

HIDDEN GOD

A SERIES IN ESTHER

SERMON-TEXT DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

TEXT || ESTHER 9:1-10:3

DAY 1

VICTORY FOR THE JEWS: The Overview: Read Esther 9:1-4

The infamous date has finally arrived: the 13th day of the twelfth month!

- What was SUPPOSED to happen on this date?
- What happened instead?
- Why could no one stand against them?
- Who helped the Jews? Why?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

DAY 2

VICTORY FOR THE JEWS: The Details: Read Esther 9:1-16

- Who did the Jews strike down? What descriptive words are used to describe them?
- How many were killed in the citadel of Susa?
 - What was the king's response to this news?
 - How did Queen Esther reply and what was the result?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

DAY 3

VICTORY FOR THE JEWS: An Important Detail: Read Esther 9:1-16

Three times the author tells us that, in the midst of battle, the Jews did NOT do something.

- What did they refrain from doing?
- Would it have been "legal" for them to do so? (see Esther 8:11)
- Why did they refrain?
- For a clue, read 1 Samuel 15:16-19 which describes why God was angry with King Saul (a Jew) for not dealing properly with his nations' enemies (the Amalekites, whose King, Agag, was from the same tribe as Haman). What had Saul done wrong?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

DAY 4

VICTORY FOR THE JEWS: Commemorated by a Feast: Read Esther 9:16-32

- How do the Jews initially celebrate their victory?
- What happens to make this celebration an annual event?
- What specifically are they celebrating as they institute this feast? (verse 22?)
- How are they to celebrate? What practices are they to observe?
- What is the significance of the Feast being named "Purim" according to this passage? Why is this name for the feast fitting in the book of Esther?
 - Read Proverbs 16:33. How does this reflection on the use of "lots" tie into the narrative of Esther?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

HIDDEN GOD

A SERIES IN ESTHER

SERMON-TEXT DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

TEXT || ESTHER 9:1-10:3

EPILOGUE: Read Esther 9: 29-10:3

- What do you notice about the second and final letter regarding the Purim festival?
 - Who wrote the second letter? (Is this fact significant?)
 - How was this decree officially recorded?
- Some people question the historicity of the story of Esther, and wonder whether these events actually happened.
 - Do you think the author is claiming that this was an actual historical event? Why or why not, based on these verses?
- What is the final word on Mordecai, and the final message of this book?
- Who do both Mordecai and Esther foreshadow? Who ultimately works for the highest good of his people, and fulfills all the promises made to Abraham, the very first Jew?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication



DAY 5