

Enduring Injustice: Lessons from Esther pt. 2

For how can I endure to see the evil that will come to my people? Or how can I endure to see the destruction of my countrymen? -Esther 8:6

As you look at the condition of our world today, what is your view on how we must endure?

Biblical worldview: The framework of ideas and beliefs through which a Christian individual, group or culture interprets the world and interacts with it. This worldview is based on the infallible Word of _____.

Why do you think it is important to have a biblical worldview? Colossians 2:8

*It affirms our _____ in God.

*It helps us to stand against the tide of our cultures non-biblical ideas.

*It allows us to make better decisions.

*We're able to see God's hand in _____.

As we continue our study in the book of Esther, we're able to see how Mordecai and Queen Esther endured injustice and apply it to our lives today.

Where did we leave off last week? What was Mordecai encouraging Esther to do?

Take _____! How did Esther do it? Esther 4:16

_____ & _____

Taking Action (Esther) Esther 5:1-4

After Esther declares a period of fasting and prayer, she steps out on faith and goes before the king. This reminds us that no matter what difficulties we face in life, not only should we should seek God first through prayer but we should also _____ by faith. Romans 1:17; 2 Corinthians 5:7

Because of her reliance upon God and courage to step out on faith, she found favor! Verse 2 says she found favor in his (the kings) sight, but where does favor ultimately come from? Proverbs 21:1

Secondly, she demonstrated a plan. She wanted to win the kings confidence in her by preparing a banquet. While at the banquet, notice how she was composed and patient.

- She didn't come at the king in a fit of _____ but she was calm and collected. (Esther 5:4)
- She waited until the _____ day of the banquet to make her request known. (Esther 5:7)

As you look at your current condition through the lens of a biblical worldview, are you taking the right actions? If yes, does it line up with the Bible? If not, what can you do today that will give you favor with God and man? Proverbs 3:3-4

God vs. Satan (In between the 1st and 2nd day)

Remember although God and Satan are not mentioned, we still see them working/moving pieces behind the scenes.

Satan: Esther 5:9-14

Haman's heart was filled with pride; Mordecai _____ to stand or tremble before him. What does God say about worshipping man? Luke 4:8; John 4:23

Haman/friends/wife hearts was filled with hatred; After Haman expressed his frustration they recommended that he make gallows and suggest that Mordecai be hanged on it. Sadly this pleased Haman. Esther 5:14b

What does the Bible say about harboring envy, hatred and jealousy in our hearts? Galatians 5:20-21

God: Esther 6:1-14

"Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous." -Unknown

Notice the coincidences:

*The king could not _____.

*A book of chronicles was read before him that just happened to come across a record of Mordecai saving the kings _____.

*He discovered nothing was done before to acknowledge Mordecai's acts but it just so happened to be right before Queen Esther's 2nd day of the banquet.

*Haman just happened to be walking in to make his request for Mordecai to be _____ on the gallows, but instead the king wanted him to be _____ in the city square!

As you reflect over your life, can you think of some “coincidences” that God used to honor you when the devil wanted to humiliate you? Write it down, remember, and hide in your heart what the Lord has done because the enemy will use it against you.

Deuteronomy 32:7; Psalm 44:1; Psalm 78:4

Deliverance

As you might imagine, Haman was upset about what had just happened. The Bible says, he hurried to his house mourning and with his head covered. Not only was Haman feeling defeated but to make matters worse, his family and friends who gave him the advice were now telling him he would _____ against Mordecai.

Delivered from Haman: Chapter 7

Unaware of what just happened it was now time to dine with the queen and king. Again the king asks Queen Esther for her request, and this time she makes it known to be delivered from Haman. She tells the king how he wanted to _____, destroy and annihilate her and her people. Esther 7:4

Sound familiar? John 10:10

Upon hearing the news and witnessing Haman’s acts, the king ordered him to be hanged on the same gallows he made for Mordecai. Esther 7:9-10

Everything came crashing down on Haman. His house and the kings signet ring were given to _____.

Delivered from the decree: Chapter 8

Not only did Queen Esther want Haman removed but she also _____
_____ against his decrees. Esther 8:3-5

God still working behind the scenes moved in such a way that they king allowed them to write a decree as they pleased. Esther 8:8; 8:13-14

Delivered from their enemies/Haman's 10 son's: Chapter 9:1-17

The key to their deliverance was that they came together!! Esther 9:1-2

Don't miss this point! We should always strive for _____ against our common enemy.

Commemorated with a Feast Chapter 9:18-32

Feast of Purim:

Every year they celebrated with gladness and feasting; giving gifts to each other and giving gifts to the poor.

Mordecai declared that they should celebrate yearly on the 14th and 15th days of the month to remember when they _____ their enemies. They also wanted every generation, family, province and city to take part. Esther 9:14; 9:20-22

By the grace of God they overcame injustice, and now they are celebrating their victory.

What are your thoughts about celebrating your spiritual victories? Do you believe they are necessary? Why?

For those of us who are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, the biggest victory we have already won is life over death. Our enemy thought he had us down when we sinned in the garden of Eden, but God had a plan and a strategy to rescue us by sending His only begotten Son who died on the cross, shed His innocent blood and died for our sins.

Again the devil thought he had Him, but 3 days later Jesus arose from the dead. He promises us today that if we trust Him to care for our souls, renew our mind/hearts He will save us from eternal Hell.

If God can save our souls, how much more will He strengthen us no matter what we are against. Romans 8:32

That's deliverance! That's victory! And the good news is we don't have to wait once a year to celebrate, but we can celebrate Jesus any time we want to.

**Call upon Me in the day of trouble, I will deliver you
and you shall glorify Me. -Psalm 50:15**