

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

ESTHER 5

Esther 5

Esther five reveals Esther's daring plan to reverse the decree of the King and to expose wicked Haman. God is working. God will have the last say, not the "gods" gathering together at the first of Nissan to determine the destinies of those living on earth. **God rules and overrules.** Esther ask her uncle Mordecai to fast, which is the short version of "fast and pray" this is intentional and intensive language. An entire people group on earth was at stake. God must intervene or all is lost. **"Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, 'Go, assemble all the Jews who are found in Susa, and fast for me; do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maidens also will fast in the same way. And thus, I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.'" So, Mordecai went away and did just as Esther had commanded him"** (Esther 4:15-17).

Chapter five opens with Esther putting on her royal robes, how beautiful she must have been. She struck the pose in the best light and "she found favor" and the King invited her to come to him. The King was so impressed, he told her that she could ask anything up to half of his

kingdom and he would do it. This was her chance. She had a plan. Call a feast and invite Haman and others associated with him to the banquet and she would make a request. Haman thought he had arrived in Paradise only to find out, the banquet would be his last meal and gateway to hell. After bragging to his friends of his great riches and promotions given by the king; he now spoke of how much Queen Esther was taken away with him. What a fool! On his way into the palace, he passed Mordecai and was enraged again. His wife and friends said, "Hang him on gallows 75 feet high. Go ahead and have it built before the great meeting with the King and Queen." Chapter five ends with the statement, **"And the thing pleased Haman; so, he had the gallows made"** (Esther 5:14b).

Prayer and Action Steps

This story is the epitome of Proverbs 26:27, "Whoever digs a pit will fall into it..." Esther sought a plan from God; God gave it! Lord, thank you for giving wisdom to your children who ask for it!

Date _____ Scripture _____

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____

