

Context

1] Queen Esther invites the King and Haman to a banquet. (7:1f)

2] She exposes (4)

a) herself as one of the Jews

b) Haman's conspiracy to murder all Jews

nb 'enemy of the Jews' 'Agagite' Amalekite cf 1Sam15:8; Ex 17:15)

3] The king was furious and has Haman hung (7f)

MP God gives His people the right and ability to defend themselves against their enemies.

KV The Kings edict granted the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves (11)

?? 9 & 12 wait from 23rd of 3rd month (9) to 13th of 12th Month? They had to wait as force was only used against those who were actually attacking them.

The King's (1,2)

1] The same day (1a)

ie the same day when Haman, the enemy of Jews, was hung (7:10)

2] The King gave Haman's estate to Esther (vast - Cf 3:9)

The estate is given – not earned or fought for.

3] Mordecai and Esther into the Lord presence together – related (2:7)

Cf adopted as children co-heirs with Christ (Rom 8:15ff) confident to enter (Hebrews10:19ff)

4] to Mordecai (2)

a) The signet ring of the king from Haman (2a)

nb make decision for the King - 'in loco'

b) The estate of H from queen Esther (2b)

Jesus is given all power and authority over all things

Esther's plea (3-6)

1] The emotion (3)

Nb vil plan vile H 'the agagite' (3:1f)

Approaching the throne (Ex.33:20)

2] The Kings welcome (4, cf 5:2)

God welcomes our requests in Jesus cf Phil 4:6

3] The plea (5,6)

a) 'If' (5)

Nb very deferential cf Vashti (1:12)

Cf Jesus – yet not my will (Luke 22:42)

b) Overrule Haman's order to destroy all the Jews (cf 3:13)

c) disaster on my people / destruction on family? (6)

Nb no mention of her own destruction? (4:14)

Cf Jesus intercedes for his people (Rom 8:26,27)

The Kings reply (7,8)

1] To Esther and Mordecai (7a)

2] Because Haman attacked the Jews (7b)

a) H estate to Esther

b) hanged H

3] another edict in Kings name (8)

4] No edict in Kings name and sealed with Kings ring can be revoked

ie no revoking of order with the Kings seal (3:12)

Cf not a letter of the Law removed (Matt 5:17f)

8 He cannot disown himself (2 Tim 2:13)

The Kings (Mordecai's) edict (9-14)

1] The authority (9,10)

a) Royal secretaries summoned. (9a, cf 3:12)

b) wrote Mordecai's (the King's) orders

cf doing Father's work, in Father's name (John 5:19,30,43)

b) 23rd day of 3rd month. (9b)

c) = universal edict. (9c,10)

Jesus speaks with the authority of the King to ALL his subjects

Salvation of God's people is universal all people everywhere at all times.

d) In name of king / sealed with the Kings ring/ at top speed. (10)

2] The nature (11)

a) Jews protect themselves

nb The provision of protection (Eph 6:10)

**God's people have His right to fight evil in anticipation of complete victory in all things -
Defend a place of victory**

b) destroy, kill, annihilate

nb and women and children (cf 3:13)

cf The Amalekites (1 Sam15:3)

c) and plunder the property (NB cf 9:8,15,16))

3] The scope (12)

a) on 13th day of 12th month (12, same day as destruction cf 3:13)

The Lord appoints the time (Ecclesiastes 3:1ff)

Respect God's timing

b) universal (13) -as law / every province / every nationality

The Word of the Lord is for everyone

c) as fast as possible (14a)

b) also in citadel in Susa (14b)

The reaction (15-17)

1] Mordecai-royal garments (15a)

Cf the kings drapes in the royal garden (1:6)

Cf Jesus, equal to God, is exalted by the Father to the highest place (Phil 2:6-9)

2] Susa held a joyous celebration (15b)

cf Psalm 16:8-9,11; 34:1-8; 126:1-3; Phil 4:4)

3] Jews – happiness, joy, gladness, honour. (16)

Cf Mourning, fasting, weeping, wailing (4:3)

Nb Victory anticipated (1 Cor 15:57)

God's people celebrate the victory that is promised /will be seen (by faith)

The Word of God brings joy and gladness

We share the honour that God has given Jesus

4] Jews in empire - feasting and celebrating (17a)

nb Joy anticipating victory (1 Pet.1:8)

All believers in all places are to enjoy the victory

5] Conversion

a) many people became Jews

cf Genesis 17:12; Ps. 67; Isaiah 49:6

Adopted into God's family (Rom 8:15ff)

The people of Tarshish (Jonah 3:10)

All peoples may become part of the family of God

b) fear of Jews (Lord!) had seized them

cf Joshua 2:8,9

Conclusion

Trust in God's provision of victory

Rejoice in the Lord

This is the day – Fight against the principalities and powers