

Esther - Week 4

Anger and Exiles

Esther 1:19 "Therefore, if it pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media, which cannot be repealed, that Vashti is never again to enter the presence of King Xerxes. Also let the king give her royal position to someone else who is better than she. 20 Then when the king's edict is proclaimed throughout all his vast realm, all the women will respect their husbands, from the least to the greatest." 21 The king and his nobles were pleased with this advice, so the king did as Memucan proposed. 22 He sent dispatches to all parts of the kingdom, to each province in its own script and to each people in its own language, proclaiming in each people's tongue that every man should be ruler over his own household.

Recap

- In Esther we will see that God can use poor peasants, dethroned queens, and queens with a heart for God to accomplish His **perfect** plan: to reveal Christ one day.
- Often our **self-worth** is wrapped around what others think of us more than what God thinks of us.
- The king's pride caused him to **boast** of his greatness, and he wanted folks to admire him and all that he had.
- His **drunkenness** was part of his own pride.
- Pride showed his **vindictiveness** in response to his queen.
- When the ego is pricked, it will release a powerful **poison** that makes people do and say the most terrible things.

The Jewish **Exiles**

- The emphasis of the book of Esther is about the **power** of God and the fulfilling of His sovereign plans for Israel and for us.
- It is also about allowing God to use His people to be a **blessing** to those who would try to replace God.

Truths About Exiles and Christians Today

1. Exiles do not have to adore worldly **arrogance**.

- The King lived by **impulses**; we live by faith in the Word of God.

Col 1:4 For we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus [the leaning of your entire human personality on Him in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness] and of the love which you [have and show] for all the saints (God's consecrated ones),

- People who think too highly of themselves probably never **stooped** low enough to receive all God has for them.

- The King shows us that the display of evil powers does not **diminish** the power of God.
 - No matter how Satan tries to **deceive**, it will never do away with God's truth.
2. Exiles don't have to be in awe of worldly **abundance**.
 - The king was simply telling them “ **you are** what you have”.
 - We must deny the thoughts that what we **possess** or what we lack are not the measures of a true Christians life. We are measured by the grace of God.
 3. Exiles need not to be afraid of worldly **authorities**. When a person has to **regulate** his power over others, he is a bad leader.
 4. Exiles do not adopt a worldly **agenda** but worship the only true, awesome God.
 - Greatness in God's kingdom is not found in self-promotion but in **self-denial**.
 - I must cease from making myself the **object** of my life and actions.

Final Thoughts

- The world has nothing to offer us that will compare to all we have when we follow our true King. How will God be glorified in your life at the end of this study?
- The Arab nations occupy 99.6%. Israel .4%. Now, explain how they are holding land that belongs to them?