

April 19, 2020

BIBLE LESSON
8



KEY VERSE: King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, “Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?” (Esther 7:5)

Punished for Doing Wrong

Lesson Scripture: [Esther 7:1-10](#)

God’s Word

1 So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther’s banquet, **2** and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, “Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted.” **3** Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. **4** For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king.” **5** King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, “Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?” **6** Esther said, “An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen. **7** The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden. But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life. **8** Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was reclining. The king exclaimed, “Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?” As soon as the word left the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face. **9** Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, “A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman’s house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king.” The king said, “Impale him on it!” **10** So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king’s fury subsided.

Bible Story

Punished for Doing Wrong

Esther 7:1-10

In today's Scripture text, the banquet was ready and the guests of honor, Haman and King Xerxes [ZERK-sees], were in attendance. Once again, King Xerxes asked Queen Esther for her request. He told her that he would give her what she wanted up to half of the kingdom. Esther asked the king to spare her life and the lives of her people. She told him that she and her people were going to be destroyed. King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "What man would do such a thing?" Esther then pointed at Haman and said, "The adversary and enemy!" The king became so angry that he went out into his palace garden.

Haman realized that the king had then decided that Haman's life would end. While Esther was lying down on her couch, Haman fell on the couch beside her and pleaded for his life. Just as Haman did this and cried for his life, the king walked in and saw Haman on Esther's couch. "Will Haman try to harm the queen while she is with me?" Xerxes said. Then he commanded that Haman's face be covered so he could be taken to the gallows. Then Harbona, one of the king's servants, said, "Haman had a gallows seventy-five-feet tall built in his yard to kill Mordecai, the man who helped you." King Xerxes demanded, "Hang him on it!" Haman was hanged on his own gallows. After that, the king was no longer angry.

A Bad Decision (Part 1)

As Darian slowly walked toward the principal's office, he wondered what his parents would say when he got home.

"Darian, do you know why I've called you to my office?" Mr. Toms asked.

"Yes, sir. I had a fight with E. J. during P.E.—but it wasn't my fault! He was talking about my mother," Darian explained.

"Well, I'm pretty sure that whatever he said wasn't true," Mr. Toms replied.

"It wasn't, but I couldn't let him get away with it. The other boys said we should fight," Darian commented.

Mr. Toms shook his head and said, "You know the school rules. You made your decision, now I must make mine."

Darian waited for him to continue.

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

Hi, there! Nicholas and Cornelius here. Did you know that there is only one book in the Bible that never mentions God by name? Not one time in the entire book of Esther is God mentioned. However, if you read Esther's story carefully, you see God everywhere. God was with Esther when her parents died, and her cousin Mordecai raised her. Can you find other examples of God in Esther's story?



A Bad Decision (Part 2)

"Newton's third law can be applied to a lot of different things in life. Do you know what it says?" Mr. Toms asked.

"Is that the one that says, 'every action causes a reaction'?" Darian inquired.

"That's the one! Your decision (action) to fight has caused you two days of In-school Learning," Mr. Toms explained. "I also want you to remember something: the people we choose to call our friends and with whom we spend our time will affect our decisions and ultimately how we will be rewarded or punished. Those boys who told you to fight were not your friends. Next time, I hope you will make better decisions."

"Don't worry, I will," Darian responded.

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

Even though He was not mentioned, God was with Esther when the king chose her to be his queen. God gave Esther strength to stand before the king—and because of her courage, God could use her to save the Jews. Just like we see God at work in Esther's life, He is also at work in our lives. Remember that when people try to do bad things, good triumphs over evil.



True or False?

Read each of the sentences below that are related to today's lesson; then circle T if the statement is true, or F if the statement is false.

- T or F** 1. Xerxes punished Haman by throwing him into a fiery furnace.
- T or F** 2. Esther invited King Xerxes and Haman to a banquet she prepared.
- T or F** 3. The king was upset when he found out that Esther was a Jew and Haman planned on killing her people.
- T or F** 4. Haman had a gallows that was ninety-feet tall.
- T or F** 5. Haman was an enemy of the Jews.