

“Be Of Good Cheer!”
Esther 6:12-14

Introduction:

1. Are You Struggling:
 - In Your Christian Life & Walk With God Today?
 - I’m Pretty Sure - That If We Are *All* Honest With Ourselves:
 - We Would Have To Say A Resounding “*Yes!*”
 - Because There *Are* Many Struggles:
 - And *Many* Obstacles That We Face!
 - Jesus Himself Told Us That Life Would Be Like This Even For His Followers:
 - John 16:33 - “In the world ye shall have tribulation!”
 - Afflictions! Trials! Struggles!
 - And These Struggles Can Take Place Anywhere & At Any Time!
 - In Your Personal Life!
 - In Your Home!
 - In Your Church!
 - In Your Workplace!
2. The Reason You Experience These Struggles & Obstacles:
 - Is Because There Are Many Things:
 - That Are Opposed To You - If You Are A Child Of God!
 - Often Called The “Unholy Trinity”:
 - The World / The Flesh / The Devil!
 - They Are All Against You:
 - And Want You To Fail & Fall In Your Struggles!
 - The World Hates You!
 - John 15:19 - “Because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you!”
 - **IE:** Recent Example - VP Pence - Professing Christian - Standards For Meeting With Other Women Who Are Not His Wife - Mocked & Ridiculed By The World!
 - Your Flesh Hinders You!
 - Galatians 5:17 - “For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would!”
 - The Devil Harasses You!
 - 1 Peter 5:8 - “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour!”
3. These Are The Obstacles That Every Child Of God Faces:
 - In Their Lives!
 - Even The Disciples Of Jesus:
 - Who Walked With Him & Talked With Him Personally!
 - It Was To Them - Jesus Said “In the world ye shall have tribulation!”
 - But Then He Added These Words Of Comfort - “But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world!”
 - And Those Words Of Jesus:
 - Give *Every* Christian Real *Hope!*
 - No Matter What Struggle Or Obstacle Gets In Your Way!
4. And This Morning - We Will See This Truth:
 - On Full Display Back In The Book Of Esther:
 - Esther 6:12-14 - When - After Mordecai Is Honored & Haman Is Humiliated - We Read - “And Mordecai came again to the king’s gate. But Haman hasted to his house mourning, and having his head covered. / And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him. / And while they were yet talking with him, came the king’s chamberlains, and hasted to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared!”
 - Mordecai – Like All Of Christ’s Disciples:
 - Including You & Me - Had This Great Hope In Christ:

- “Be Of Good Cheer – I Have Overcome The World!”
- And Beginning In Verse 12 - We See:

1. **God’s Design To Overcome The World!**

- **IE:** God Has A Design & A Plan To Accomplish His Final Victory Over All Of The Obstacles That Interfere With Your Relationship With Him! World / Flesh / Devil! And Like Many Designs - **The Smallest Things Are Usually The Most Significant!** Like The Design Of A Ship - Can Be As Massive As An Aircraft Carrier - But It Will Only Turn - With A Very Small Rudder! And Part Of His Design To Overcome The World Can Be Summed Up In The Words Of:

- James 4:6 & 1 Peter 5:5 - “God Resisteth The Proud, But Giveth Grace Unto The Humble!”
- And Even In Esther - We See This Principle At Work! See:
- God’s Design For The Humble!
 - He “Giveth Grace!”
 - And We See God’s Grace In The Life Of:
 - Of Mordecai - 6:12 - When After Receiving This Great Honor From The King - “And Mordecai came again to the king’s gate!”
 - Even Though The Threat Of Annihilation Continues To Loom:
 - There Is Still A Peace & Contentment In The Heart Of Humble Mordecai!
 - And Even When He Was Honored By The King Himself - Mordecai Didn’t Seek Or Ask For Anything Greater - He Just Went Right Back To Work!
 - He Remained Faithful! See:
- God’s Design For The Proud!
 - He “Resisteth The Proud!”
 - And We See This In The Confused & Disturbed Heart Of Haman - Also In 6:12:
 - “But Haman hasted to his house mourning, and having his head covered!”
 - After Being Chosen By The King:
 - As One Of His “Most Noble Princes” To Honor Mordecai For Saving The Kings Life:
 - Instead Of Seeing It As An Honor Himself, And “Rejoicing With Those Who Do Rejoice!”
 - Haman Felt Great Shock, Sorrow, And Shame!
 - His Proud Heart Was Broken:
 - And He Was Humiliated!
- But Isn’t This An Illustration Once Again:
 - Of God’s Design?
 - “God Resisteth The Proud, But Giveth Grace Unto The Humble!”
 - What Kind Of Heart Do You Have Today?
 - A Humble Heart?
 - A Proud Heart?
 - One Way To Tell:
 - What Breaks Your Heart?
 - Things That Happen To You Or To Others?
 - Do You “Esteem Others Better Than Yourself?”
 - If Your Heart Is Proud:
 - God Is Going To Resist You:
 - Even As He Resisted Haman!
 - And You Will Experience Confusion Instead Of Contentment!
 - What Should You Do?
 - What Should Haman Have Done?
 - You Need To Turn To & Trust In:
 - The One Who “Humbled **Himself**” - The Lord Jesus Christ - And Even “Became Obedient Unto Death, Even The Death Of The Cross!”
 - And Then - You Can “Be Of Good Cheer” Because The Lord Has “Overcome The World!”
 - We Also See - 6:13:

