

ESTHER

Old Testament Survey Series – Study # 21

Key Events of Esther

1. Introduction – King of Persia’s greatness (1-2)
 - A. Queen Vashti’s downfall (1:1-22)
 - B. Esther’s rise to the throne (2:1-18)
 - C. Mordecai foils a plot against the king (2:19-23)
2. Haman’s decree to kill the Jews (3)
3. The story pivots (4-7)
 - A. Esther and Mordecai plan to save their people (4)
 - B. Esther prepares to expose Haman (5:1-8)
 - C. Haman prepares to hang Mordecai (5:9-14)
 - D. Mordecai is honored and Haman is humiliated (6)
 - E. Esther brings about Haman’s destruction (7)
4. Mordecai’s decree to save the Jews (8)
5. Conclusion – Mordecai’s greatness (9-10)
 - A. The Jews are saved (9:1-20)
 - B. The feast of Purim is instituted (9:21-32)
 - C. Mordecai is exalted (10)

Application

1. God _____ the proud and exalts the _____. – Proverbs 29:23; Matthew 23:12; James 4:6; Proverbs 16:18
2. God is just – ultimately _____ will be rewarded and _____ will be punished. – Psalm 7:14-15
3. God is _____ at work behind the scenes. – Romans 8:28
4. _____ person can make a _____ difference in God’s plans. – Esther 4:19
 - A. God often works through people who demonstrate courage and initiative (_____).
 - B. God can use _____ to do significant things.
5. Look for _____ purposes in your circumstances.

Look for God’s “_____” in your life!
6. When things get bad, _____ God ... especially when you _____ see His hand at work.