

5-21-16

IF I PERISH I PERISH

ESTHER AN EXAMPLE OF A PERSON WILLING TO TAKE THE
RISK OF DYING TO SELF TO DO THE LORD'S WILL

IF I PERISH I PERISH

Esther 3:8 And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.

Esther 3:9 If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.

Esther 3:10 And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy.

Esther 3:11 And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

Esther 3:12 Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring.

Esther 3:13 And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

Esther 3:14 The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, that they should be ready against that day.

Esther 4:1 When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

Esther 4:4 So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told it her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received it not.

Esther 4:5 Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

Esther 4:6 So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which was before the king's gate.

Esther 4:7 And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.

Esther 4:8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.

Esther 4:9 And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

Esther 4:10 Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

Esther 4:11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

Esther 4:12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

Esther 4:13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

Esther 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther 4:15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

Esther 4:17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

**ARE WE WILLING TO TAKE A RISK
IN ORDER THAT WE DO GREAT THINGS FOR GOD
WILL WE SAY IF I PERISH I PERISH**

Last week we had a guest speaker.. and the week before that was mothers day and I preached a message from the book of Esther entitled.. FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS.. that evening Noah Quarishie came and spoke in our evening service.. but a sister message that I probably would have preached if I had spoken Sunday Evening, would have been taken from this statement that Esther made.. when she said..

Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

She said.. So will I go in unto the King which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish..

This is a powerful statement that Esther made.. she said.. IF I PERISH I PERISH..

There comes a time when each of us .. needs to step out in faith and obey the Lord.. and it may even require us to take some risks in the process..

The Law was that anyone that approached the King unannounced would be killed unless.. that King purposely held out his scepter..

Imagine your life hung in the balances based on the mood or whims of the king.. If he was having a bad day and you angered him ... It was not as if she could ask the king or even feel out the situation... he had not even talked to her in weeks!

Esther 4:11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

But when Mordecai said.. who knows but the Lord may have raised you up in the palace for this occasion for such a time as this..

Then Esther resolves to obey Mordecai and do the will of the Lord.. and makes this statement..
IF I PERISH I PERISH..

Years ago CLA put out a tract entitled Conviction Verses Preference.. I believe the booklet is out of print.. but you can still hear the sermon that David Gibbs preached on the subject..

David Gibbs is a Christian Attorney who shares in this sermon a testimony of an Amish man who in the state of Wisconsin refused to have his Children attend the public schools.. This man "Jonas Yoder" refused to send his kids to public school because he believed that biblically he was told he was responsible for their education.. He went to court and lost.. he appealed the case and lost.. then the case went to the supreme court and the court had to decide if this violated Mr. Yoder's religious rights.. and they sided with Mr. Yoder.. because they came up with this conclusion.. that he had a religious conviction.. and they came up with a differentiation between a religious conviction verses a religious preference. Mr. Yoder had demonstrated that he had a religious conviction and not just a preference!

To Quote David Gibbs of CLA:

Difference between a conviction and a preference, according to the U.S. Supreme Court. A preference is a very strong belief, held with great strength. You can give your entire life in a full-time way to the service of the preference, and can also give your entire material wealth in the name of the belief. You can also energetically proselytize others to your preference. You can also want to teach this belief to your children, and the Supreme court may still rule that it is a preference. A preference is a strong belief, but a belief that you will change under the right circumstances. Circumstances such as: 1) peer pressure; if your beliefs are such that other people stand with you before you will stand, your beliefs are preferences, not convictions, 2) family pressure, 3) lawsuits, 4) jail, 5) threat of death; would you die for your beliefs? A conviction is a belief that you will not change. Why? A man believes that his God requires it of him. Preferences aren't protected by the constitution. Convictions are. A conviction is not something that you discover, it is something that you purpose in your heart (cf. Daniel 1, 2-3). Convictions on the inside will always show up on the outside, in a person's lifestyle. To violate a conviction would be a sin.