2. **God’s Dominion To Overcome The World!**

- 6:13 - When Haman Finally Arrives At Home - He Turns To & Trusts In:
 - The Counsel Of His Wife & Friends Once Again:

- Who Were There Waiting For Him!
 - Perhaps They Were Waiting For The News Of Mordecai's Death!
 - But Listen To Their Words Now!
- "And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him!"
 - After Haman Recounts:
 - "Every Thing That Had Befallen Him!"
 - His Wife & His Friends - Now Described As "Wise Men" - Start To Get The Picture Themselves!
- And They Actually Make:
 - A Pretty Astute Observation!
 - They See That Someone Else Is In Charge, And That The Providence Of The Living God Is Unfolding Before Their Very Eyes!
 - "They Learned Instruction From The Works Of God!" (George Lawson)
 - So Even These Unbelieving People Noticed:
- The Signs Of God's Dominion!
 - They Expressed Their Observation To Haman:
 - "If Mordecai Be Of The Seed Of The Jews!"
 - Which He Was!
 - "Before Whom Thou Hast Begun To Fall!"
 - And He Had!
 - "Thou Shalt Not Prevail Against Him!"
 - And He Didn't!
 - "But Shalt Surely Fall Before Him!"
 - And He Will!
 - These Were All Signs Of God's Dominion:
 - Over The Life Of Proud Haman! Learn:
- God Is In Complete Control Over:
 - The Faltering Of The Proud!
 - Haman Had Already Faltered / "Begun To Fall" Before Mordecai!
 - When Haman Paraded Mordecai Through The Streets Of Shushan:
 - Both Before Him & Beneath Him:
 - His Proud Heart Was Broken!
 - But God Was In This!
- God Is In Complete Control Over:
 - The Failure Of The Proud!
 - "Thou Shalt Not Prevail Against Him!"
 - Even Haman's Closed Friends & Advisors:
 - Could See God's Handwriting On The Wall!
 - They Were Now Convinced That The Gallows They Suggested Would Never Be Used For Their Intended Purpose!
 - But God Was In This!
- God Is In Complete Control Over:
 - The Fall Of The Proud!
 - "But Shalt Surely Fall Before Him!"
 - Ultimate Fall & Destruction!
 - Now - Those Who Were Closest To Haman:
 - Were Trying To Get As Far Away From Him As Possible!
 - They Were Convinced "His Doom Is Sure!"
 - But God Was In This!
- How Do We Know?
- The Significance Of God's Dominion:
 - Haman's Faltering / Failure / Ultimate Fall All Hinged On:
 - "If Mordecai Be Of The Seed Of The Jews!"
 - Which He Was!
- Not Merely Because The Jews Were The People Of Mordecai:
 - But Because The Jews Were The People Of God!

- If Mordecai Was A Jew - Then All Of God's Promises Belonged To Him!
 - Preservation! Protection!
- Genesis 12:3 - "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed!"
 - Applied To Haman As Well! Not Exempt!
 - Did His Wife / Friends Know This? Know History?
- Do You Realize That This Is The Destiny For All Of:
 - The Enemies & Foes Of God & His People!
 - They Will Falter!
 - They Will Fall!
 - They Will Fail!
 - The World / Your Flesh / Even The Devil Himself - And All Of The Obstacles They Throw Into Your Path!
 - If You Are A Christian - They Are No Match For You - Because They Are No Match To Your God & Heavenly Father!
- Do You Believe This?
 - Romans 8:31 - "If God Be For Us, Who Can Be Against Us?"
 - And - "Greater Is He That Is In You, Than He That Is In The World!" (1 John 4:4)
- So - Christian:
 - "Be Of Good Cheer" Jesus Says!
 - No Need To **Worry** About Your Struggles & Obstacles!
 - No Need To **Wonder** About God's Grace & Strength!
 - Because - Jesus Has - "Overcome The World!"
 - He Is & Has Always Been In Complete Control Over Everything You Face In Your Life!
 - Oh - If Only We Could See As Christians:
 - What Haman's Wife & Friends Saw So Clearly!
 - God's Hand Of Providence In The Circumstances Of Our Lives!
 - For Then - We Could Remain:
 - In "Good Cheer!"
 - And "Rejoice In The Lord Always: And Again I Say, Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4)
 - Then We Also See:

