The book of Esther

Chapter 1 – Two Great Banquets – Two Gospel dispensations

Vashti a type of the church of the dark ages - Moving through time and dispensations − 3 ½ years

Chapter 2 – The king searches for his bride – $3\frac{1}{2}$ years

Esther a type of the church and of the cleansing of the sanctuary

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Chapter 3

Third commandment rejected – Judgment – Third message rejected

The form of sorcery or divination - Biding their time for an opportune moment to strike

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The decree shall come as an overwhelming surprise

Chapter 4 – The arrival of the loud cry

Chapter 5 – Esther puts on her royal apparel – The righteousness of Christ – The third day Esther rises up to the beginning of the battle

Chapter 6 – Mordecai (Meek) receives exaltation through God manifesting his providence using simple means.

Chapter 7 – He shall come to his end with none to help him (Daniel 11:45)

Chapter 8 – The sealing

The worldwide ensign is displayed – Nations come in

Chapter 9 – The tenfold kingdom comes to an end – The stone hits the image feet

Chapter 10 – Mourning is turned to Joy

A story of obedience and disobedience to the King

The king looses his first bride during the first 3 ½ years of his reign.

³ In the **third year** of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

⁴ When he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an **hundred and fourscore days**.

At the end of the 3 1/2 years Queen Vashti is deposed

Esther was takin into the king after the second 3 ½ years

¹⁶ So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the **seventh year of his reign**.

There are more numbers in the book of Esther that point us to Daniel and Revelation than any other book in the Bible. You see $3 \frac{1}{2}$ years, seven several times and ten.

Esther is part of a sequence that can be found that illustrates the everlasting gospel and the time of the end sequence

John 16:8

And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Hosea 6:2

² After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

The foundation of the 3 Angels messages is the threefold work of the Holy Spirit

John 16:8-11⁸ And when he is come, he will reprove the world of <u>sin</u>, and of <u>righteousness</u>, and of <u>judgment</u>:

- ⁹Of sin, because they believe not on me;
- ¹⁰ Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;
- ¹¹Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

Revelation 14:6-12

⁶ And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the <u>everlasting gospel</u> to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, A compact of the everlasting gospel – 1st Angels Message – The number four illustrated – The number four applies worldwide – The 1st four commandments

The image of jealousy, Church and State combined – The Image of the beast – Idol Sabbath (Sunday) worship -2^{nd} & 4^{th} commandment rejected -2^{nd} Angels Message – Babylon rejects Gods end time message and exalts Sunday worship

⁸ And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made *all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication*.

Worship of man (beast) rejection of the 3^{rd} commandment (judgment). Taking the Lords name in vain the Lord will not hold him <u>guiltless</u>. -3^{rd} Angels Message

⁷ Saying with a loud voice, ^{1st Commandment} <u>Fear God</u>, and ^{2nd Commandment} <u>give glory to him</u>; for the hour of his ^{3rd Commandment} <u>judgment</u> is come: and ^{4th Commandment} <u>worship him that made heaven</u>, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

- ⁹ And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,
- ¹⁰ The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:
- 4th Angels Message Rejection of the fourth commandment Sabbath rest Fourth Angel arrives with great power – The Sunday movement making its way in darkness... to arrival Continuing in Revelation 13...
- ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have *no rest day nor* <u>night</u>, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the
- faith of Jesus.

Revelation 18:1-3 – The 4th message is a repetition of the 2nd message to include all 3 with the greatest power

- ¹ And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.
- ² And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.
- ³ For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

Ezra – 3 Messages to come out of Babylon

Nehemiah – A fourth Message, The work finished, Restoration – Two classes of Worshiper separated – Repetition of the second message

Esther – Tribulation

Job – Every earthly support cut off

Genesis 12:1-3

Abraham – Three messages to come out

Isaac – Restoration – Two worshipers separate

Jacob – Tribulation

Joseph – Every earthly support cut off

The Coming Crisis

"And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." In the near future we shall see these words fulfilled as the Protestant churches unite with the world and with the papal power against commandment keepers. The same spirit which actuated papists in ages past will lead Protestants to pursue a similar course toward those who will maintain their loyalty to God. {5T 449.2}

Church and state are now making preparations for the future conflict. Protestants are working in disguise to bring Sunday to the front, as did the Romanists. Throughout the land the papacy is piling up her lofty and massive structures, in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions are to be repeated. And the way is preparing for the manifestation, on a grand scale, of those lying wonders by which, if it were possible, Satan would deceive even the elect. {5T 449.3}