Now I believe that Esther's statement.. IF I PERISH I PERISH.. embodies the spirit of a religious conviction.. In other words.. she was convicted that God wanted her to stand for her people.. not matter what suffering it may cause.. and if she perish doing so so be it.. SHE SAID IF I PERISH I PERISH..

I. NOTE HOW ESTHER CAME UP WITH THE CONVICTION TO OBEY Mordecai AND MAKE PETITION FOR GODS PEOPLE..

1. SHE HAD TO COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT SHE WAS IN THE PALACE WHERE GOD WANTED HER TO STAND IN THE GAP FOR HER PEOPLE!

Mordecai appealed to her to realize that she had been strategically placed in her position for God's purpose:

Esther 4:13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

Esther 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: ***and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?***

There are no accidents with God.. God has strategically placed you in where you are for his purposes....

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Ephesians 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

God is in total control.. and has placed us.. in his Kingdom for his purpose and his pleasure.. for His service..

God did not raise up Esther to be the queen just so she could enjoy the beauty of the palace. etc.

God does not put you where you are for your benefit either..

You need to trust Him and believe that you are what you are for his purpose..

THERE ARE NO ACCIDENTS WITH GOD....

Notice the Irony of wicked Haman casting lots.. thinking he was going to destroy God's people..

Esther 3:7 In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

While he was casting pur... dice.. he decided to destroy the Jews casting lot.. stones used to gamble or make decisions...

God knows all things.... God works out all things..

Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.

Application... you too are uniquely placed somewhere by God to do his will..
IT IS NOT BY CHANCE!

Don't ever forget it..

Imagine the audacity of men to think all of life is here by chance! What blasphemy to imagine that life is just here by chance.

I was talking to a man who was not a believer but actually believes in evolution which most of the scientific and medical community believes in.. The man's health is failing him and he is a auto mechanic. He had a conversation with his doctor.. said to his doctor,

"Doc now according to you men have evolved and we have been the same now for over 350,000 years. So you have had 350,000 years to study the way we are made and you still don't have the answers as to what makes us sick.. but now how is it that we as mechanics are held accountable to fix vehicles that are constantly changing from year to year and if a customer comes in and we tell them we don't know whats wrong with their vehicle they would be mad at us.. Yet when I go see you specialists I come to see you and get a bill for over \$100.00 and you have only seen me for 5 minutes.. In the hospital I have left here with owing over \$20,000 and you have no answers!

Now the real Irony is that we really believe that our bodies are a biological product of chance??? While we know no automobile could ever be produced by chance!

Imagine the insult this is to God!

So Haman was casting lots to determine, he thought, the fate of God's people!
So this is the philosophy - the religion of the world is a religion of chaos, and random chance..

But to God nothing is left to chance.. and he even knows where the lot will fall..

2. HOW DID GOD BRING ESTHER TO THIS PLACE OF CONVICTION TO RISK HER LIFE TO DO GOD'S WILL?

MORDECAI REMINDED ESTHER THAT IF SHE DID NOT TRUST GOD AND PETITION THE KING, GOD WOULD PUNISH HER BUT STILL FULFILL HIS PURPOSES WITHOUT HER

Esther 4:13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

Esther 4:14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Note: When God has called us to do something for Him and we fail to trust Him and do it.. we lose out on the blessings He wants to give us and He will accomplish His will some other way..

God doesn't need us but He does delight to use us..

The only way we can be used of God is by trusting Him and taking the risks involved in serving Him..

When I got saved I realized it was God who was calling me.. I could resist.. but how foolish it is to resist God.. My salvation... I realized it was God who was after me.. Esther had to realize that what Mordecai was saying was true..

Where God is working mark it down that Satan will be working also. Hamman is a type of Satan.. it seems he has the upper hand but God will ultimately win!

So Too .. when God called me I had those who resisted God's will and tried to thwart off God's working and call in my life..I had many enemies!

I had many of my colleagues who tried to fight against my decision to follow the Lord...

My own father threatened to burn my Bible..

If I had not trusted the Lord I believe I would have missed out on great blessings that I am experiencing these last days of my life. LIKE ESTHER I HAD TO SAY IF I PERISH I PERISH.. But instead of perishing to serve the Lord I have actually flourished.

