

Born for THIS!

Part 8 Esther 9
BATTLES and BARBEQUES!

Fathers, what enemies are you **DESTROYING**? vs. 1-17

- Master your **ENEMIES** before they master your **FAMILY** vs. 1
 - God can align **OUTSIDE** allies vs. 2-3
 - Follow God's 'Rules of **ENGAGEMENT**' vs. 4-17
 - ▶ Fight within God's **GUIDELINES**

'It's never right to do a wrong to do a right'

'If you cannot see how to do a right thing in the right way; then wait to do the right thing until the right way is revealed to do the right thing'

- ▶ Fight to win, but leave the **PLUNDER** vs. 10, 15, 16; 3:13

'It's all about God's glory and my family's protection, not my personal gain'

Fathers, what feasts are you **CELEBRATING**? vs. 18-32

- Recognizing God's **VICTORY** in your family
- Set a family **HOLIDAY**; a day of gladness and expressing **THANKFULNESS**
- Create your own family **PURIM** celebration

Prayer: *'Lord, help me to take initiative to battle for my family's protection. Help me to battle in a way that honors You. And when you give the victory help me to lead my family in a celebration, proclaiming Your goodness to us. I want to both battle and celebrate well. AMEN'*

Auburn Grace Community church – June 20th, 2021

Life Group Discussion Questions – June 20, 2021

Esther 9:22 "...because on those days the Jews rid themselves of their enemies, and it was a month which was turned for them from grief into joy, and from mourning into a holiday; that they were to make them days of feasting and rejoicing, and sending portions of food to one another, and gifts to the poor."

DISCOVER (read Esther 9)

1. Why do you think Esther asked King Ahasuerus for a second day to avenge the Jews' enemies? Was this necessary? What consequences might we see in generations to come as a result of more of that bloodshed?
2. What happened on the day the king's edict was to be carried-out?
3. What did Esther ask the king to do for her beyond the requests she had already made?

EXPLORE

1. Re-read Esther 8:17, 9:2-3. Where do you see a movement of God in these verses? Compare to Exodus 1:12 and Isaiah 28:5-6. What other term might you use to describe "the dread of the Jews"?
2. Re-read vv. 23-28. Why was it important for the Jews to remember God's deliverance through Esther for generations to come?

EXPERIENCE

1. Describe a time when God brought justice into your life or the life of your loved ones through ordinary people, places, and things.
2. Re-read Esther 9:1. Explain how the "tables had turned" for the Jews. Explain how the "tables have turned" through what Jesus has accomplished for you. (see Romans 6:23, 1 Corinthians 15:22 and 1 Peter 2:24)
3. The Jews did not commemorate the day of victory in battle. Instead, they celebrated the next day, a day of rest, with feasting and rejoicing. Do you have a similar day of observation, of rest and focus on the Lord? What important victories has God given to you that you might commemorate with "Sabbath rest" annually?
4. Parents, what happens when you allow an "enemy" to linger? What enemies must you now destroy? How will you do that?

PRAY/ACTION

Pray... Thank You, Father, that You have a perfect plan that cannot be thwarted. Thank You for creating us for a time such as this, to be part of that plan. Thank You that You always lead us in triumph in Christ, and through us reveal the fragrance of the knowledge of Him in every place. Thank You that we were born for this.

Action... Consider the three main characters: Ahasuerus, Mordecai and Esther. What one thing did each model for you to follow? How will the evidence of these convictions be known in your life?