

God, Unseen but Present

The Book of Esther

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Part 6: “God’s Perfect Timing”

Introduction



Esther Chapters 7–8 bring one of the most dramatic reversals in all of Scripture. What appeared unstoppable in Chapter 3—the extermination of the Jews—begins to collapse almost instantly. Haman, who rose quickly through pride and manipulation, falls just as quickly through exposure and divine timing. Meanwhile, Esther’s courage and patience finally bear fruit. Yet even after justice is served, the problem is not fully solved—the original decree still stands. These chapters show us that God’s deliverance often unfolds in stages: exposure, justice, and then restoration.

READ ESTHER CHAPTERS 7 & 8

Section	Description	Verses	Key Details
1. Esther Reveals the Plot	Esther exposes Haman before the king	7:1–6	Esther identifies herself as a Jew; exposes the genocide plan; Haman is unmasked
2. Haman’s Downfall	The king reacts and Haman is executed	7:7–10	King’s anger; Haman begs Esther; the execution pole prepared for Mordecai used for Haman
3. Mordecai Promoted	Authority transferred from Haman to Mordecai	8:1–2	Haman’s estate given to Esther; Mordecai receives the signet ring

4. Esther's Second Appeal	Esther pleads for her people again	8:3-6	Emotional appeal; she risks herself again; focuses on saving lives
5. The Counter-Decree	A new law allows Jews to defend themselves	8:7-14	Irrevocable Persian law cannot be undone; new decree empowers Jews
6. Joy and Reversal	Mourning turns into celebration	8:15-17	Mordecai honored; Jews rejoice; many people align with the Jews

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why couldn't the king simply cancel the decree to exterminate the Jews? (Hint: see Esther 8:8).

2. Many Persians became Jews because they feared them (8:17) and knew God was backing them up. So, should people today fear Christians because they know we belong to God? Explain your answer.

3. Why do you think God allowed the Jews to live under the threat of extinction for so long, probably weeks, instead of stopping it immediately?

4. King Xerxes executed Haman for what he did. Do you think it would have been better if the king had extended grace to Haman and spared his life? Jesus said to love your enemies (Matthew 5:44)?

CONCLUSIONS

- God brings hidden evil into the light at the right time. Haman’s plan was exposed publicly and decisively.
- Pride can lead to sudden and complete fall. Haman went from honor to execution in a single day.
- God’s justice does not always remove consequences—but it provides deliverance. The decree remained, but God made a way for His people to survive.
- Reversal is a central theme of God’s work. Mourning turned to joy, fear turned to victory, death sentence turned to life.

APPLICATIONS

- _____—even when evil seems unchecked. God is not slow—He is strategic. What looks delayed may actually be perfectly timed.
- Recognize that God’s response may come _____
- Not all problems _____. Even when the situation isn’t fully resolved, God is already turning things around.