

# Esther - Week 7

## Mordecai Takes Action

Est 2:19 When the virgins were assembled a second time, Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate. 20 But Esther had kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai's instructions as she had done when he was bringing her up. 21 During the time Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, became angry and conspired to assassinate King Xerxes. 22 But Mordecai found out about the plot and told Queen Esther, who in turn reported it to the king, giving credit to Mordecai. 23 And when the report was investigated and found to be true, the two officials were hanged on a gallows. All this was recorded in the book of the annals in the presence of the king. NIV

- Providentially, Mordecai was the one who **foiled** the plot, for the record of his good deed was placed in the royal chronicles and later became the means of his exaltation for Mordecai.
- Mordecai sat in a position of honor and **authority**. You may never know the **positive** or negative influence you are having on other people.
- Mordecai, although an exiled Jew, still showed his strong **loyalty** to the king.
  - Avoiding conflict because we don't want to get involved is not always the **right** thing to do.
  - Notice the King was **insulated** from everyday problems of life. Believers need to insulate, never **isolate** from problems of life.
- Mordecai never received **recognition** or reward for saving the king's life. The Persians are believed to be the people who invented **crucifixion**.

Notice God's hand at work:

1. **Esther** was to be used by God and was at the right place at the right time.
2. The good **deeds** of God's people may be overlooked but never forgotten by God. The need of the day is to remain **faithful** even when we just don't see the end of the story.
3. God is always using His people to be a **blessing** to others. Again, we see nothing of Mordecai seeking a reward or any praise for what he did, because **doing right** is the best praise we can ever receive.

Several truths we will learn through Mordecai:

1. Mordecai teaches us **compassion** for the needs of others.
2. Mordecai teaches us God-given **wisdom** and discernment.

3. Mordecai teaches us how to **stand up** for our God-given beliefs. Still in exile, he did not forget his Jewish heritage and we see he will refuse to bow down to others' **narcissism**.
4. Mordecai teaches us how to **hope** in God's calling and His provisions.
5. Mordecai teaches us that our **faith** will be rewarded when we do right in God's eyes. We, like Mordecai, are on **mission** from God to a world blind to the ways of God.

Billy Graham once said: "All these material blessings are gifts from God-- given in order that we might humble ourselves and fall on our knees before Him."

#### Final Thought

We must all be in position to be called by God to be a person of faith to show the world our God is **bigger** than every problem we face.