

ESTHER

WEEK 3

FUTURE IMPLICATIONS...

Esther 3:1-4 (NLT) Some time later King Xerxes promoted Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite over all the other nobles, making him the most powerful official in the empire. 2 All the king's officials would bow down before Haman to show him respect whenever he passed by, for so the king had commanded. But Mordecai refused to bow down or show him respect. 3 Then the palace officials at the king's gate asked Mordecai, "Why are you disobeying the king's command?" 4 They spoke to him day after day, but still he refused to comply with the order. So they spoke to Haman about this to see if he would tolerate Mordecai's conduct, since Mordecai had told them he was a Jew.

WHY IS HAMAN'S ANCESTRY IMPORTANT?

WHAT WAS HAMAN REALLY AFTER?

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT FOR US?

THERE IS A CERTAIN RACE...

Esther 3:8-9 (NLT) 8 Then Haman approached King Xerxes and said, "There is a certain race of people scattered through all the provinces of your empire who keep themselves separate from everyone else. Their laws are different from those of any other people, and they refuse to obey the laws of the king. So it is not in the king's interest to let them live. 9 If it please the king, issue a decree that they be destroyed, and I will give 10,000 large sacks of silver to the government administrators to be deposited in the royal treasury.

HOW DO WE KNOW THIS IS SPIRITUAL?

HOW DOES HAMAN TWIST THE TRUTH?

HOW CAN WE DISCERN THE TRUTH?

MOURNING...

Esther 4:1-3 (NLT) When Mordecai learned about all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on burlap and ashes, and went out into the city, crying with a loud and bitter wail. 2 He went as far as the gate of the palace, for no one was allowed to enter the palace gate while wearing clothes of mourning. 3 And as news of the king's decree reached all the provinces, there was great mourning among the Jews. They fasted, wept, and wailed, and many people lay in burlap and ashes.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT MOURNING?

WHY SHOULD WE BE AWARE OF WHAT IS GOING ON AROUND US?

WHAT ARE THE EXPRESSED BENEFITS OF FASTING?

ESCAPE...

Esther 4:13-16 (NLT) Mordecai sent this reply to Esther: "Don't think for a moment that because you're in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. 14 If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" 15 Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 16 "Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then, though it is against the law, I will go in to see the king. If I must die, I must die."

WHAT PRINCIPLE DOES MORDECAI MAKE HERE?

WHY IS OUR PLACE IN LIFE IMPORTANT?

WHAT IS ESTHER'S RESOLVE?