



## When God Seems Silent - Week 7 “Esther: No Fairy Tale”

### **Esther 8:1-3 (NIV)**

*That same day King Xerxes gave Queen Esther the estate of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came into the presence of the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her. <sup>2</sup> The king took off his signet ring, which he had reclaimed from Haman, and presented it to Mordecai. And Esther appointed him over Haman’s estate.*

*<sup>3</sup> Esther again pleaded with the king, falling at his feet and weeping. She begged him to put an end to the evil plan of Haman the Agagite, which he had devised against the Jews.*

#### **1. Dead snakes are still deadly.**

- You are born with a death decree over you.

### **Ezekiel 18:4b (NIV)**

*The one who sins is the one who will die.*

### **Romans 3:23 (NIV)**

*for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*

### **Esther 8:4-5 (NIV)**

*Then the king extended the gold scepter to Esther and she arose and stood before him. <sup>5</sup> “If it pleases the king,” she said, “and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, devised and wrote to destroy the Jews in all the king’s provinces.*

### **Esther 8:8-11 (NIV)**

*Now write another decree in the king’s name in behalf of the Jews as seems best to you, and seal it with the king’s signet ring—for no document written in the king’s name and sealed with his ring can be revoked.”*

*<sup>9</sup> At once the royal secretaries were summoned—on the twenty-third day of the third month, the month of Sivan. They wrote out all Mordecai’s orders to the Jews, and to the satraps, governors and nobles of the 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush. These*

orders were written in the script of each province and the language of each people and also to the Jews in their own script and language. <sup>10</sup> Mordecai wrote in the name of King Xerxes, sealed the dispatches with the king's signet ring, and sent them by mounted couriers, who rode fast horses especially bred for the king.

<sup>11</sup> The king's edict granted the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.

## **2. Freedom is found in living under the “overruling word.”**

### **1 Corinthians 15:21-22 (NIV)**

*For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.*

- God solves the sin problem - not by compromising His decree for eternal justice, but by fulfilling justice in taking the punishment we deserved.

### **Romans 3:26 (NIV)**

*He did it to demonstrate His righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the One who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.*

### **Esther 8:17 (NIV)**

*In every province and in every city to which the edict of the king came, there was joy and gladness among the Jews, with feasting and celebrating. And many people of other nationalities became Jews because fear of the Jews had seized them.*

### **Esther 9:1-2 (NIV)**

*On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out. On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them. <sup>2</sup> The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those determined to destroy them. No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them.*

### **Esther 9:5a (NIV)**

*The Jews struck down all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them*

## **3. Be careful calling balls and strikes from the cheap seats.**

### **Esther 9:15 (NIV)**

*The Jews in Susa came together on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar, and they put to death in Susa three hundred men, but they did not lay their hands on the plunder.*

**Genesis 3:14-15 (NIV)**

*So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."*

- It's a means of grace to get a clear picture of the judgement of God.

**Hebrews 10:31 (NIV)**

*It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

**Esther 8:11 (NIV)**

*The king's edict granted the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies.*

**4. Wake up! The war has started!**

- We are saved from the penalty of sin but not from the presence of sin.
- We always underestimate the power of sin and the power of the Spirit.

**Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)**

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

**Colossians 3:5 (NIV)**

*Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.*

**Commit to a Battle Plan:**

- Be under the lordship of Christ.
- Be under the Word.
- Be connected to a body.
- Find your place in the fight.

**1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)**

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup> If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with*

*the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Numbers 21:6 (NIV)**

*Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died.*

**Numbers 21:9 (NIV)**

*So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.*

**John 3:14-15 (NIV)**

*Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”*