



Mordecai the Great

Esther 9:18-10:3

Act 1: Mordecai Instituted a Holiday (9:17-32)

Scene 1:

The Holiday's Dates

Esther 9:17-23

- The Date Dilemma
 - ◆ Kingdom Jews- Celebrated on the 14th day (March 8)
 - ◆ Capital Jews- Celebrated on the 15th day (March 9)
- The Date Decision
 - ◆ Mordecai decided to celebrate on both days.
 - ◆ Mordecai decided to celebrate annually.
 - ◆ Mordecai decided to celebrate reflectively.

Scene 2:

The Holiday's Design

Esther 9:24-28

- The Feast's Title- Purim
- The Feasts' Participants- the Jews
 - ◆ Personal Commitment
 - ◆ Family Commitment



- ◆ Community Commitment
- ◆ Permanent Commitment

Scene 3:

The Holiday's Confirmation

Esther 9:29-32

- Esther wrote a second letter.
 - ◆ It had full authority.
 - ◆ It had written authority.
- Mordecai's letter instituted the holiday, and Esther's letter confirmed it.

Act 2: Mordecai Influenced his Homeland (10:1-3)

- King Xerxes
 - ◆ Xerxes became more wealthy.
 - ◆ Xerxes was later assassinated.
- Mordecai the Great
 - ◆ He was powerful.
 - ◆ He was popular.
 - ◆ He was peaceful.



God's Sovereignty in the Shadows

- Constant Irony
- Repeated themes: crown, signet ring, casting lots, feasts, etc.
- Repeated words: pleased, favor,
- Key phrases: "...for such a time as this?" (4:14)

Practical Applications

- Set reminders to thank God for what He has done for you! (like the feast of Purim)
- Walk in the light, not moral confusion!
- You must trust God's sovereignty in the shadows!
 - ◆ Despite your failures.
 - ◆ Despite your enemies.
 - ◆ Despite your circumstances.

In all things, remember that God is always sovereignly working in the background of your life, and He has placed **you** exactly **where** you are, **when** you are, **how** you are, and **why** you are...

"for such a time as this."