

PLOT TWIST: When [God] Saved the Queen!

The Denouement
Esther 8-9:17

Tying up loose ends

1. What happens to Haman?
2. What happens to the Jews? (including Esther and Mordecai)

Following the thread

1. Retribution for Haman.
2. A ring for Mordecai.
3. The rescue of the Jews.
4. The reversals in the story.
5. The responsibility of privilege.
6. The role of God.

storylines prompt:

What are the resources or opportunities or even privileges that you have in your life that could be used to help someone else? Write a brief, fictional story about your doing so. Better yet—do something to help someone and then write about your experience!



resource guide

First Five / Final Five:

⇒ Take the first five minutes of each day to READ God's Word, and the final five minutes of your day to REFLECT on God's Work in your life.

The Big Idea:

- In your own words, how would you summarize the main idea of the message?

From the Message:

- What do you think are reasonable (and unreasonable) expectations for someone who has authority?
- Where in your life do you have authority / responsibility / privilege? How are you using it for good of others?

From the Passage:

- In 8:11 specific permission was given to the Jews to plunder their attackers, yet in 9:10,15,16 we are told that the Jews did not take any plunder? Why do you think they chose not to?

Think it through / Talk it over:

- Have you ever struggled with believing that God is sovereign in your story / that God is writing your story? If so, why?
- Oftentimes it is difficult to see God at work in our lives—what would you tell a person who is struggling to see God in their situation?
- Can you look back over a chapter of your life where you didn't sense the presence of God? What are your thoughts now—and what did you learn?
- Are you holding a "ring"? Is there a situation you are facing where you have been waiting for someone or something, but you are realizing that you can take action?
- How much is feasting and celebration a part of your life?

Take a Step:

⇒ Truth transforms us only as we take action. What is that one step you need to take?