

Born for THIS!

Part 7 Esther 8 Unforeseen Heights!

The King **ELEVATES** Esther and Mordecai vs. 1-2

- The Queen takes **OWNERSHIP** over Haman's estate
- Mordecai becomes the King and queen's **EXECUTIVE**

Esther **PROTECTS** her people vs. 3-8

- Esther's request to revoke the **FIRST** edict
- The King allows for a **SECOND** edict

Mordecai **COMPOSES** the second edict vs. 9-17

- The special date: 13th of **ADAR** compare to 3:13
- The Jews **REACT** to Mordecai's edict vs. 16-17
- Mordecai is nationally **RECOGNIZED** 10:2-3

What does this story teach us about God?

- He raises ordinary people to **UNFORESEEN** heights
- He loves to **EXALT** the humble 1 Peter 5:6-7
- I need to **POSITION** my life into a space usable by God

Prayer: *'Lord God, you worked out your plan through ordinary people like Esther and Mordecai. That gives me hope. I'm ready to follow you in whatever you have in mind for me. Amen.'*

Auburn Grace Community Church – June 13th, 2021

Life Group Discussion Questions – June 13, 2021

1 Peter 5:6-7 *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, so that He may exalt you at the proper time, having cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares about you.*

DISCOVER (read Esther 8)

1. What were the states of affairs for both Queen Esther and her cousin, Mordecai, as a result of the judgment and execution of Haman?
2. Re-read v. 3. Why did Esther have to plead with the king a second time?
3. Describe the predicament that King Ahasuerus found himself in (see vv. 3-8). How did he resolve it?

EXPLORE

1. What actions did Mordecai take and how did they affect not only the Jews but people of other nationalities? What take-aways can you glean from the results? How have you seen this in your life?
2. What does this story reveal about God's treatment of the righteous v. His treatment of the wicked? In what specific ways have you seen God work similarly?
3. Read Proverbs 21:1 and Ezra 6:22. Can you apply these truths to Esther 8? How are they similar? How are they different?

EXPERIENCE

1. What do you think of Mordecai's reward? Was it just and fair? Was King Ahasuerus trying to repay Mordecai and/or the Jews for the affront? Should we repay those to whom we do wrong? What about systemic injustices like slavery and racism?
2. While the king could not revoke his edict, he did allow Mordecai to write a new one. What do you think of the Jews' opportunity to kill and plunder those who would have attacked them? As Christians, how should we respond to those who would conspire evil against us?
3. Why is it good to rejoice when deliverance comes? In what areas in your own life has God delivered you? How did you feel? How have you rejoiced?
4. Read Isaiah 51:1-3. God counsels His people to look at His work in His people in days past. From His faithfulness in history, we can safely conclude that God delights in "bringing life to desolate places." How can we benefit through God's work in the lives of others, whose lives seemed so despairing?

PRAY/ACTION

Pray... Lord God, You worked out Your plan through ordinary people like Esther and Mordecai. That gives me hope. I'm ready to follow You in whatever You have in mind for me. Amen.

Action... How can you be more aware of those around you and see their needs more clearly this week? How might you meet their needs? How will your calendar be changed?