

PURIM – WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

--ESTHER 9:20-10:3--

INTRODUCTION:

The Jews had been given a great victory over their enemies. Haman hated the fact that Mordecai would not bow to him, and because of this hate he devised a plan to destroy the Jews. Once this new law had been published throughout king Ahasuerus' kingdom, it was made known to him by Queen Esther that it was her life and the lives of her people that Haman had decreed to annihilate. Once this was made known to the king Ahasuerus, he removed Haman from his position and had him hanged on the gallows that he had built to hang Mordecai on. King Ahasuerus elevated Mordecai to the position of prime minister and gave him his signet ring. The king told Mordecai to write a new edict to the Jews, and he was to write it in the king's name and seal it with the king's ring. This new edict allowed the Jews to defend themselves and we looked at the great victory that God had given them. We ended with the celebrations that were taking place throughout the provinces. This morning, we want to look at what happened in the empire after this took place, and how it relates to us.

I. THE HOW OF VICTORY (Esther 9:20-25)

- a. The beginning of this passage tells us that Mordecai recorded all these _____.
- b. Then we read a summary of what took place and in verses 23-25 and we have outlined for us the _____ of victory.
- c. The first step as these verses tell us was the _____ of Haman.
- d. This is true for us as well, the first step in deliverance from the Haman within us is to learn to _____ him.
- e. The second step is the knowledge that a _____ decree has been issued.
- f. For us, this pictures the law of a _____ life in Jesus Christ, His Spirit dwelling in us, which sets us _____ from the law of sin and death in our experience.
- g. The third step is seen in the _____ of Haman and his ten sons on the gallows.

II. PURIM INSTITUTED (Esther 9:26-32)

- a. This chapter ends with the establishment of the _____ of Purim.
- b. This feast is still _____ today, Purim this year is March 23 and 24.

III. WALKING IN THE SPIRIT (Esther 10:1-3)

- a. The Jews have a tradition that the feast of _____ is the only feast that will be observed after the Messiah comes.
- b. In _____ five we are introduced to a man whose name is Enoch. (Genesis 5:24)
- c. The book of Esther closes with the three verses of chapter ten in which we find the last _____ which God has to teach us from this book.
- d. Christians, just like the king and kingdom which did not change, remain the same _____ when the Spirit is given the place of control. (Galatians 2:20; 5:16, 18, 22-25)

CONCLUSION:

God wants each of us to walk by the Spirit. When we surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and allow His Spirit to take the reins of our life and lead us, we can know that we will walk in victory. This is not to say that we will not ever fail, we will at times take the reins back and fall into sin and need to confess it. But the more often that we allow the Spirit to be in control and we gain victory over our enemy, the easier it will be the next time. The Christian walking in the Spirit exudes Christ in all that he does and says. You cannot be around that person without seeing the beauty of Christ in his life. Paul put it this way in 2nd Cor. 2:14, "*But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.*" (2 Corinthians 2:14, NASB95)

Have you learned to count on the indwelling Holy Spirit to meet every demand made upon you? Would you like to walk in the Spirit today and every day? You can by surrendering your will wholly to Him.