

Courage is Choosing Faith Over Fear



MEMORY VERSE: What shall we say about such wonderful things as these?
If God is for us, who can ever be against us?" Romans 8:31

DAY 1 ESTHER 9:1-13 — The Victory of the Jews

1. What happened on the day the decrees were put into effect? vv. 1-2
2. What did the officials do? What happened to Mordecai? vv. 3-4
3. What did the Jews do? What did the Jews not do? vv. 5-10
4. What did Xerxes offer to Esther after he told her what had happened? How did Esther respond?
vv. 11-13

DAY 2 ESTHER 9:14-16 — The Jews Did Not Take Any Plunder

5. What happened in Susa and in the other provinces? vv. 14-17

6. By not taking plunder the Jews corrected a mistake made many generations before when they disobeyed God and kept some plunder after defeating Haman's ancestors (Deut. 25:17-19; 1 Samuel 15:13-23). What does this tell you about God and the Jewish nation?

DAY 3 ESTHER 9:17-32 — The Festival of Purim

7. What did Mordecai do? Why? vv. 20-22

8. Why is the celebration called Purim? vv. 23-26

9. Jews still celebrate this day (Purim). What days do Christians still celebrate to remember God and His great works?

10. What additional days could you celebrate to remember God and His great works in your life?

DAY 4 ESTHER 10:1-3 — Epilogue

11. What authority did Mordecai gain and how did he use it? v. 3

12. The Book of Esther shows God is in control, working for good even when evil people have power in the world. What do the following Scriptures say about this?

Ephesians 1:11

Philippians 2:13

Romans 8:28

DAY 5 ESTHER 9-10 — Wrap Up

14. What are two important insights you've gained from the study of Esther? With these in mind, how would you like to ask God to change your life?

15. Esther and Mordecai give us dramatic examples of God working through believers. Your gifts, circumstances, lessons learned, lives touched, choices made –they all shape your destiny. Can you see how God is shaping your destiny? Explain.

TAKE AWAY

When God seems absent in your life, keep trusting Him to do what He has promised. If you remain humble and dependent upon Him, He will raise you up and bring honor to you as only He can.

BLESSING

Courage is not a feeling. Courage is a choice. "So be strong and take courage, all you who put your hope in the Lord!" Psalm 31:24