The decree which is to go forth against the people of God will be very similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews in the time of Esther. The Persian edict sprang from the malice of Haman toward Mordecai. Not that Mordecai had done him harm, but he had refused to show him reverence which belongs only to God. The king's decision against the Jews was secured under false pretenses through misrepresentation of that peculiar people. Satan instigated the scheme in order to rid the earth of those who preserved the knowledge of the true God. But his plots were defeated by a counterpower that reigns among the children of men. Angels that excel in strength were commissioned to protect the people of God, and the plots of their adversaries returned upon their own heads. The Protestant world today see in the little company keeping the Sabbath a Mordecai in the gate. His character and conduct, expressing reverence for the law of God, are a constant rebuke to those who have cast off the fear of the Lord and are trampling upon His Sabbath; the unwelcome intruder must by some means be put out of the way. {5T 450.1}

Chapter 1 – Two Great Banquets – Two Gospel dispensations

The king has two great banquets the first for the nobles and princes - The offering of the gospel and of Christ first to the nation of the Jews

- Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, (this is Ahasuerus which reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over an hundred and seven and twenty provinces:)
- ² That in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the palace,
- ³ In the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:
- ⁴ When he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore days.

The second banquet is for all the people great and small the gospel dispensation. He provides the best of everything he gave each one a vessel of Gold each one different from

the other. The king orders the wine to be poured according to the wishes of each of the guests - The offering of the gospel of Christ to the all people through his church from the least to the greatest. God provides for all our needs, according to our individual and unique circumstances, and we are given the best of everything.

- ⁵ And when these days were expired, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both unto great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace;
- ⁶ Where were white, green, and blue, hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black, marble.
- ⁷ And they gave them drink in vessels of gold, (the vessels being diverse one from another,) and royal wine in abundance, according to the state of the king.
- ⁸ And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel: for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.

The queen begins by making a gospel feast and then refuses to perform a specific duty, rebels his rule and becomes self-willed. At this point the king is told by his advisers that the queen refusing to obey has wronged the entire kingdom. By being disobedient everyone lost. The queen at this point can no longer enter into his presence. She represents the church of the dark ages that departs from the Lords rule and rejects his law she is banished to the wilderness. When Adam and Eve disobeyed the Lords command it banished the entire kingdom of earth from his presence and we became self-willed and by nature rebel the Lords rule the stain of sin is deep and apart from Christ our natures cannot be altered.

⁹ Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

On the Seventh Day – Seven Chamberlains

¹⁰ On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that served in the presence of Ahasuerus the king,

Vashti a type of the church of the dark ages – Moving through time and dispensations

- ¹¹ To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty: for she was fair to look on.
- ¹² But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains: therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.
- ¹³ Then the king said to the wise men, which knew the times, (for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment:

Seven Princes over the kings relm – Keep this number we will come back to it later... lets continue

- ¹⁴ And the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, which saw the king's face, and which sat the first in the kingdom;)
- ¹⁵ What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?
- ¹⁶ And Memucan answered before the king and the princes, Vashti the queen hath not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the people that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus.
- ¹⁷ For this deed of the queen shall come abroad unto all women, so that they shall despise their husbands in their eyes, when it shall be reported, The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not.
- ¹⁸ Likewise shall the ladies of Persia and Media say this day unto all the king's princes, which have heard of the deed of the queen. Thus shall there arise too much contempt and wrath.
- ¹⁹ If it please the king, let there go a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she.
- ²⁰ And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his empire, (for it is great,) all the wives shall give to their husbands honour, both to great and small.
- ²¹ And the saying pleased the king and the princes; and the king did according to the word of Memucan:
- ²² For he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house, and that it should be published according to the language of every people.

Chapter 2 – The king searches for his bride

It is never good being controlled by the moment when tempers flare and negative feelings or temptation wants to gain the ascendancy. Feelings of this nature will pass and allow us to see things in a different light. Temptation resisted follows along this course it seems large and overmastering but over time the thought brought under the control of Christ dies away and a different light on the matter becomes evident. It is never right being controlled by the moment only by principle. Anger and impulse is like a snowball rolling downhill getting bigger and bigger till it totally rolls over you...

¹After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

Jesus the King searches for a bride beautiful with His character obedient to his way

- ² Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, Let there be fair young virgins sought for the king:
- ³ And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the palace, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Hege the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women; and **let their things for purification be given them:**

- ⁴ And let the maiden which pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti. And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.
- ⁵ Now in Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew, whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite;
- ⁶ Who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity which had been carried away with Jeconiah (The second king of the last three, reign 3 months) king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.