3. ***God's Determination To Overcome The World!***

- **IE:** If You Want Something Bad Enough - You Will Do Whatever It Takes To Get It / Do It! Went To A Pacer Game On Thursday With Braden & A Friend Of His - Now That Their Playoff Hopes Hang In The Balance - They Played With A Determination That Even The Sports Journalists Said They Haven't Had All Year!
 - In 6:14 - We See A Sense Of Strong Determination By God To Accomplish His Design / Plan Over The Enemy Of His People, Haman:
 - "And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared!"
 - And - We All Know What Is Going To Happen At That Banquet, Don't We?
 - And I Think That Haman's Wife & Friends Knew Too!
 - Haman's Doom Would Be Sudden!
 - "While They Were Yet Talking With Him!"
 - Right In The Middle Of A Sentence:
 - There Was A Knock On The Door!
 - Again - Was This Coincidence?
 - Of Course Not!
 - God Was In Control - Even Of The Seemingly Random Timing Of The Arrival Of The King's Chamberlains!
 - Haman's Doom Would Be Sure!
 - "Came The King's Chamberlains!"
 - They Came To "Bring Haman Unto The Banquet That Esther Had Prepared!"
 - Haman Had No Choice But To Go!
 - Some Wonder If:
 - Haman Forgot About The Banquet:
 - Or If Haman Did Not Want To Go To The Banquet Anymore!
 - But - It Didn't Matter - Haman Is No Longer In Control Of His Choice & Destiny Any Longer!

- Haman's Doom Would Be Swift!
 - They "Hasted To Bring Haman!"
 - What Was The Rush? What Was The Hurry?
 - The Banquet Was Ready - And You Don't Leave The King & The Queen Waiting!
 - But The Real Reason Was:
 - That The Time Had Arrived For:
 - God's Plan To Be Accomplished For & Through His People!
- When You Wonder About & Worry Through:
 - The Struggles & Obstacles Of Your Life:
 - Remember What God Has Determined To Do:
 - To Your Enemies!
 - And To Your Greatest Enemy:
 - The Devil Himself!
 - Even Though The Devil Seeks To:
 - Deceive You:
 - As He Deceived Adam & Eve!
 - Even When The Devil Seeks To:
 - Devour You:
 - "As A Roaring Lion!"
 - Consider His End!
 - Revelation 12:9-11 - "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. / And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. / And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death!"
 - Like Haman:
 - Since You Are Of "The Seed Of God!"
 - The Devil Himself Has Already Begun To Fall!
 - And He Will Not / He Can Not Prevail Against You!
 - The Doom Of Your Enemy:
 - Like Haman:
 - Will Be Sudden, Sure & Swift!
 - As Martin Luther Exclaimed In His Famous Hymn - "We Know His Doom Is Sure!"

Conclusion:

1. And That Is Why Today:
 - For The Child Of God:
 - No Matter What Trial, Temptation, Trouble, Tragedy, Or Tribulation You Experience:
 - You Can Still Be Of "Good Cheer!"
 - Why? How?
 - Because Jesus Says To You:
 - "I Have Overcome The World!"
 - And The Victory You Have:
 - Is Through Faith In Him Alone!
 - Revelation 12:11 - "They Overcame Him By The Blood Of the Lamb!"
2. So Remember:
 - God's Design To Overcome The World!
 - 1 Corinthians 1:27-28 - "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; / And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are!"
 - God's Dominion To Overcome The World!
 - He Is In Complete Control!
 - Even In & Through Your Struggles!
 - God's Determination To Overcome The World!
 - 1 John 5:4-5 - "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that

overcometh the world, even our faith. / Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

3. Like Mordecai:
 - As A Believer In Jesus Christ:
 - You Can Be Content!
 - And - No Matter What You Face:
 - You Have This Hope In Christ!
 - "Be Of Good Cheer! I Have Overcome The World!"

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