



Title | Meaning in the Madness
Series | IN SPITE OF MYSELF
Text | Esther 2:19-3:15
By | Bob Kerrey
Date | May 7, 2017

Sermon Notes

Esther 3:1 After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, and advanced him and set his throne above all the officials who were with him. **2** And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate bowed down and paid homage to Haman, for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage. **3** Then the king's servants who were at the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do you transgress the king's command?" **4** And when they spoke to him day after day and he would not listen to them, they told Haman, in order to see whether Mordecai's words would stand, for he had told them that he was a Jew. **5** And when Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage to him, Haman was filled with fury. **6** But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone. So, as they had made known to him the people of Mordecai, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus. **7** In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur (that is, they cast lots) before Haman day after day; and they cast it month after month till the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. **8** Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom. Their laws are different from those of every other people, and they do not keep the king's laws, so that it is not to the king's profit to tolerate them. **9** If it please the king, let it be decreed that they be destroyed . . . *ESV*

Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

Esther 3:9

If it please the king, let it be decreed that they be destroyed . . .

ESV

For Reflection & Application:

Monday:

- Read Esther 2:21-23. Mordecai saves the King's life but receives no thanks or reward. Think of a time when you deserved some recognition but received none. How did it make you feel? Why isn't life fair?

Tuesday:

- Read Esther 3:1. Haman is a racist, yet advances to a position of great power and privilege. Think of a person you know who seems to be a bad person, yet prospers. How does it make you feel? Why would God allow this?

Wednesday:

- Read Esther 3:2. Mordecai refuses to pay respects to Haman, a hateful racist. Was that a good thing? Why or why not?

Thursday:

- Read Esther 3:6. Haman is an ancient Hitler; he wants to exterminate all Jews. How can God be trusted if he allows such evil?

Friday:

- Eventually, the Jews are saved, and Haman is the one who is executed. What is the lesson in all this?

Esther 3:9

If it please the king, let it be decreed
that they be destroyed . . .

ESV