Mordecai was of the captivity – A Type of those who are persecuted for Christ's sake

Hadassah = "myrtle"

1) queen Esther's Jewish name

Esther = "star"

- 1) In Jewish custom, the Myrtle represents a star, especially the morning star. Queen Esther was frequently referred to as the beautiful morning star. Some sources also prescribe the meaning of joy to the name.
- 2) The queen of Persia, heroine of the book of Esther daughter of Abihail, cousin and adopted daughter of Mordecai, of the tribe of Benjamin, made queen by king Ahasuerus to replace divorced queen, Vashti.

Esther a type of the church of the cleansing (of the sanctuary) SDA Church

Esther is a type of the church during the time of the end. The Seventh day Adventist church is the only church that teaches that we live in the time of cleansing (of the heavenly sanctuary) and or the purification of Gods people. The time in which those who live during the 7 last plagues will live before God after the close of probation see Revelation 22:11-12

Christ through the Holy Spirit gives all things speedily to His church for her purification this is represented by the seven churches in the book of Revelation

⁹ And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and *he speedily gave her, her things for purification*, with such things as belonged to her, and <u>seven maidens</u>, which were meet to be given her, *out of the king's house: and he preferred her and her maids unto the best place of the house of the women.*

The beauty of Gods people is not revealed till the crisis comes – The hour of temptation that comes upon all the world (Revelation 3:10)

⁷ And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and **the maid was fair and beautiful**; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

⁸ So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was heard, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the palace, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was brought also unto the king's house, to the **custody of Hegai**, keeper of the women.

When the testing time shall come, those who have made God's Word their rule of life will be revealed. In summer there is no noticeable difference between evergreens and other trees; but when the blasts of winter come, the evergreens remain unchanged, while other trees are stripped of their foliage. So the false-hearted professor may not now be distinguished from the real Christian, but the time is just upon us when the difference will be apparent. Let opposition arise, let bigotry and intolerance again bear sway, let persecution be kindled, and the half-hearted and hypocritical will waver and yield the faith; but the true Christian will stand firm as a rock, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, than in days of prosperity. {GC88 602.1}

Myrrh & Spikenard – The purification

Myrrh & Spikenard – The Cross of Christ and his word and blood applied to our hearts makes our lives fragrant and prepares us for fellowship in his sufferings

Myrrh – A symbol of purity – Both bitter and pleasantly fragrant Myrrh, first and last mentioned in the Bible, parallels Jesus Christ's life. It was brought at the beginning of his life as a gift and was offered to Him as he hung on the cross. This oil is a resin harvested from a tree. The tree is pierced and drops of resin like tears "bleed" out with a reddish color. This also parallels Christ's death sin entered this world through a tree and God once again uses a tree to display his love and conquer death.

- A symbol of purity
- The Hebrew word for myrrh is Mowr which means "distilled," and comes from the root word Marar which means "bitterness." Distilled in bitterness or purified in bitterness
- Comes from a tree that is pierced drops of resin like tears "bleed" out
- Reddish in color
- Pleasantly fragrant

Philippians 3:10

¹⁰ That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, **and the fellowship of his sufferings**, being made conformable unto his death;

¹⁰ Esther had not shewed her people nor her kindred: for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it.

¹¹ And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her.

¹² Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their purifications accomplished, to wit, <u>six months with oil of myrrh</u>, <u>and six months with sweet odours</u>, and with other things for the purifying of the women;)

During Christ's final agonizing hours in the Garden of Gethsemane, the weight of the world's sins crushed our Savior like a wine press, causing Him to sweat great tears of blood. His bitter sufferings can be compared to myrrh, a highly-prized spice used for perfumes and incense, extracted by piercing the tree's heartwood and allowing the gum to trickle out and harden into bitter, aromatic red droplets called "tears." When the myrrh flows from the tree, it is distilled in bitterness or purified in bitterness.

Solomon 1:13 – The blood applied to our hearts

¹³ A bundle of myrrh is my well-beloved unto me; he shall lie all night betwixt my breasts.

In the bride's response to the King, her statement reflects a popular custom of laying a bundle of myrrh on one's chest while sleeping as a beauty treatment in preparation for a wedding.

The word of God sweet and bitter

Ezekiel 3:1-4, 14

- ¹Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel.
- ²So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll.
- ³And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.
- ⁴And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them.
- ¹⁴ So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and <u>I went in bitterness</u>, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the Lord was strong upon me.

