



Esther 6:14-7:2

¹⁴ While they were yet talking with him, the king’s eunuchs arrived and hurried to bring Haman to the feast that Esther had prepared. ¹ So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. ² And on the second day, as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king again said to Esther, “What is your wish, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.”

The Second Banquet

- Immediately following Haman’s interaction with his wife and friends...
- On the “second day”...
- Again, the request
 - What is your wish? It will be granted.
 - What is your request? It shall be fulfilled.

Esther 7:3-4

³ Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be granted me for my wish, and my people for my request. ⁴ For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have been silent, for our affliction is not to be compared with the loss to the king.”

The Queen’s Request

- If I have found _____
- If it _____
the king
- My _____
- My _____

The People Sold

- The People were sold to be _____
- If they were sold _____
 - She would have been _____
 - She didn’t want to affect the king’s _____

Esther 7:5

⁵ Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has dared to do this?”

Who Is He?

- Who sold the Jews to be _____
 - The king’s sense of _____
is aroused
 - Much like _____
_____ was incensed by the injustice of Nathan’s story
- Why isn’t the king implicated?

Esther 7:6

⁶ And Esther said, “A foe and enemy! This wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Haman Accused

- A foe and enemy
- This wicked Haman
- Haman was terrified

Esther 7:7

⁷ And the king arose in his wrath from the wine-drinking and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm was determined against him by the king.

Haman Begs for Mercy

- Why does the king leave?
- Why does Haman beg the queen?
- The irony...

Esther 7:8

⁸ And the king returned from the palace garden to the place where they were drinking wine, as Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. And the king said, "Will he even assault the queen in my presence, in my own house?" As the word left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face.

Begging or An Assault?

- The king returns and sees Haman
- What is Haman actually doing?

- Is the king _____ Haman?
- What does it mean that they covered Haman's face?

Morally Questionable

- Record your thoughts on what you think of the scene where Haman is condemned. Were the actions of the king and/or the queen morally questionable?

Esther 7:9-10

⁹ Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Moreover, the gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, is standing at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." ¹⁰ So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the wrath of the king abated.

The Irony of Pride

- Harbona informs the king...
 - Haman had prepared a gallows
 - For Mordecai, who had saved the king
- The king makes a decision...
 - Finally, the king is decisive

Final Thoughts

Haman's Humiliation

- Haman was forced to honor Mordecai
- Haman covered his head
- The gallows meant for Mordecai is used on Haman

Haman vs Mordecai

- Mordecai would not bow, stand or tremble before Haman
- Haman is forced to tremble, stand, then bow

The Jesus Contrast

- Haman deserved to die, Jesus did not
- Haman went (unwillingly) from wealth & power to death on a stake (tree)...
Jesus (willingly) went from a position of power & strength to a humble death on a cross (tree)

The Divine Influence

- It has long been recognized that human-divine interaction is a main theme of Esther: God creates opportunities, but Esther must act on them.