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### Daily Bible Notes/Highlights Genesis through Revelation 2014

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Esther

5/19

Esther 1-3

C1-22 king Xerxes of Persia ruled the empire, in his 3rd year he gave a banquet lasting 180 days, he gave a banquet for the people, in the 7th day he calls for Vashti. She refuses, the king was furious, he called his advisors, what must be done, Memucan speaks, she has wronged not only king but every officer, it wil affect all the women, banish her by written decree.

Commentary: This is a picture of humanity with wrong everywhere. The amount of excess is sin with celebration carrying on in unending fashion. Then the call for the Queen for one reason, the men to see her beauty. It is so demeaning to the female version of humanity with so much more to offer to any setting well beyond beauty.

The story takes an even darker turn when she refuses the king's request. It's not pod finale without grave consequences. No one can blame her in the 21 Century, but this commentator views it as a poor decision in her part. Rebellion within the family is not the way to make a point. Abigail knew her husband was a fool. She did not embarrass him at his drinking party. The next day one-on-one she delivered her message, and his life was done and her life changed for good (1 Samuel 25)

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"Investing in People for Eternity"*

C2 1-23 after a while the king begins thinking of Vashti, attendants to announce a search to bring women into the royal harem, he was pleased with the plan, there was a man in Susa a Benjamite Mordecai who had been exiled, he had a beautiful cousin named Hadassah called Esther. He raised her as his daughter, Hegai impressed with Esther ordered special menu and beauty treatments. She didn't tell her nationality,

Commentary: The sure sign of an error is regret when the anger subsides or act is passed. Now we see Romans 8:28 (all things working) at work. This mess where women are belittled and men are tyrants turns into a marvelous picture of God operating through human darkness to fulfill his purpose. God majors in making the very best out of our mess. The call goes forth to seek someone who will replace the queen and enters Hadassah-Esther.

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She was taken to the king's bed, she was given her choice of perfumes and oils, she would never go to the king again unless she was especially enjoyed, the king loved Esther more than any other, he set the royal crown in her head. He gave a great banquet in her honor, Mordecai became a palace official, Mordecai discovers a plot against the king and sends a message thru Esther. This was recorded in the Persian history

Commentary:

Simultaneous Mordecai also becomes a palace official. Doors open for God's people to perpetuate God's plan for his people. Remember personal blessings are to become faith community manifestations. Somehow our personal blessings must inspire and encourage us to encourage and minister to others. Mordecai's discovery and disclosure may have happened before he became an official. Nevertheless, it is an important event showing his loyalty.

C3 1-15 later the king promotes Haman over all the nobles, making him the most powerful in the kingdom, everyone would bow to Haman except Mordecai, he refused to obey the policy, Haman filled with rage, he looked for a way to destroy all the Jews, lots were cast Haman presents the Jews as a threat and request that they be destroyed, the king agreed, on April 17 messengers dispatched saying Jews must be killed on March 7

Commentary: As marvelous as a story this is, the ugliest of humanity enters the scene and this is a continuing reality for believers. Jesus informed Peter, Satan desires to sift you into granulation. He desires to pulverize God's people. We see this in this picture. Paul mentioned the fiery darts of the wicked one. Fire represents the spreading or nuclear fall of sin upon more than the perpetrator. Haman's hatred and authority becomes the source of a genocidal decree against the Jews.

“Investing in People for Eternity”

5/20  
C4-6

4 Vss 1-17 Mordecai tore his clothes when he learned what happened, great mourning among Jews, they fasted wept and wailed, Esther deeply distressed, she sends Hatach to Mordecai, Mordecai told Hatach to appeal to the king, Esther tells Mordecai thru Hatach she cannot approach the king, Mordecai warns her if she will not God will send someone and she and her relatives will die. Esther decides she will approach the king and that all Jews would fast and pray, she was ready to die if required

Commentary: Our walk in The Lord includes days so difficult. We are immune to tragedy and heartbreak. He has to gather himself enough to appeal to his surrogate daughter.

He understands now what she is there for. It is this time when she needs to stand.

Notice first Esther shows her weakness, but with the right encouragement she takes a stand calling for prayer and fasting. We need to do likewise facing major decisions.

C5 Esther approaches the king and he extends his scepter welcoming her, he wanted to know her request and she desired a banquet with Haman in attendance, Haman gathered his family and how he had been promoted above everyone and how Esther called him to honor him at a banquet , but he was still furious with Mordecai, his wife and other suggested a pole death for Mordecai as order by the king on Haman's request, this pleased Haman

Commentary: Favor! We see how favor operates. Keep in mind she did not know whether she would be received. She was willing to die. This is a principle for every person of faith to remember. Be willing to sacrifice.

6 Vss 1-14. That night the king had a dream and request the history record, he discovered what Mordecai had done, called on Haman to suggest what he should do to honor a man who pleased him, thinking the king wanted to honor him, Haman suggested this and that, and things that would represent royalty, the king told Haman to do those things for Mordecai, Haman was humiliated, the kings Eunuchs came and took him to the banquet.

Commentary: God is operating to protect his children when the enemy is operating to destroy them. This is the principle we see here. It is not a good position for anyone hurting God's people. It may even be successful in the short term, but not long term.

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5/21  
C7-9

C7vss 1-10 the king and Haman to the Banquet, kings asked Esther what do you want, she asked that my people be spared, the king asked who would do such a thing?, she says Haman, Haman extreme fright, the king was furious went out, Haman begged Esther and fell on her couch, the king saw him as assaulting the queen, an attendant speaks up about the pole made for Mordecai, Haman impaled

Commentary: Esther continued in the position as requester and never as an authority. This is what every believer must understand in the relationship with the Father. There's a thin line between being confident in our faith and crossing the line to being too presumptive. God will not share His personal glory. There is a healthy separation that must be maintained know matter how Holy Ghost filled, sanctified, or perfect we think we are. As Jesus said, Your will not mine. It's the right approach and when the king is informed about Haman's conduct, it's over for Haman.

Haman is the picture of a person who crossed the line of presumption. It's an error far too many Christians take. Then they have to make excuses for God when things don't go as they predicted.

C8vss 1-17. Same day the king gave all of Haman's property to Esther, Mordecai received Haman's signet ring, Esther again approaches the king and request that his order be reversed, he gave her authority to do anything desired but could not reverse his order, Mordecai send messages to all Jews to defend themselves against anyone attempting to hurt them tone done March 7, Jews joyous

Commentary: Now policy has to be overcome. Nothing is impossible for God. Given Mordecai's new position not only can Jews fight for themselves, but other leaders join in.

Everyone wants to align with authority, and please Mordecai so naturally there will be those leaders who want to help.

It makes us speechless how God can turn our circumstances completely around . Notice we have our part to do. Thereafter everyone had a minimum to protect themselves.

C9 Vss 1-32. The Jews gathered together and attacked anyone attempting to attack them, nobles and governors helped the Jews, the Jews struck down their enemies on the day, the king reported to the queen the number of persons killed in Susa alone, Haman's 10 sons killed, Jews killed more than 75,000. Mordecai recorded these events, an annual festival celebrated, the celebration called Purim casting lots, letters of peace went out to all Jews

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Commentary: As we mentioned before it is a dangerous proposition to hurt God's people. Also, corrupt leaders affect their whole families.

C10

C10 Vss 1-3 the King orders a tribute to Mordecai, Mordecai in the Book of History of Media and Persia, Mordecai continued to speak up for the Jews

Commentary: Peter says humble yourself under the mighty hand of God and he will exalt you in due season ( ). There is no greater way than God's way.

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