



The Control & Provision Of God Esther 9:1-32

Esther 9:1-2a The king's command and law went into effect on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month Adar. On the day when the Jews' enemies had hoped to overpower them, just the opposite happened. The Jews overpowered those who hated them. 2 In each of King Ahasuerus's provinces the Jews assembled in their cities to attack those who intended to harm them.

- What Haman meant for evil, God has turned into a purging of the Jews' enemies.
- Does God get revenge? 100% of the time. It is His alone

Esther 9:2b-4 Not a single person could withstand them; terror of them fell on every nationality. 3 All the officials of the provinces, the satraps, the governors, and the royal civil administrators aided the Jews because they were afraid of Mordecai. 4 For Mordecai exercised great power in the palace, and his fame spread throughout the provinces as he became more and more powerful.

- This is foreshadowing of life as a Jew in the future tense under Mordecai's God given power in the kingdom.
- Does God care for His people and provide? Always.

Esther 9:5-10 The Jews put all their enemies to the sword, killing and destroying them. They did what they pleased to those who hated them. 6 In the fortress of Susa the Jews killed and destroyed 500 men, 7 including Parshandatha, Dalphon, Aspatha, 8 Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha, 9 Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai, and Vaizatha. 10 They killed these 10 sons of Haman son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews. However, they did not seize any plunder.

- In the fortress, where King Xerxes, Esther, and Mordecai lived, 500 men were put to death.
- Literally, anarchy, and open street fighting to kill was legal.
- All ten sons of Haman, who were ready to get their own revenge because of their Father's demise, were put to death.

Esther 9:11-13 On that day the number of people killed in the fortress of Susa was reported to the king. 12 The king said to Queen Esther, "In the fortress of Susa the Jews have killed and destroyed 500 men, including Haman's 10 sons. What have they done in the rest of the royal provinces? Whatever you ask will be given to you. Whatever you

seek will also be done.” 13 Esther answered, “If it pleases the king, may the Jews who are in Susa also have tomorrow to carry out today’s law, and may the bodies of Haman’s 10 sons be hung on the gallows.”

- Esther has gone from a passive sweetheart of a woman to passionate defender of God’s people, now ready to move forward in the continued annihilation of their enemies.

Esther 9:14-17 The king gave the orders for this to be done, so a law was announced in Susa, and they hung the bodies of Haman’s 10 sons. 15 The Jews in Susa assembled again on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar and killed 300 men in Susa, but they did not seize any plunder. 16 The rest of the Jews in the royal provinces assembled, defended themselves, and got rid of their enemies. They killed 75,000 of those who hated them, but they did not seize any plunder. 17 They fought on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar and rested on the fourteenth, and it became a day of feasting and rejoicing.

- 75,000 killed nationally.
- Yet none plundered, though it was under the edict, or law, to do so.
- Does God get His revenge? Always.

Esther 9:18-22 But the Jews in Susa had assembled on the thirteenth and the fourteenth days of the month. They rested on the fifteenth day of the month, and it became a day of feasting and rejoicing. 19 This explains why the rural Jews who live in villages observe the fourteenth day of the month of Adar as a time of rejoicing and feasting. It is a holiday when they send gifts to one another. 20 Mordecai recorded these events and sent letters to all the Jews in all of King Ahasuerus’s provinces, both near and far. 21 He ordered them to celebrate the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month Adar every year 22 because during those days the Jews got rid of their enemies. That was the month when their sorrow was turned into rejoicing and their mourning into a holiday. They were to be days of feasting, rejoicing, and of sending gifts to one another and the poor.

- The Feast of Purim is now celebrated two days every year in March.
- The 13th was the day Haman had cast lots and came up with the date a year later. Here is what scripture says about chance and luck.

Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap, but it’s every decision is from the Lord.

Proverbs 19:21 Many plans are in a man’s heart, but the Lord’s decree will prevail.

Esther 9:23-28 So the Jews agreed to continue the practice they had begun, as Mordecai had written them to do. 24 For Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them. He cast the Pur (that is, the lot) to crush and destroy them. 25 But when the matter was brought before the king, he commanded by letter that the evil plan Haman had devised against the Jews return on his own head and that he should be hanged with his sons on the gallows. 26 For this reason these days are called Purim, from the word Pur. Because of all the

instructions in this letter as well as what they had witnessed and what had happened to them, 27 the Jews bound themselves, their descendants, and all who joined with them to a commitment that they would not fail to celebrate these two days each and every year according to the written instructions and according to the time appointed. 28 These days are remembered and celebrated by every generation, family, province, and city, so that these days of Purim will not lose their significance in Jewish life and their memory will not fade from their descendants.

- History is important. It shows the goodness of God and His sovereign will.

Esther 9:29-32 Queen Esther daughter of Abihail, along with Mordecai the Jew, wrote this second letter with full authority to confirm the letter about Purim. 30 He sent letters with messages of peace and faithfulness to all the Jews who were in the 127 provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, 31 in order to confirm these days of Purim at their proper time just as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther had established them and just as they had committed themselves and their descendants to the practices of fasting and lamentation. 32 So Esther's command confirmed these customs of Purim, which were then written into the record.

- This became law: To remember the Lord and His provision.

What do we see from this extreme process?

Our God is a God who brings victory to the oppressed.

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim freedom to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

1 Corinthians 15:57 ... thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our God is a God who brings assurance to those who are afraid.

Matthew 10:28 Don't fear those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul; rather, fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Psalm 56:3-4 When I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Our God is a God who brings praise to our circumstances.

Esther 9:28 These days are remembered and celebrated by every generation, family, province, and city, so that these days of Purim will not lose their significance in Jewish life and their memory will not fade from their descendants.