



The Nightmare that Saved a Nation

Esther 5:9-6:14

"Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 16:18

Act 1: Haman's Pride (5:9-14)

Scene 1

Haman's Temporary Happiness

Esther 5:9-10

- Haman was happy (v. 9a)
- Haman was not happy. (v. 9b)

Scene 2

Haman's Bragging Session

Esther 5:11-14

- Possessions- *The splendor of his riches...*
- Posterity- *The number of his sons...*
- Positions- *all the promotions which the king had honored him*
- Power- *how we had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king*
- Haman bragged and complained.
 - ◆ He wanted Mordecai dead.
 - ◆ Zeresh gave Haman an idea.- *Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made...*

Act 2: Xerxes' Nation-Saving Nightmare

Scene 1

The Sleepless Night

Esther 6:1-3

- Xerxes *could not sleep*, which literally means, the king's sleep fled.
- Xerxes' solution to sleeplessness- The Persian Chronicles



- ◆ The Story- Mordecai stopped an assassination plot!
- ◆ The Shock- I haven't honored him!

Scene 2

The Surprising Morning

Esther 6:4-9

- Xerxes and Haman were both thinking about Mordecai.
- Haman's Idea:
 - ◆ The King's Robes- *Let the royal robes be brought..*
 - ◆ The King's Horse- *And the royal horse the king has ridden...*
 - ◆ The King's Official- *One of the king's most noble officials...*
 - ◆ The King's Message- *"Thus shall it be done to the man..."*

Scene 3

Mordecai's Parade

Esther 6:10-14

- Pre-parade- Irony- *Do so to Mordecai*
- During the Parade- Haman left nothing out.
- Post-Parade- Mordecai returned to the gate while Haman mourned.
 - ◆ Haman was beginning to fall.
 - ◆ Haman was summoned to Esther's 2nd feast...

God's Sovereignty in the Shadows

- Haman's ignorance of Esther and Mordecai's relationship
- Xerxes' sleeplessness
- The specific reading of the Persian Chronicles
- Haman's horrible counselors
- Haman's Ironic Timing

Practical Applications

- Satisfaction from worldly honor and glory doesn't last!
- Pride brings destruction!
- God can create a way even when there is absolutely no way.