

Chapter Twenty-two

The Postman Always Rings Twice¹

Esther 8:10b to 17

“...And sent letters by *POSTS* on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries....” Esther 8:10b

“Extra, extra, read all about it ‘...*The King Reverses Ruling: Thumbs Down to the Incumbent, Thumbs Up For Mordecai the Jew*’”

“Leme see one of them!!”

“Hey mister, that’ll be two bits...”

Pushing the paperboys face away with his hand, he says, “...*Get outa here-ya bother me!*”

Walking away with his head down, realizing who just pushed him, the paperboy says, “You wait till the Jews take over...you’ll get yours. Just wait,...you’ll get yours...*like Haman got HIS!*”

Not informed-even as much as this paperboy was-of the latest news in the kingdom, one of Haman’s main thugs and kingpins, Parshandatha-also the name of Haman’s first son (Esther 9:7), affectionately given the name *lefty* by Haman himself-not to confuse the two-was visibly shaken at the latest headlines. Nervously looking at the paper-all the while, trying to hide the byline from onlookers-he mumbles to himself, “Haman said, ‘*it was in the bag...nothing can go wrong...we’ll wipe out those Jews-the scum of the earth-if*

¹ *The Postman Always Rings Twice*. A 1934 novel by James M. Cain

it's the last thing we do'!" As he looks further in the paper, he continues, "Wait, what's this? 'Haman... *dead... grieving* wife... family soon to face *trial*' What's going on here?" Flustered, he flip-flops back and forth between courage and cowardice. "I better start packin'-everyone knows who *I* am, everybody *knows* me...*everybodys scareda lefty*...." The last time anyone has seen or heard from him since, was *in disguise*, at the ticket counter, at the station, saying, "*Step on it!*,...gimme a ticket for the first camel outa' town!...*Hurry!!!*"

The Letter

"Star, vat was tat?...Vas it the paperboy?"

"No Papa, it's too early...he comes later, remember? It sounded like the door bell."

"Vell then...ask at the door who it is."

"Okay, Papa." Now at the door, "Who is it? Who's there?" With no answer, she yells back to her father, "Papa no ones answering-what should I do now?"

Jahleel answers, "Open de door, and look anyway. But don't go too far."

Slowly and suspiciously, Star opens the door, only to figure out by the mail that fell in at her feet, that the new postman came earlier than she was accustomed. She determined that he must have rung the bell, when she wasn't anticipating it to ring. "Papa, it's only the mail man."

"Is he *still* there?"

"Just the mail Papa, just the mail!"

"Oy, just what I need,...*more* bills!"

Yelling and apologizing at the same time, "Papa, you ain't gonna believe this-this here letter fell from the bunch...*HONEST!*-it's addressed to you Papa..."

Jahleel interrupts, "...So vat,...*ALL* my letters are addressed to me."

"This is different Papa..."

"Vhat's so different..."

“It’s not who it’s *to*, Papa,...IT’S WHO IT’S *FROM*!!!”

Thinking she’s being silly, he says, “Who’s it from-the *King* or something?...”

“Papa, that’s *EXACTLY* who it’s from!”

Still not sure, he tells her, “Let *me* see it!”

“The King,...writing to me? What does a *Gentile* King have to say to an ol’ *Jew* like me?”

After he sits down to read the letter that was personally addressed to him, he reaches out his arms toward Star, and begins to cry like a baby.

Trying to console him, “What is it Papa, why are you crying-is it *bad* news or sumptin’?”

Wiping his face from his tears, and pulling his robe closer at the same time he was trying to stuff his talis² underneath it all, he grabbed Star even closer-gently placing her ear right up to his mouth-to answer, “Ver saved. Star...ver saved. Do you remember the Rebbi’s song, ‘yit is better to trust the Lord’ ...?” Star looks into his eyes, as he continued, “Star honey,...*our prayers are answered*. The Lord *HAS* heard our prayers Star. Ver *SAVED!*”

Do you remember Esther 3:13? The last time the front door bell rang, it was *bad* news. This time, a *different* Postman delivered *different* news. Surely, this was *better* news than the first time, and *GREAT NEWS* for *every Jew* in the kingdom!!!

“Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and woman, and to take the spoil of them for a prey, Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.” Esther 8:11 and 12

The Gospel of the Kingdom

“So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king’s commandment.” Esther 8:14

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

If not the same; don’t these two verses *sound* at least similar to each other? We (Christians) can agree with *that*, can’t we? Being pressed by the King’s commandment; aren’t we to go out in a hurry to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom to every creature? Aren’t there horrible consequences; if we don’t? Here’s my answer. “Well, yes we should go out in a hurry to preach and deliver the Gospel to as many people as we can, BUT first, the question comes in, *WHAT GOSPEL ARE WE TO DELIVER?* There are *different ones*, you know.” And here, we have landed back again onto the subject of the Kingdoms.

To be sure, this “...good...” news, brought “...light and gladness...joy, and honour...” to many in the kingdom. (Esther 8:16 and 17) But was this Gospel, *THE* Gospel that we’re

² Prayer shawl, Deuteronomy 22:12, Numbers 15:37 to 40.

familiar with in the Church, or was it another? (Galatians 1:6 to 9) To say nothing about the *date and time* of His crucifixion; our Gospel came *later*. To be exact; *five centuries* later.

Although we can spiritualize the Book of Esther to include truths that are near and dear to *our* heart, the truth is, the “Good News” presented here, mirrors the Kingdom of *Heaven*, much closer than it does the Kingdom of *God*. The Kingdom of *God*-which is The Gospel of the Grace of God, preached by Paul the Apostle (1 Corinthians 15:1 to 8)-is NOT The Gospel of the Kingdom of *Heaven*. Confusing the two, at best, is *Satanic*, because it confuses the message. *WORSE* than confusing these Kingdoms, is switching the emphasis from off of one, (and) onto the other. By switching the *emphasis* from off of the Kingdom God, and onto a LITERAL visible Kingdom that will come here *AFTER*, the *SPIRITUAL message AND mission* of SAVING men’s *SOULS* is replaced by a SOCIAL GOSPEL that *attempts* to bring in a better world, by feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, and housing the homeless, instead. The New Birth (John 3:3 and 5) is the King’s message *today*, and a perfect Kingdom-unencumbered with sin, sickness, and sorrow-is His message *TOMORROW!*

If you look closely at the text, the prime minister of the kingdom, Mordecai the *Jew*, is wearing [“*blue* and white” (Esther 8:15); like the colors of Israel’s national *FLAG*, symbolizing their connection to Jehovah-Numbers 15:38 and 39] the colors of the *JEWISH* Kingdom (Esther 10:3), whose momentum is getting stronger, as the Good News of this NEW Kingdom is being spread. Just like the last verse of Zechariah chapter eight teaches, “...ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the [GENTILE] nations, even take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you...” (Zechariah 8:23), so to, the last verse of Esther chapter eight says, “...many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them....” (Esther 8:17) This all reminds me of exactly how it will be in the Millennium: A *sinless* Jew, ruling the nations with “...*a rod of iron*...” (Revelation 19:15; Esther 9:3b!!!), will necessitate (require) the Saved Gentile Nations of the earth to convert to Judaism.

“And...Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse [Matthew 1:5 to 17!!!], and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.” Romans 15:12, Isaiah 11:1 and 10.