



Vengeance Is Mine Esther 7:1-10

At the root of a desire for vengeance, or a desire that we must act immediately, is a lack of trust in God!

Esther 7:1-2 So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. 2 And on the second day, as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king again said to Esther, "What is your wish, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."

- Haman is just coming off a humiliating defeat. He doesn't know Mordecai and Esther are related.
- Esther is still showing honor and humility.
- The King and Queen normally did not dine together, and normally the King would only allowed eunuchs to be around the Queen.
- Esther displays incredible patience, waiting for God's plan to unfold.

Esther 7:3-4 Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be granted me for my wish, and my people for my request. 4 For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have been silent, for our affliction is not to be compared with the loss to the king."

- Asks not only for herself, but for her people. She is still in danger.
- Her life, her well-being is totally dependent on the King--a pagan King--, on his understanding, and on his compassion. Really her hope is in the Lord.
- She acknowledges, for the first time, who she really is.

Esther 7:5-6 Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has dared to do this?" 6 And Esther said, "A foe and enemy! This wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

- The king has repeatedly seemed "out of touch." He SIGNED the decree that Esther speaks of. Esther knows enough not to say, "You. You signed the decree."

- Haman has just been accused, in front of the King, of plotting to kill the Queen and all of her people.

Esther 7:7 And the king arose in his wrath from the wine-drinking and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm was determined against him by the king.

- At this moment, perhaps, there is still hope for Haman. The king knows he can't go back on his decree.
- Haman now begs for his life from Esther...a Jew.

Esther 7:8 And the king returned from the palace garden to the place where they were drinking wine, as Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. And the king said, "Will he even assault the queen in my presence, in my own house?" As the word left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face.

- This injustice, or perceived injustice, seals the deal for Haman. If a man was allowed near the harem, he had to stay 7 steps away.

Esther 7:9-10 Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Moreover, the gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, is standing at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." 10 And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the wrath of the king abated.

- In mere hours, Haman has gone from second in command in the kingdom, to being executed on a spike.

What can this teach us about vengeance?

Romans 12:9 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Deuteronomy 32:35 Vengeance is mine, and recompense, for the time when their foot shall slip; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and their doom comes swiftly.

- What Haman's wife and friends said in the last chapter stands.

Esther 6:13b If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of the Jewish people, you will not overcome him but will surely fall before him.

God's justice, His vengeance is right.

It is righteous.

It is right on time.

Better than anything we could imagine. Leave it to Him.

Isaiah 26:8 In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.

That is a worthy goal as you wait on God!