

‘Purim, A Memorial of God’s Protection’

(Esther 9:28)

Intro: The book of Esther is one of the unique books in the Bible as it does not mention the name of _____ once, and yet it is considered and accepted as inspired Scripture. We have those days when we _____ where God is. We wonder if He is paying attention to the various events going on in the world or in our lives. The book of Esther reminds us that even though we may not be aware that God is always aware of every event no matter how big or small, no matter near or far; God is aware! The book of Esther reveals that God doesn’t have to be operating in the _____ to be orchestrating events to His satisfaction. Whether it was the 400 years of Israel in Egypt, 70 years in Babylonian captivity, or even the seemingly four hundred years of silence between the Old and the New Testament – God was actively involved working His plans for the ages. Those times which seem to be so bleak, when one may seem to be all alone, God is always there, God is always near! (**Isaiah 55:6**)

And so it is with this historical record that God uses to remind us that He is in control, and when we step out by faith, and stand in the fray trusting Him for the outcome that is going to magnify and glorify Him. As fierce and determined as some to eradicate the Jews as history has revealed and they failed, one would think they would realize by now they will never do so because of God and what He has promised concerning His relationship with Israel.

I. The feast of Purim is a memorial of God’s _____ **Esther 9:28.**

- A. We have covered other memorials and stated that many Sabbats were established as a means of various memorials from the Passover, the crossing over of the Red Sea to name a few.
- B. Purim is also one of the memorials celebrated in the _____ on the Gregorian calendar and we should realize that the year for the Jewish calendar isn’t 2024, but 5784.
- C. Not once is God’s name mentioned, neither is _____ name mentioned, however, one doesn’t have to be a rocket scientist to figure out that both are _____ working as they would through the lives of individuals, out of sight, but doing so according to their characteristics.
 - 1. God has His chosen _____ in place, such as Mordecai and Esther.
 - 2. Satan had his Haman and his supporters as well.
- D. Satan’s goal is to _____ the Jews from everywhere in the known world,
 - 1. What better time than when the known world is under the _____ of one man.

2. Haman is promoted with great honors and _____ by Mordecai. (**Esther 3:5 & 6**)
 3. Satan uses this act of _____ on the part of Haman as a means to rid the known world of the Jews. Self-pride is a very _____ emotion and is usually behind every fall and most certainly behind the reason many reject Christ as Savior. **Proverbs 16:18**
“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”
 4. **Luke 18:18 – 30**, The young rich ruler’s down fall was _____ which manifested itself in sorrow rather than rejoicing in salvation.
 5. Can one be rich and saved? Absolutely! However, the fear of not living the life of ease and pleasure in this present world is more than unimaginable to them.
- E. We see God is at work _____ the scene by seeing that Mordecai has privileged information when he discovered a plot to assassinate the King. **Esther 2:19 – 23.**
1. God is always _____ ahead of Satan and we need to realize in our life that God is never, ever blindsided, never ever surprised!
 2. God even places _____ people in our lives & circumstances in preparation for upcoming events in our lives. Esther is chosen to replace Queen Vashti, in like fashion as He placed Daniel as the Kings adviser to protect the Jewish people in captivity.
 3. Now it is Queen Esther’s time to _____ in the gap so to speak, to be used of God in the saving of the Jewish people. **Esther 4:13 & 14.**
 - a. Notice **verse 14** – Esther had a _____ to make being the most likely person God could use.
 - b. If she couldn’t _____ God at this time in her life, then God had another ready, which speaks to the fact that Mordecai knew God had a solution one way or the other.
- F. If you have read the book of Esther then you know how it all proceeded:
1. The prideful Haman is _____ and eventually hanged on the gallows meant for Mordecai. – **Esther 7:9 & 10.**
 2. The humble Mordecai was _____ because he humbly trusted God – **Esth. 8:1 & 2.**
 3. And God delivered the Jews from what seemed an impossible situation – **Esther 9:2.**
 4. And thus, you have the Purim memorial still celebrated every year as was commanded in the Bible – **Esther 9:27 – 31.**
- G. Folks, no matter how _____ a situation may seem to the Redeemed of the Lord, be patient and wait with trust in God. There is nothing the wicked can do to derail God’s plan for the ages or our lives.
- H. Never lose hope – God is God! - **Psalm 33:22** “Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we **hope** in thee.”