

ESTHER RISKS HER LIFE IN APPROACHING THE KING

(Esther 5)

I. ESTHER'S FIRST BANQUET FOR THE KING (5:1-14)

A. Esther found FAVOR in the sight of the king (5:1-8)

1. What Esther did here by stepping out by faith in risking her life ranks among one of the courageous _____ of _____ in the Old Testament. (v. 1)

* Every trial that you go through is really an “Esther moment;” will you trust the Lord here or not?

2. We have yet another example of how the Lord “_____” the hearts of kings if He so chooses. (Esther 5:2-3; Ex. 9:33-10:2; Prov. 21:1; Dan. 2:21; 4:17, 35-37; Ezra 1:1-4)

3. Esther knew that Haman was in a very powerful position, but she demonstrated _____ in how she prepared to expose Haman as the enemy of the Jews and even the Persian Empire. (vv. 4-5)

4. We do not know _____ Esther _____ asking King Ahasuerus to spare her people at this first banquet; but it is obvious that it was in the providential hands of God by the events depicted in chapter 6. (vv. 6-8)

5. A clear example of how the Lord can use our _____, weaknesses, and even _____ to ultimately fulfill His divine plane. (Rom. 8:28)

B. Haman is OBLIVIOUS to God and Esther's plan (5:9-14)

1. Jehovah had kept Haman from discovering the truth about Esther's _____ to Mordecai. (v. 9a)

2. Haman's circumstances completely _____ his _____.
 - a. He was _____ regarding his good fortune to be _____ by the queen, which was highly unusual in Persian culture. (v. 9a)

 - b. He could not enjoy the good things in his life because his hatred for Mordecai entirely _____ his _____. (vv. 9b-10)

3. Haman is a perfect example that excessive _____ and _____ conceals underneath a huge but tender _____, as seen in his excessive bragging. (vv. 11-12)

4. Haman was under the delusion that _____ Mordecai were _____ life would be grand. (v. 13)

* Are you prone to allow adverse events, people or circumstances dictate your mood for the day and your outlook on life?

5. After hearing and heeding terrible council, Haman decided to build a very large stake that would be _____ from every _____, thereby increasing Mordecai's eventual public humiliation. (v. 14)

* What can you personally apply from this chapter today?