ESTHER
WEEK 5

WHAT IS YOUR REQUEST?…

Esther 7:3-4 (NLT) Queen Esther replied, "If I have found favor with the king, and if it pleases the king to grant my request, I ask that my life and the lives of my people will be spared. 4 For my people and I have been sold to those who would kill, slaughter, and annihilate us. If we had merely been sold as slaves, I could remain quiet, for that would be too trivial a matter to warrant disturbing the king."

WHY IS ESTHER'S REQUEST UNUSUAL?

HOW DOES SHE CONVEY THAT TO THE KING?

WHAT IS THE PRAYER COROLLARY?

WHO?...

Esther 7:5-8 (NLT) "Who would do such a thing?" King Xerxes demanded. "Who would be so presumptuous as to touch you?" 6 Esther replied, "This wicked Haman is our adversary and our enemy." Haman grew pale with fright before the king and queen. 7 Then the king jumped to his feet in a rage and went out into the palace garden. Haman, however, stayed behind to plead for his life with Queen Esther, for he knew that the king intended to kill him. 8 In despair he fell on the couch where Queen Esther was reclining, just as the king was returning from the palace garden. The king exclaimed, "Will he even assault the queen right here in the palace, before my very eyes?" And as soon as the king spoke, his attendants covered Haman's face, signaling his doom.

WHY IS THE KINGS FIRST RESPONSE INTERESTING?

WHAT MISTAKE DOES HAMAN MAKE?

REVELATION…

Esther 7:9-10 (NLT) 9 Then Harbona, one of the king's eunuchs, said, "Haman has set up a sharpened pole that stands seventy-five feet tall in his own courtyard. He intended to use it to impale Mordecai, the man who saved the king from assassination." "Then impale Haman on it!" the king ordered. 10 So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai, and the king's anger subsided.

HOW IS THIS REVELATION STRATEGIC?

A CHANGE OF AUTHORITY…

Esther 8:1-4 (NLT) 1 On that same day King Xerxes gave the property of Haman, the enemy of the Jews, to Queen Esther. Then Mordecai was brought before the king, for Esther had told the king how they were related. 2 The king took off his signet ring - which he had taken back from Haman - and gave it to Mordecai. And Esther appointed Mordecai to be in charge of Haman's property. 3 Then Esther went again before the king, falling down at his feet and begging him with tears to stop the evil plot devised by Haman the Agagite against the Jews. 4 Again the king held out the gold scepter to Esther. So she rose and stood before him.

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MORDECAI BEFORE THE KING?

WHY IS THE GOLD SCEPTER IMPORTANT HERE?

JUSTICE…

Esther 8:7-8 (NLT) 7 Then King Xerxes said to Queen Esther and Mordecai the Jew, "I have given Esther the property of Haman, and he has been impaled on a pole because he tried to destroy the Jews. 8 Now go ahead and send a message to the Jews in the king's name, telling them whatever you want, and seal it with the king's signet ring. But remember that whatever has already been written in the king's name and sealed with his signet ring can never be revoked."

WHY DOES THE KING RECITE WHAT HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE?

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE KING'S "REMINDER" ABOUT THE LAW?

A DECREE - Esther 8:11 (NLT)

A SHIFT IN THE ATMOSPHERE…

Esther 8:15-17 (NLT) Then Mordecai left the king's presence, wearing the royal robe of blue and white, the great crown of gold, and an outer cloak of fine linen and purple. And the people of Susa celebrated the new decree. 16 The Jews were filled with joy and gladness and were honored everywhere. 17 In every province and city, wherever the king's decree arrived, the Jews rejoiced and had a great celebration and declared a public festival and holiday. And many of the people of the land became Jews themselves, for they feared what the Jews might do to them.

WHY IS THIS SHIFT STRATEGIC?

WHAT IS THE SCRIPTURAL PARALLEL?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN "RIGHT" IS EXALTED?