

THE JEWS' DEFENSE AND VICTORY

(Esther 9:1-19)

- I. ESTHER'S FIRST BANQUET FOR THE KING (5:1-14)
- II. HAMAN IS FORCED TO HONOR MORDECAI THE JEW (6:1-14)
- III. ESTHER'S SECOND BANQUET FOR THE KING (7:1-10)
- IV. A NEW PERSIAN DECREE IS WRITTEN AND SENT THROUGHOUT THE LAND (8:1-17)
- V. THE DAY FOR HAMAN'S DECREE TO BE IMPLEMENTED FINALLY ARRIVED (9:1-10:3)

A. The Jews are VICTORIOUS in DEFEATING their enemies (9:1-19)

1. The Book of Esther demonstrates once again how God _____ for His chosen people; any nation or individual that seeks to _____ the Jews will suffer for it. (Gen. 12:3)

2. The anti-Semitism throughout the empire can be seen in the statement, "*On the day that the _____ of the _____ had hoped to overpower them...*" (v. 1)

3. The king gave the Jews permission to defend themselves by killing their enemies; this meant they could meet the attack with a _____, but in some cases they initiated assault against those who they _____ would destroy them. (v. 2a)

4. While there is an absence of any explicit reference to God miraculously delivering His Hebrew people, He is there behind the scenes, "*And no one could withstand them, because _____ of them fell upon _____ people.*" (v. 2b)

5. Since Mordecai had been providentially promoted to Prime Minister ahead of time, all of the _____ in government positions around the Persian Empire _____ the Jews out of fear. (vv. 3-4)

6. The word “*citadel*” (in v. 6) refers to the royal section of the city of Shushan where the Jews had killed _____ men in the capital city alone, and Haman’s _____ sons. (vv. 5-11)

7. In asking his queen if there was anything else she wanted...

a. Esther is cited by some to be “_____” in asking for permission for an additional day where the Jews could fight some more in Shushan. (v. 13a)

* What is a commendable reason for such actions?

b. Esther is also accused of being extremely “_____” in having Haman’s sons’ dead corpses put on public display. (v. 13b-14)

* Why would she underscore capital punishment in this situation?

ENEMIES KILLED BY THE JEWS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>REFERENCES</u>
500 men	in the citadel of Susa	Adar 13 (March 7)	9:6, 12
75,000 men	in other parts of the empire	Adar 13 (March 7)	9:16
300 men	in Susa	Adar 14 (March 8)	9:15

8. It is stated no less than 3x (vv. 10, 15, 16) that the Jews did _____ take any spoil, and this _____ inevitably proves the upright motives in the Jewish defense.

* What can you apply from this passage in your own life?