

## HADASSAH

#7, just hanging around! – Esther 7:1-10

Of late, things hadn't gone to well for Haman! That surprise reversal on the Mordecai thing was a real set back. Then, his wife and friends gave him some pretty bleak predictions. However the extermination project was still on and here he was, going to another banquet with none other than the king and queen. Here was some needed breathing space because after all, what could possibly go wrong at a banquet?

1 Now the king and Haman came to drink wine with Esther the queen. 2 And the king said to Esther on the second day also as they drank their wine at the banquet, " What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of the kingdom it shall be done. "

3 Then Queen Esther replied, " If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me as my petition, and my people as my request;

4a for we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed and to be annihilated.

[1.] v:1-2, How many times does this make that the king asked this question?

[2.] v:1-2 again, If you were Haman, the level of your interest in the queen's answer would be ...?

a) couldn't care less.

b) mildly interested.

c) dying to know.

[3.] v:3, Hadassah asked for two things. What were they?

[4.] v:4, What reasons did Hadassah give for making her request?

[5.] v:4 again, I and my people, Whom did Hadassah reveal as "her" people?

[6.] When Ahasuerus ordered those girls paraded before him (chap 2), why or why don't you think he cared what nation they were from?

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4b Now if we had only been sold as slaves, men and women, I would have remained silent, for the trouble would not be commensurate with the annoyance to the king.”

5 Then King Ahasuerus asked Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who would presume to do thus?”

6 Esther said, “ A foe and an enemy is this wicked Haman!” Then Haman became terrified before the king and queen.

[7.] We previously entertained the thought that by Est. chap 3, Hadassah could have given birth to the king’s child. If this were indeed true, why or why wouldn’t this register in the king’s mind?

[8.] As Christians, why might we have a problem admitting to the world that we are of the family of God?

[9.] v:4b, if we had only been sold as slaves, I suspect this point was lost on the king but, why was it true that Hadassah as well as young children and the eunuchs had already been sold, as slaves to the king?

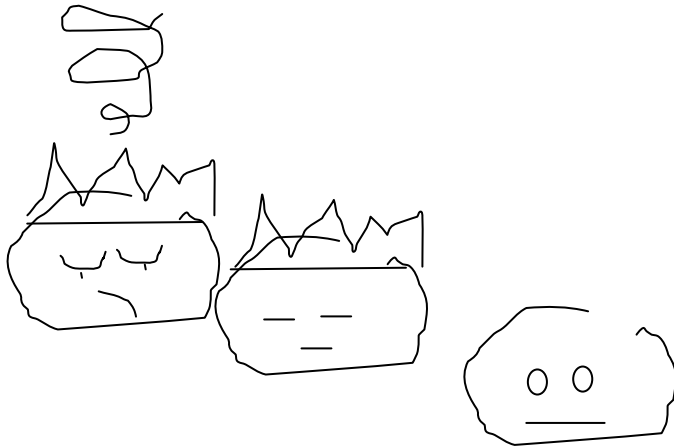
[10.] v:4b again, commensurate with the annoyance to the king, Be honest now, was Hadassah sincere in the statement or was she just pulling the king’s chain?

[11.] v:5, What things did the king ask?

[12.] v:6, Go ahead and answer the question from the heading which was, “what could possibly go wrong at a banquet?”

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scene #1  
the banquet of wine

7 The king arose in his anger from drinking wine and went into the palace garden; but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm had been determined against him by the king.



scene #2  
the palace garden

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8 Now when the king returned from the palace garden into the place where they were drinking wine, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. Then the king said, "Will he even assault the queen with me in the house?" As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

[13.] v:7, arose in his anger ... and went into the palace garden, **Can you select some reasons as to why the king wanted to be alone?**

a) didn't want to throw a tantrum in front of friends.

b) realized he had been taken for a ride.

c) needed to process this latest information.

d) wanted to find out who was really guilty.

[14.] If, as Christians, we should ever get angry, what should we do?

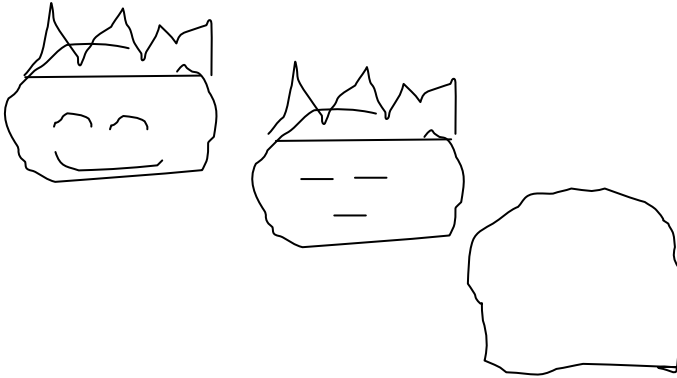
[15.] v:7 again, to beg for his life from Queen Esther, **Why did Haman turn to Hadassah for mercy?**

[16.] v:8, Will he even assault the queen, **OK this is really not good but let's try to work with it! Give some reasons as to why the king didn't properly interpret this scene??**

[17.] v:8 again, they covered Haman's face, **Why, do you think a covering is put over a person just prior to their execution?**

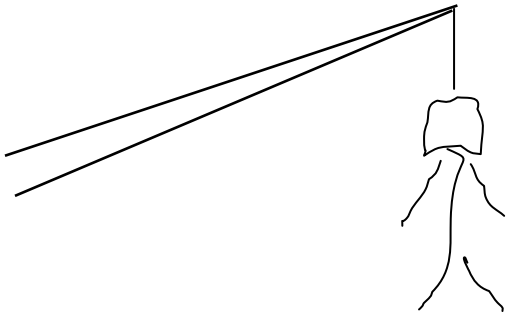
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scene #3  
the banquet of wine

9 Then Harbonah, one of the eunuchs who were before the king said, "Behold indeed, the gallows standing at Haman's house fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai who spoke good on behalf of the king!" And the king said, "Hang him on it."  
10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai, and the king's anger subsided.



[18.] v:9, Mordecai who spoke good on behalf of the king! **Why or why wouldn't this statement just put fuel on the fire?**

[19.] v:9 again, fifty cubits high, **Was Harbonah just casually pointing out a structure or did he have another reason?**

[20.] Num 32:23b, "and be sure your sin will find you out." **How could we apply this verse to our lesson?**