

Chapter Eleven

With This Ring

Esther 3:7-15

“And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence...he thought...to lay hands on Mordecai alone...” (Esther 3:5 and 6a)

“If this man dies”, Haman reasoned, “will anyone care? No one will even notice. For a crime like *this*...a crime against *me*...many more will pay...pay with their lives!” Demonically seething, he continued, “Hmmm...not only Mordecai’s family...his *race* will pay!...I’ll destroy them *all*! Ohhh *many*...yes...*many* will die. And when they do, I’ll find comfort...and pleasure...in *that*!”

“...Wherefore Haman sought to destroy *all the Jews* that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.” (Esther 3:6b)

“Bring me those that do divination!”

“Yes, my lord.”

(A few minutes later)

“Divine...divine for me. Cast Pur...cast in *the lot*!”

(Moments later)

“It is done, my lord. The gods have spoken.”

“Get on with it man...what is it!”

“*Thirteen*.... It is the thirteenth day, my lord.”

“*Of-of what?!?*!”

“The *last* month, my lord.”

“You mean I gotta #%*+@# wait till then?”

“*I’m afraid so, my lord.*”

“Get me the King. If I’m gonna do this thing, I’m gonna do ‘er up right! (Under his breath) He won’t get away with this! I’ll teach that *Jew* Mordecai a lesson he’ll *never* forget.”

“And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There’s 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. If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed:...” I got the day right here, ahem, I mean “...and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it to the king’s treasuries.” Esther 3:8-9

These two “drinkin’ buddies” (Esther 3:15b-Again, it *didn’t* say *what* they were drinking.) were at it again. This time though, *at Haman’s request*, business came *first*.

“When I arrived, I was surprised by all the paperwork that was waiting for me. It was all in order okay, but something about Haman seemed a bit out of order. That too, took me by surprise. I can’t remember another time when something upset him this much. Whatever it was, he was so distraught, I just went along with it!

After we had mailed out the proper forms; we both sat down to shoot the breeze. That’s how my good buddy landed this promotion to begin with. Haman and I are GOOD FRIENDS! ... We’ve been that way for years. Since he and I spend a lot of time together...when the job of Prime Minister became available, it was ‘a natch.’ I promptly filled it with my good friend, Haman. No one even challenged me on it! I guess they all knew, I’d be the one working with whoever got picked anyway, so what would be the point of protesting my choice.

Once I heard how much silver Haman had offered me in place of these troublesome people (or so he said. Why would Haman lie-especially since I advanced him to such a high seat in the kingdom?), I figured it was enough to make up for all the tax revenue I would lose. To be honest about it, this wasn't the first time I got rid of an enemy in my kingdom...or should I say enemies!-enemies, right under my nose-like Bigthan and Teresh. What would I lose; if I got rid of these people? Not much...I'm sure! It's not like I'm related to any of them....¹ At any rate, Haman swore to me-they're just a bunch of lawbreakers. Anyone who knows me, knows I won't suffer 'that kind,' or anyone like them, to live in MY kingdom! Anyway...to make a long story short...after he told me his plan, I offered him his money back. That's when I removed my signet, and reached for his hand..."

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

Evidently, immense loyalty existed between Ahasuerus and his newly appointed Prime Minister. Entrusting him with his signet (Daniel 6:17) only made it *public* knowledge.

With all the emphasis Haman's loyalty required extraneously, there was one thing this King didn't plan for intrinsically. "...*Iniquity...*"!!!! (Ezekiel 28:15) The very hour Ahasuerus set Haman "...*above* all the princes that were with him..." (Esther 3:1); the worst possible thing happened. The bond of loyalty he had so counted on, was broken, and of all things, on coronation day! Unbeknownst to the King, Haman had become a monster through PRIDE! *The words that changed his heart continue still to echo...*

¹ The Jews of the captivity had so *blended* into society, that even the King didn't know Esther was a Jewess. See, Esther 2:5-6, 10, 20; and especially 7:3-4.

“...Hereafter...*all* who see me will call me ‘...a God,...’ because ‘...I sit in the seat of God....’ When they see my ‘...wisdom and...understanding...’, and my ‘...riches, [Esther 5:11a] ...gold and silver...’, they will reverence, yea...they will worship!”

“As anyone can see, my ‘...covering...’ is made of ‘...every precious stone....’ My ‘...beauty...’ and ‘...brightness...’ has made me ‘...perfect in beauty....’ Let the kingdom confess, ‘*Haman is ‘...perfect in...’ his ‘...ways...’- exalted ‘...ABOVE all that is called God, or that is worshipped...’* [II Thessalonians 2:4] To blaze with the King! For I,...Haman the Agagite...will be worshipped...by ALL!” Ezekiel chapter 28

Although “...*the king...*” *HIMSELF* “...had so commanded...” (Esther 3:2b) his servants to reverence Haman, it was NEVER supposed to go *DIRECTLY* to him, but rather *through* him (back to the *King*² and office that had appointed him in the first place). That way, no one could mistake giving reverence to anyone but the King.

Do you realize “...the day...” God “...*created...*” Lucifer (Ezekiel 28:15), a TRUST was put in place, which said “All true worship *belongs to God, and to Him ALONE!*”³ Sometime *after* his promotion, *before*³ Adam shows up, this trust was broken. Shortly after Haman’s promotion, something *inside* him goes haywire. From inception, this royal member of the cabinet, now wearing (of all things) the King’s ring, breaks the very trust used by Ahasuerus to advance him. Exactly what enticed him to betray that trust? *An insatiable lust that coveted worship from a Jew named Mordecai!*

² Though nowhere in the Book of Esther does this King request reverence for *himself*; we are to assume he’s been receiving it all along.

³ If you haven’t already noticed, I’m what some might call “a *gapper*.” The Gap *Theory* (we say FACT!) says Lucifer fell sometime *after* Genesis 1:1 and *before* Genesis 1:2. Granted, “...sin entered into *the world...*” (Romans 5:12) *through* Adam, but it was *FIRST* “...*found IN...*” LUCIFER (Ezekiel 28:15), *IN* “...HEAVEN...” (Isaiah 12:14), long *BEFORE* Adam is created! *That was the day the lights went out!* (Genesis 1:2)-But don’t worry, they got turned on again by *The REgenerator!* (See, Genesis 1:3 to 5)

