

Esther 7

Esther 7.1-6

V 1 – The banquet begins.

V 2 – The king wanted to know what Esther wanted.

V 3-4 – **Message of Esther?** "My people" (!) have been sold for destruction

-Notice: she did not mention the "Jews" – brilliant on her part

-If just sold into slavery, that would not have been serious enough to disturb the king (what good psychology!)

V 5 – The king wanted to know who would want to destroy Esther's people

V 6 – Notice the increased courage of Esther

-Haman was terrified – **Why?** Because he could see that things were going very badly for him

Esther 7.7-10

V 7 – **Where have we seen the king's anger before?** *Esther 1* – with Vashti

V 7b – An understatement!

-The king must have broken into a rage

V 8 – **What was Haman doing stretched out on the couch before Esther?** Begging for his life

-Oh, how the tables had turned!

-**How did the king choose to interpret this?** An assault on his wife Esther

-Possibly this was just an excuse to do what he wanted to do anyway

-They put a hood over Haman's head – a sign of being arrested

V 9 – Harbonah – a really swell guy – **What did he tell the king?** About the gallows that Haman had built to hang the guy on who had saved the king's life

V 10 – **Result?** Haman was hanged on the gallows he built for Mordecai

-Some people have said that Esther should have shown mercy to Haman and spared his life

-But: **Could she have saved his life?** Probably not – the king was in a rage, and he might have turned on her also

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