of God's People!

A. (6:1-7:10) The **Defeat** of Evil Haman!

1. (6:1-14) God's Protective and Powerful **Hand**. (King's Insomnia)
2. (7:1-10) God's Powerful Enemy is **Hanged**. (Haman Removed)

B. (8:1-17) The **Decree** of King Ahasuerus and Mordecai!

C. (9:1-19) The **Deliverance** from Israel's Enemies!

D. (9:20-32) The **Days** of Purim!

E. (10:1-3) The **Description** of Mordecai's Fame!

The Outline of Chapter Eight:

III. (6:1-10:3) The DELIVERANCE of God's People!

Chapter 8: Only God Can Do The Undoable!

1. (8:1-2) The REESTABLISHMENT of Peace Among the Jews.
 2. (8:3-6) The REQUEST of Esther on Behalf of the Jews.
 3. (8:7-9) The REVERSAL of the Decree to Condemn the Jews.
 4. (8:10-14) The RELEASE of the Decree to Liberate the Jews.
 5. (8:15-17) The RETURN of Joy to the Hearts of the Jews.
6. (8:1-17) The REVIEW of the Lessons Learned in Chapter Eight.

The Review of Lessons Learned in Chapter 8!

The First Lesson Learned:

God has the Power to Reverse the Irreversible!

We (Believers / Eph.2:8-9) are given hope, no matter what our trials and tribulations might be. And this hope comes from knowing that God is sovereign and His hand of providence watches over all those who truly belong to Him!

The Review of Lessons Learned in Chapter 8!

The Second Lesson Learned:

God has the Power to Overrule the Power of Sin!

In chapter 8 there are two decrees given. The first decree (Haman's) is a decree leading to death for God's people. The second decree (Mordecai's) is a decree that provides life. As we study God's Word together (O.T. & N.T.) one of the truths we learn is that God has a way to save sinners from the result of their sin.

(Remember: The Jews remaining in Persia were NOT living in obedience to God's Promise.) This truth that God is willing to save sinners from the result of their sin is also offered to us today (Gospel / John 3:16).

The Review of Lessons Learned in Chapter 8!

The Third Lesson Learned:

God Sovereign Plan is to Reach Out to the World!

When the second decree (of life) was finally written for the Jews in Persia, the couriers were sent out on the king's royal steeds. And the decree offering life to God's people was made known throughout the whole Persian empire. As a result many living among the people became Jews (or worshipers of the one true God / Matthew 28:19f).