

"Part of a Larger Story"

Esther 3:1-15

April 23, 2023

I. Haman's Plot

- A. Haman was exalted, while Mordecai's heroic deeds seem forgotten.
- B. Having been slighted by Mordecai, Haman plotted to kill him *and* all other Jews throughout the Persian Empire.
- C. The King foolishly authorized Haman's plan while not knowing who the specific targets were.

II. Haman's Hatred

- A. Mordecai's offense seems to be just the excuse Haman was looking for to lash out against the Jews.
- B. Haman meticulously planned the Jews' demise and even offered to fund the whole thing himself.
- C. Haman made sure the Jews heard the news of their coming extermination on the eve before Passover!

III. Haman's Origins

- A. Haman was a descendant of Agag (1 Sam. 15); Agag was king of the Amalekites.
- B. The Amalekites had previously tried to destroy Israel (Exodus 17).
- C. Israel had attempted to wipe out the Amalekites, fulfilling God's promise; but due to King Saul's disobedience, some had survived.
- D. Haman, likely heading the last family of Amalekites, was still nursing the 1000-year enmity that existed between these people groups.

IV. God's Larger Story

- A. Haman was being exalted so that he might be taken down, ending Israel's conflict with the Amalekites once and for all.
- B. Haman's plot was allowed to go forward so that God could gloriously deliver His people once again.
- C. Our individual stories today are still part of God's larger story of redemption.