



Lesson 8 April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Injustice Will Be Punished

Study Scripture – Esther 7:1 - 10

Background Scripture – Esther 3; 5; 7

### Key Verse:

*“They hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king’s wrath pacified.”*

**Esther 7:10**

### INTRODUCTION

Have you ever found yourself in a very unpleasant situation where the only way to solve the problem is to call on God for wisdom and to listen to advice from an adult relative or parent that loves you and cares for you and who are willing to give you advice on how you should behave?

Sometimes you are concentrating on your own personal problems and dreams and could not even see the bad things that are happening around you and from which you need to protect yourself but not only yourself but others you love and care for also.

That happens to all of us.

In our Lesson today we are looking at a strong, wise, woman who made a difference in her life and the lives of many of the people in her family and tribe. She was so sensible and wise that she took a great deal of personal risk to save the lives of many people. She had to be so, so careful because she had to appeal to a powerful King who was so powerful that he could do anything that he wanted. This wise woman had to very carefully tippy toe when she spoke to the king for one false step would mean disaster.

We know right away therefore that it was the Lord God Almighty that was directing her mind and her speech so that she would be successful.

The first lesson we can learn therefore is that when we face a difficult situation we have to pray to God, ask Him for advice on how to solve the problem and then listen to Him carefully because sometimes God speaks very quietly.

Our lesson today therefore looks at a wise woman. The lessons we can learn from this story however will help both girls and boys, as well as men and women.

So imagine you are a little or a young girl and you see powerful people around you quarrelling and disagreeing so much that many people would get hurt. Some are ready to abuse others and they stand helpless if you do not find a way to protect yourself and to intervene in the situation.

So the first question you should ask yourself is, are you brave?

The second question is who do you depend on to make you brave?

Can you really depend on “good luck” or “chance” to solve the many problem you are seeing in front of you when you're facing a difficult situation?

Is it good to listen to advice from someone who might be grown up and has many more experiences than you?

Do you think that just because you are young and might not be so strong that you cannot do something great and marvelous?

Well in this case we read about a woman called Esther who was a Queen. She had been chosen over many beautiful girls by a powerful Emperor and king to become the queen and in a short time the king fell deeply in love with her. He would never allow anybody to harm her. But even though he was a powerful King as well, he had to follow the laws that had been established for kings to follow.

So the Queen who was a Jew and whose people were in exile and ruled over by the kingdom of Persia had a bad situation that she had to deal with. There was a man called Haman who was an Amalekite. Now the people from Amalek who were distant relatives to the Jews however hated the Jews and wanted to destroy them.

He did not care that God loved the Jews. As a matter of fact, he resented that love of God for the Jews. He did not care that God did not like when people hated each other and made all kind of horrible plans to destroy other people, even when the people did not do them any wrong.

Haman's hatred made him blind. Because of his unbelievably great dislike of other people and nations, his hatred made him blind to the fact that he was actually fighting against the Lord God. He made plans to kill the people of Israel and the only person that could stop him was the beautiful Queen Esther.

God had miraculously placed her in a position close to the king and made the king fall in love with her so that she could help her people to survive. But of course we know that God had to work on the heart of the king and soften his heart so that he would listen to the beautiful and wise Queen Esther and not go along with the wicked plans of the wicked, murderous, and evil Haman.

So the wise Queen Esther therefore developed a plan. She decided to invite her husband the king and the evil Haman to a private dinner in the Palace. You know then that she treated both of them very well and they were comfortable. Haman was pleased to be invited to this dinner in the palace but unknown to him he was about to get a “reality check”. He was really heading for his downfall. This would be his last dinner.



The Queen has asked the king to grant her an important wish and he was anxious to hear from her what her wish was.

Esther was probably scared for she knew Haman regarded himself as the king's favourite. She was not completely sure that the king would want to start a political fight with Haman who had given the king a lot of money to allow him to do what he wanted with the Jews.

But Esther finally mustered up her courage and told the king what was troubling her in her heart. A great injustice was about to be done to her people that would not only make them slaves but would actually lead to an evil man murdering them. What made it worse was that she would be killed also by this evil man.

The king was outraged that someone would harm his beautiful and wise Queen who he loved dearly. He demanded that she tell him who this man was, that would dare to do such a thing. The king was probably thinking in his mind, who could be so stupid and out of their right mind to have the Queen killed?

The king was furious. When the wise Queen Esther allowed the King's anger to boil up, she knew it was the right time to spill the secret that was going on behind the king's back. She knew it was the right time and she told the king that the evil, wicked, Haman who was plotting to kill her and her people was sitting right there with them at dinner.

The king hit the roof. He was so angry that he jumped up and went out the door into a garden to calm down. The king was probably embarrassed because he had not realized that he through ignorant had had a part in this murderous plan and that he had accepted money from the evil Haman to kill the people.

When the king came back into the room he came and saw Haman leaning up against the couch on which the Queen Esther was sitting, begging her to save his life. But coming so close to the Queen was a no-no. This was a forbidden practice. The king was extremely upset that a man would go so near to his beloved Queen at all and practically be mauling her begging for mercy. It would've made more sense for Haman to beg the king for mercy and explain the situation. But desperate men do stupid things!

He ordered that Haman be killed for the injustice that he wanted to do on the people of Israel and to his beloved Queen Esther. The people in the Palace were quick and ready to hang Haman. The king was pleased that Haman was killed for his injustice.

Injustice is forbidden. Those things called injustice are the opposite to showing love. We can learn several lessons from this. Injustice equals things that God calls bad.



Hatred and pride will not put you in a good position. It will lead you into a trap that will kill you. So if you have any hatred in your heart toward other people you should go to God to ask Him how to get it all out of you.

The next lesson is that God had blessed the Jews and in Isaiah 54:17 the prophet had told them that even though they sometimes were disobedient

***“No weapon formed against you shall prosper. This is a heritage of the servants of the Lord”.***

So be careful. Do not hate the people that God loves. God not only loves the Jews but He also especially loves all those people that come to believe in Him and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

God has promised that all injustices will be straightened out and made all right when our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ returns to earth.

So make sure that you pick your battles carefully.

The only battles you should fight must be for the sake of righteousness. You must never fight a battle because of pride hatred and arrogance.

When you have a problem do not become desperate. Maybe what you want to do is a bad sin in the sight of God and will lead to trouble.

So our advice is never be in a position where you are fighting against God.

Remember that whatever you sow, that you will also reap. If you do bad things, bad things will happen to you. If you do a lot of injustice, your injustice will be punished.

So do good things and you will reap good things and be rewarded by the Lord God.

