

THE PLOT AGAINST ISRAEL  
THE THREAT TO ISRAEL, PART 3  
(Esther 3:1-15)

- I. Haman's ANGER toward MORDECAI (Esther 3:1-6)
  - A. Haman's RISE (3:1-2)
    - 1. He's called "the son of Hammedatha the AGAGITE"
    - 2. He's given AUTHORITY over all the PRINCES
    - 3. All the royal officials at "the king's gate" were to BOW and WORSHIP Haman
    - 4. Mordecai REFUSED to BOW and WORSHIP Haman
  - B. Haman's RAGE (3:3-6)
    - 1. Other officials wondered WHY he would DEFY the king
    - 2. He explained that he was a JEW
    - 3. They TOLD Haman
    - 4. Haman was so ENRAGED he decided to annihilate ALL the Jews EVERYWHERE
- II. Haman's SCHEME to EXTERMINATE the Jews (Esther 3:7-15)
  - A. The PRESENTATION of his plan (3:7-11)
    - 1. Haman cast "Pur" to determine the best date for SLAUGHTERING the JEWS

2. He explained it as a BENEFIT to the KING
3. He described an UNIDENTIFIED scattered people as DISOBEDIENT/DEFIANT
4. He recommended “they be DESTROYED”
5. He guaranteed WEALTH for the KING
6. Ahasuerus gave Haman his SIGNET RING, empowering him to “do...as you PLEASE”

B. The PROCLAMATION of his plan (3:12-15)

1. The decree was issued on the EVE of PASSOVER
  - a. Addressed to THREE echelons of OFFICIALS
  - b. Written in MULTIPLE languages and alphabets
  - c. Written in the king’s NAME and sealed with his SIGNET
  - d. Delivered by COURIERS to every province
2. The decree ordered everyone to “destroy, to kill and to annihilate ALL the Jews, both YOUNG and OLD, WOMEN and CHILDREN ... and to seize their possessions as PLUNDER”
3. The genocide was to occur on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> month
4. The king and Haman CELEBRATED with DRINK
5. People in Susa were CONFUSED

III. Lessons

- A. Mankind continues to HATE GOD and His PEOPLE
- B. God CONTINUES to protect the Jews from EXTERMINATION
- C. God still CONTROLS even the throw of the DICE to accomplish HIS will