

# God, Unseen but Present

## The Book of Esther

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### Part 7: “Purim & Peace”

Question: If God is loving, why would He allow an entire chapter about violence and warfare in Esther 9?



Esther Chapters 9–10 bring the book to its conclusion. What began as a hidden threat against the Jewish people ends in complete reversal and victory. The Jews, once marked for destruction, are now protected and victorious over their enemies. Mourning turns into celebration, and fear turns into joy. These chapters also explain the origin of the Jewish feast of Purim, a yearly reminder that God preserved His people against

impossible odds. Finally, Mordecai rises to a position of great influence in Persia, showing once again how God can elevate faithful people at exactly the right time.

Even though God’s name is never mentioned in the book, His providence is clearly seen throughout these final chapters. The story ends not with despair, but with celebration, peace, and hope for the future.

### READ ESTHER CHAPTERS 9 & 10

Section	Description	Verses	Key Details
1. The Jews Defeat Their Enemies	The Jews successfully defend themselves	9:1–10	The “reversal” arrives; enemies are defeated; Haman’s ten sons executed
2. Esther’s Additional Request	Esther asks for one more day of defense	9:11–15	Additional protection granted; Haman’s sons displayed publicly

3. Rest and Celebration	Mourning turns into joy	9:16–19	Jews experience relief, feasting, and gladness
4. The Feast of Purim Established	A yearly memorial celebration is created	9:20–32	Mordecai formalizes Purim; remembering God’s deliverance becomes permanent
5. Mordecai Exalted	Mordecai becomes second in command	10:1–3	Mordecai promoted; seeks the welfare of his people; respected throughout Persia

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. If God is loving, why would He allow an entire chapter about violence and warfare in Esther 9?
  
2. Why was it important for the Jews to celebrate Purim every year and remember their deliverance?
  
3. Why do you think the book ends by focusing on Mordecai instead of Esther?
  
4. What stands out most to you in this book of Esther? What would you like to remember from it?

## **SUMMARY OF THE BOOK OF ESTHER**

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- The book of Esther shows us how God can completely reverse impossible situations. The Jews moved from fear of destruction to celebration and victory.
- God often works gradually before bringing final deliverance. The danger lasted for months, but God preserved His people at the perfect time.
- Remembering God's faithfulness is spiritually important. Purim became a permanent reminder of God's protection and providence.
- Faithful people can influence entire nations. Mordecai's rise demonstrates how God can position His servants for greater influence.
- God's providence continues even when He seems silent. Though never directly named, God's hand is visible throughout the entire story.

## **SEVEN KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE BOOK OF ESTHER**

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1. God often works in your life even when you \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Your decisions often directly affect \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Making tough decisions often requires you to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Acting in pride and self-centeredness will eventually \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Quiet faithfulness, like Mordecai's, matters even when it \_\_\_\_\_.
6. God can completely reverse any difficult situation you may face, so be \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Where you are today may exist "\_\_\_\_\_."