So each of us need to come to a place of conviction in our lives to do the will of God that He has called us to do!

II. ESTHER HAD TO COME TO A POINT OF DECISION WHERE SHE WAS WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK TO OBEY GOD!

ESTHER HAD TO COME TO THE PLACE IN HER LIFE WHERE SHE WAS WILLING TO RISK PERISHING TO DO THE WILL OF GOD

If I Perish I Perish.. she said..

When God is going to use you to do great things there are always tough decision to be made...

Esther 4:15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,
Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if ***I perish, I perish.***

Notice she said If I perish I perish...

Matthew 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Matthew 16:25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

What a great statement..

If I Perish I Perish.. she was willing to take the risk of perishing.. to do the will of God..

Are you willing to do the same?

How many people have said if I tithe I will go under financially .. Maybe you should say "If I perish I perish.."

How many people fear to share their faith for fear of the rejection of men.. Maybe you should say.. IF I PERISH I PERISH.. "

When it comes to obedience to God in every area of life.. make it a conviction and not just a preference! Can you say with the resolve of Esther.. IF I PERISH DOING THE WILL OF GOD.. I PERISH!

Often God will take us to the place of testing where to obey God may bring us hurt and disaster.. can we say with Esther.. IF I PERISH I PERISH BUT STILL I WILL GO AHEAD AND DO THE WILL OF GOD

So Esther Goes into the King and obtains favor from him:

Esther 5:1 Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

Esther 5:2 And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

Then she invited Haman and the King.. to a banquet...

So they come to the Banquet and at the Banquet she invites them to another banquet the next day!

WHY DID SHE DELAY IN ASKING HIM TO HELP HER AND THE JEWS?

I BELIEVE BECAUSE SHE WAS MEEK AND ALSO WANTED MORE TIME TO PRAY BUT ALSO GOD PUT IT IN HER HEART TO DELAY BECAUSE GOD WAS GOING TO DO SOME SPECIAL THINGS FOR HER BRAVERY!

CONCLUSION FOR AM SERVICE

Esther said.. If I Perish I Perish .. she was willing to obey God and take the risks necessary to obey God.

We could think of many many of the great saints who in their own way said the same thing.. in their hearts..

We could think of Meshach, Shadrach, & Abed-nego..

We could think of Daniel in the lion's den..

We could think of Elijah challenging the 850 prophets of Baal

We could think of Gideon, tearing down the altar of Baal..

We could think of Jeremiah preaching to his people..

We could think of the courage of John the Baptist, Paul and a host of others..

THEY ALL SAID.. IF I PERISH DOING THE WILL OF GOD I PERISH!

Is your faith a conviction or is your faith a preference?

God may call upon each of us to stand for God.. will we stand?

Will we say as queen Esther said.. I will do the will of God and If I perish doing it .. I Perish!

EVENING MESSAGE IF I PERISH I PERISH

Esther 4:15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,
Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if ***I perish, I perish.***

So we see that Esther mustered up the spiritual courage to obey the will of God for her life .. So she did it in faith will to face the worse if the worse comes.

I remember in 1974 when I received Christ as my saviour.. I knew it would mean alienation from my friends and family .. I believed I might even suffer physical harm.. I have had people slap me in the face and yell at me.. and try to belittle me... I was prepared for the worst but to be honest with you the worst never happened.. In fact, some of my friends also got saved. God turned what I thought would be a difficult road and made it a blessing and rejoicing. I think the happiest time in my life were those first few months after I came to know the Lord.

Like Jim Elliot that great missionary said,..

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." -

What do you give up to do the will of God? Nothing. There is nothing you can hold on to in this world. It is all vanity and vexation of spirit anyway!

NOW AS WE GO BACK TO OUR STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ESTHER WE NEED TO ASK...

Why did Esther.. ask for another opportunity to tell the King.

Why did she delay?

It was all of the Lord.. it was all in God's timing.... I think it was so she could have more time to pray about it.... But in that time God sealed the people og God's deliverance.. he seals the destruction of Haman's plans..

