

MORDECAI'S ELEVATION  
THE DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL, PART 5  
(Esther 8:1-17)

- I. Impressive GIFTS (Esther 8:1-2)
  - A. Ahasuerus transferred OWNERSHIP of Haman's PROPERTY to QUEEN ESTHER
  - B. Ahasuerus transferred POSSESSION of his own SIGNET to MORDECAI
  - C. Esther transferred MANAGEMENT of her new ESTATE to MORDECAI
- II. Impending DANGER (Esther 8:3-8)
  - A. Esther REMINDED the king the DANGER was not PAST (8:3-6)
    - 1. Was deeply DISTRESSED
    - 2. Begged him to "AVERT the EVIL"
    - 3. Asked for an edict REVOKING that "devised by HAMAN"
    - 4. Expressed unendurable grief if her PEOPLE are SLAUGHTERED
  - B. The king COMMANDED them to write a new DECREE (8:7-8)
    - 1. They could devise the WORDING and seal it in the king's NAME
    - 2. It must COUNTERACT without NULLIFYING the former edict
- III. Ingenious SOLUTION (Esther 8:9-17)
  - A. Its PREPARATION (8:9-10)
    - 1. Written 70 DAYS after Haman's edict
    - 2. Addressed to the SAME sets of officials, along with "the JEWS"

3. Written in all the LANGUAGES of the empire, particularly HEBREW
  4. SEALED with the king's SIGNET
- B. Its CONTENT (8:11-12)
1. Permits the Jews to ASSEMBLE for their DEFENSE
  2. Permits the Jews to kill ALL who ATTACK them
  3. Permits this defense for the ENTIRETY of the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> month
- C. Its DELIVERY (8:13-14)
1. It was PREPARATORY
  2. It was SWIFT
  3. It was THOROUGH
- D. Its RECEPTION (8:15-17)
1. Mordecai was PUBLICLY identified as grand vizier
  2. The city of Susa REJOICED
  3. The Jews had "LIGHT and GLADNESS and JOY and HONOR"
  4. There were FEASTS and HOLIDAYS for the Jews
  5. Many GENTILES became JEWS

IV. Lessons

- A. Whatever the RISK, serve the LORD at opportune MOMENTS (cf. Jms. 4:17)
- B. God will never ABANDON the JEWS (Rom. 11:26-27; cf. Isa. 59:20-21)
- C. SALVATION is always "of the LORD" (Jonah 2:9)