



Bible reading

Ester 6:14–7:10

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¹⁴ While they were still talking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived and hurried Haman away to the banquet Esther had prepared.

7 So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther's banquet, ² and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."

³ Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. ⁴ For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king."

Ester 6:14–7:10

⁵ King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, “Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?”

⁶ Esther said, “An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!”

Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen. ⁷ The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden. But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.

⁸ Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was reclining.

The king exclaimed, “Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?”

Ester 6:14–7:10

As soon as the word left the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face. ⁹ Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, "A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman's house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king."

The king said, "Impale him on it!" ¹⁰ So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king's fury subsided.



'Gods provision through imperfect people' #7

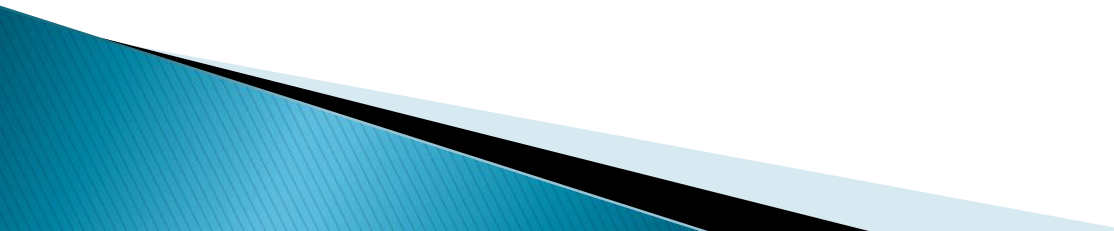
Elmer Arentsen

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Recap

- ▶ 4 main actors in the story:
 - ▶ Ester / Mordechai / Haman / Ahasveros

 - ▶ Ahasveros – Ester –> attraction
 - ▶ Haman – Ahasveros –> influence
 - ▶ Mordechai – Ester –> conscience
 - ▶ Haman – Mordechai –> hate
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Attraction

- ▶ Ester reveals her request
 - Grant her life
 - Spare her people

Romans 8:31–34: ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Influence

- ▶ The King decides
 - Attitude towards Haman totally changed
 - He realize his own mistake
 - His eyes are opened to the truth

 - Hamans influence diminished
 - Esters influence increased

Conscience

- ▶ Mordechai is remembered again
 - He saved the Kings life
 - He convinced Ester to approach the king to save the Jews

Hate

- ▶ Haman's death was unavoidable
 - Evil was exposed
 - Wie een gat graaft voor een ander...

Proverbs 26:24-26: ²⁴ Whoever hates disguises himself with his lips and harbors deceit in his heart; ²⁵ when he speaks graciously, believe him not, for there are seven abominations in his heart; ²⁶ though his hatred be covered with deception, his wickedness will be exposed in the assembly. ²⁷ Whoever digs a pit will fall into it; if someone rolls a stone, it will roll back on them.

Ester as type of Jesus

- ▶ Jesus is a better Ester
 - Jesus attracts (1 John 4:19)
 - Jesus intercedes (Hebrews 7:25)
 - Jesus exposes truth (John 14:6)
 - Jesus causes real change (2 Corinthians 5:17)