Maybe it was that Esther knew that Haman was Ahasuerus's right hand man and she needed to be careful how she told the king about this matter... She needed to bathe her petition in prayer..

Notice she said:

Esther 4:15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,
Esther 4:16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if ***I perish, I perish.***

III. GOD WAS ALREADY WORKING OUT ANOTHER METHOD OF DELIVERANCE IF ESTHER DID NOT OBEY Mordecai, BUT NOW SHE BECAME PART OF THE SOLUTION!

And a partaker of the blessing... You rob yourself of a blessing by not trusting God and following the Lord by faith!

Notice: How it is when we trust the Lord and obey Him.. in time His will and the blessings of having done His will will come to light.

As we bathe our decisions in prayer God works out every detail...

Two applications to the next part of the story:
READ THE ACCOUNT

SHE OBTAINED FAVOUR OF THE KING... AS you know and as we read this morning...

That at the Banquet she requested the presence of Haman and the King the next day ...

1. That Night an amazing set of circumstances take place....

- A. On the way home Haman notices that Mordecai still refuses to bow and do him reverence..**
- B. He is elated that the queen invited him to the banquet... HE DEVISES A SCHEME TO GET RID OF Mordecai EARLIER**
- C. PRIDE COMES BEFORE A FALL!**

Esther 5:9 Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai.

Esther 5:10 Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife.

Esther 5:11 And Haman told them of the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king.

Esther 5:12 Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.

Esther 5:13 Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

Esther 5:14 Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

- C. That night the king could not sleep, and he asks that a record of the chronicles of the King be read to him..**

Late night kept reading to the early morning...

REASON... long boring history of the Chronicles always put him to sleep...
But this time it was different for hours they read.. and still no sleep..

Esther 6:2 And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.
Esther 6:3 And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

NOW I BELIEVE IT IS EARLY MORNING AND HAMAN SHOWED UP FOR WORK

Esther 6:4 And the king said, Who is in the court? Now Haman was come into the outward court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.

Esther 6:5 And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in.

Esther 6:6 So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?

Esther 6:7 And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

Esther 6:8 Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:

Esther 6:9 And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

Esther 6:10 Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

Esther 6:11 Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

TWO FOLD APPLICATION:

- 1. If Esther Had not trusted God, God would have used this for the deliverance of his people.. By trusting God by faith her great trial turned into victory and rejoicing!**

Sometimes the hardest decisions we have to make in life are opportunities for blessings if we will trust the Lord and say as Esther I will trust God and if I perish I perish.. So even though we really think God is going to allow us to perish when we trust him yet still He is in control...

I remember years ago when we seemed to be facing some insurmountable problems in our church. We were short on finances and we had some serious problems with our building. I called a men's meeting to show them all that needed to be done. It seemed beyond us.. I made a list of all that needed to be done and it seemed impossible.. Not only that but we had a mortgage.. we could not borrow any more money to get all the work done. We were just barely

paying our bills week to week. Honestly .. many pastors have resigned their churches for far less problems than what we faced in those days. I remember praying and saying to the Lord.. not in these words, but in the same spirit..

I RESOLVED IN MY HEART.. IF WE PERISH WE PERISH... That same winter we had the worse snow storm that we had ever had .. before or after.. Things were so bad.. I asked a neighbor if they could just take one pass through our parking lot so I could get some milk for the kids.. they refused... It really looked bad

Then that year... we had some roof damage and I asked a local contractor I had been witnessing to for years to come and give me an estimate in repairing the roof... He told me that we had to have all the roofs on the church replaced.. I thought he was nuts but in the process of getting the insurance claim he was able to do all the repairs on our building and above that... That year another church closed and gave us their assets, which helped us.. and then a widow lady passed away and donated her property to our church and we were able to pay off our mortgage. SO .. Sometimes in our darkest hour when we step out in faith and say like Esther of Old.. IF I PERISH DOING THE WILL OF GOD.. I WILL PERISH OBEYING GOD.. GOD TURNS THE TABLES.. AND TURNS THE GREATEST TRIALS OF YOUR LIFE INTO A BLESSING!

