

THE HUMILIATION OF HAMAN

--ESTHER 6:1-14--

INTRODUCTION:

This morning we continue our study of the book of Esther. In the chapter we are to look at today God's hand is so plainly seen; in every verse we see God's overruling providence and His unfailing love and care for His people. This morning we have reached the point in this history that God begins to turn the events in favor of His people. The opposition between Haman and Mordecai is approaching a climax. Queen Esther is preparing to reveal to King Ahasuerus the true nature of Haman. Because Esther has moved slowly, this has awakened the king's curiosity and is building up his sense of expectation as he waits to hear Esther's request. This delay has also caused Haman to drop all his subtlety so as to seek boldly and openly the destruction of Mordecai by nailing or impaling him on a gallows 75-80 feet high.

I. A SLEEPLESS SOVEREIGN (Esther 6:1-3)

- a. How often has an important _____ been brought to fruition by seemingly trivial happenings?
- b. Perhaps you think that Ahasuerus certainly picked the right kind of _____ to put him to sleep.
- c. The discovery of this act of _____ moved the king greatly.
- d. In the _____ we have a record of memorable deeds.
- e. This is what the Holy Spirit brings before us when He wishes to awaken us to the fact that the _____ is not our friend, as we think, but an enemy. (1st Corinthians 6:19-20)
- f. This is a very significant _____ for King Ahasuerus.

II. A PRIDEFUL PRIME MINISTER (Esther 6:4-9)

- a. Because the king wants to thank and honor Mordecai for his loyalty even though it is _____ morning he asks his attendants, "who is in the court?"
- b. Haman ponders this question and in his twisted mind he can think of only one _____ who fits this description of "the man whom the king desires to honor."

- c. What is truly remarkable is that Haman does know and understand what true _____ is.
- d. The honor that God gives is _____. (John 12:26; Romans 12:1)

III. AN HONORED HERO (Esther 6:10-12a)

- a. Haman told the king how he would want to be _____, thinking that he himself is who the king desires to honor.
- b. The whole point of what is happening here is that Haman does this _____ thing.
- c. Perhaps as a Christian you have found that it is very possible to look like you are _____ Christ, but in reality, you are not.
- d. Haman will do anything. He will be as religious as he needs to be, anything as long as he can _____. (Romans 8:8)
- e. There is only one way the flesh, our Haman, can be overcome, it must be put to _____.

IV. A FAILING FOE (Esther 6:12b-14)

- a. Haman hurried home _____ with his head covered.
- b. He seeks to _____ himself by relating all that has happened to him since he left home.
- c. And while they are still talking to him, the king's eunuchs arrive and hastily bring Haman to the _____ Esther had prepared.

CONCLUSION:

In this book where God's name is never mentioned, we see God's hand throughout. We see God working behind the scenes to bring about the defeat of His enemy and to care for His people.

What does this mean for us? That even when we do not know it or see it, God is at work. Our nation may be in shambles, but God is in control, He knows exactly what He is doing. What He is doing in our lives, our community, our nation, and the world is to bring about His purposes and we can rejoice, and we can trust in His perfect providence and know that His purpose for His people will be fulfilled, and He will be glorified.