2. The second application is that when Esther trusted the Lord.. the Lord worked out the perfect timing for Haman's down fall and the deliverance of God's people:

ONLY GOD COULD WORK OUT THE TIMING AND DETAILS OF THESE BLESSINGS!

Esther 6:12 And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house mourning, and having his head covered.

Esther 6:13 And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.

Esther 6:14 And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Esther 7:1 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

Esther 7:2 And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

At the Banquet.. note what comes up as proof that Haman is wicked..

First it was the Mordecai who saved the Kings life was a Jew..

2ndly Esther's petitions for her people.. the queen herself was a Jew!

Esther 7:5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?

Esther 7:6 And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

Esther 7:7 And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

Esther 7:8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

Esther 7:9 And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

Esther 7:10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

Esther 8:1 On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

Esther 8:2 And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

Notice God's timing: God's timing is supernatural!

- A. It Just Happens that Esther delays telling the King about Haman's plot one day
- B. It Just Happens That In that day Haman builds a gallows to hang Mordecai.. planning to ask the king permission in the morning to hang Mordecai
- C. It just happens that the king can't sleep that night and instead of taking a sleeping pill asks for the boring record of the chronicles to be read to him.. which probably always put him to sleep!
- D. IT JUST HAPPENS THAT While the King was hearing the records read.. he finds that Mordecai had saved his life and was never rewarded for it..
- E. Just happens that Haman showed up early to seek the Kings permission to have Mordecai hanged .. and as it turns out.. The King commands Haman to parade Mordecai through the streets of the city to honor him.
- F. Haman no sooner gets home and messengers are sent to bring him into the king to banquet with queen Esther..
HAMAN IS HAVING A BAD DAY!!!
- G. At the Banquet Esther makes a petition for her life..

Note: It did not take much to convince Ahasuerus that Mordecai and the Jews were not his enemies.. since he finds that Mordecai saved his life.... and Esther herself is a Jew!

OUR GOD IS ABLE TO DELIVER

But again remember the brave words of Esther.. IF I Perish I Perish!

IV. If we will trust God with our very lives and beings, God can do great things for us to.. But when we say.. If I Perish I Perish .. we are saying I AM WILLING TO EVEN SUFFER TO DO THE WILL OF GOD!

To many people have never passed the test by saying I will trust God and if I perish I perish
Even if I suffer to do His will...

I will trust him to the end..

I will do his will no mater what...

I will serve the Lord no matter how hard it is...

V. GOD IS ABLE TO TURN THE TABLES AND IN THE END A FEAST WAS ORDAINED TO COMMEMORATE ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE FOR HIS PEOPLE

Esther 9:26 Wherefore they called these days Purim after the name of Pur. Therefore for all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and which had come unto them,

So it is good for to think and rehearse all the wonderful things God has done for us.

I still share my testimony of salvation and will till the day I die..

I love to tell the story of how God salvaged our church out of financial ruin in the 1990's

I remember a day when I said IF I PERISH I PERISH..

Have you ever trusted the Lord this way...

YOUNG PERSON.. MARRIAGE... SERVICE... OBEDIENCE TO GOD.. FRIENDS..
ADULTS JOB TRAINING CHILDREN... FINANCES....

God may bring you through a fiery trial to see if you will say as Esther did..

I WILL DO HIS WILL AND IF I PERISH DOING IT I PPERISH...

CONCLUSION:

WHAT GREAT WORDS... QUEEN ESTHER SAID.. I WILL DO THE WILL OF GOD AND
IF I PERISH I PERISH!!!

That is the essence of a person of conviction.. they will obey the will of God no matter what.
They will obey even if it means suffering for it! They will say in there heart I WILL FOLLOW
GOD AND IF I PERISH I PERISH

I will do what is right and
IF I PERISH I PERISH

I will do what the Lord called me to do and
IF I PERISH DOING IT I PERISH

No matter what the cost will you follow HIM!