Jeremiah eats the little book

Jeremiah 15: ¹⁶**Thy words were found, and I did eat them**; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

Jeremiah - Fall of Babylon the stone tied to the little book

Jeremiah 51: ⁶³And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, that thou shalt bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates:

⁶⁴And thou shalt say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her: and they shall be weary. Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Revelation 10:8-11

- ⁸ And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.
- ⁹ And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and <u>it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.</u>
- And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and <u>it was in my mouth</u> sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter.
- ¹¹ And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.

We must receive the word of God. We must eat the word, live the word; it is the flesh and blood of the Son of God. We must eat His flesh and drink His blood--receive by faith His spiritual attributes. {6T 51.4}

Revelation 18—144,000 Eat the little book—Babylon Falls

²¹And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast [it] into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

The Lords Battleax – His people – is the stone that breaks the image – Notice "with thee" appears 10 times

Jeremiah 51:19-26, 33, 36-45, 57-64

- ¹⁹ The portion of Jacob is not like them; for he is the former of all things: and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: the Lord of hosts is his name.
- ²⁰ **Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war**: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms;
- ²¹ And with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider;
- With thee also will I break in pieces man and woman; and with thee will I break in pieces old and young; and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the maid;
- ²³ I will also break in pieces with thee the shepherd and his flock; and with thee will I break in pieces the husbandman and his yoke of oxen; and with thee will I break in pieces captains and rulers.
- ²⁴ And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the Lord.
- ²⁵ Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the Lord, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.
- ²⁶ And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; **but thou shalt be desolate for ever, saith the Lord.**
- ³³ For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; **The daughter of Babylon is like a** threshingfloor, it is time to thresh her: yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.
- ³⁶ Therefore thus saith the Lord; Behold, I will plead thy cause, and take vengeance for thee; and I will dry up her sea, and make her springs dry.
- ³⁷ And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant.
- ³⁸ They shall roar together like lions: they shall yell as lions' whelps.
- ³⁹ In their heat I will make their feasts, and I will make them drunken, that they may rejoice, and sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the Lord.
- ⁴⁰ I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams with he goats.

Sheshach = "thy fine linen" (*thy own fine linen NOT Christ's)

- ⁴¹ How is **Sheshach** taken! and how is the praise of the whole earth surprised! how is Babylon become an astonishment among the nations!
- ⁴² The sea is come up upon Babylon: she is covered with the multitude of the waves thereof.
- ⁴³ Her cities are a desolation, a dry land, and a wilderness, a land wherein no man dwelleth, neither doth any son of man pass thereby.
- ⁴⁴ And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and I will bring forth out of his mouth that which he hath swallowed up: and the nations shall not flow together any more unto him: yea, the wall of Babylon shall fall.
- ⁴⁵ My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the Lord.
- ⁵⁷ And I will make drunk her princes, and her wise men, her captains, and her rulers, and her mighty men: and they shall sleep a perpetual sleep, and not wake, saith the King, whose name is the Lord of hosts.
- ⁵⁸ Thus saith the LORD of hosts; The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, and her high gates shall be burned with fire; and the people shall labour in vain, and the folk in the fire, and they shall be weary.
- ⁵⁹ The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded *Seraiah* the son of *Neriah*, the son of *Maaseiah*, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah into Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. And this *Seraiah was a quiet prince*.
- 1AM Maaseiah = "Jehovah is a shelter" Shelter from Sin Sin 2AM - Neriah = "lamp of Jehovah" - Righteousness of Christ - Righteousness 3AM - Seraiah = "Jehovah is ruler" - Judgment - Judgment
- 61 And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When thou comest to Babylon, and shalt see, and shalt read all these words;
- ⁶² Then shalt thou say, O Lord, thou hast spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate for ever.
- ⁶³ And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, that thou shalt bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates:
- ⁶⁴ And thou shalt say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her: and they shall be weary. Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Psalm 119

 103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Spikenard, sweet odors – Was also one of the ingredients in the incense used in the ancient Jewish temple and was incredibly expensive and typically only used by royalty – oil was used to consecrate (set apart) the articles used in Temple worship and Jesus was twice anointed with this oil – Used in burial also a symbol of death to self

• Used as an anointing oil

- Consecrated
- Incredibly expensive Character
- Set apart
- Death to self
- Used by Royalty Gods people a part of his royal family
- Relaxing and soothing to the mind Entering into his rest (Sabbath)

God's wonderful purpose of grace, the mystery of redeeming love, is the theme into which "angels desire to look," and it will be their study throughout endless ages. Both the redeemed and the unfallen beings will find in the cross of Christ their science and their song. It will be seen that the glory shining in the face of Jesus is the glory of self-sacrificing love. In the light from Calvary it will be seen that the law of self-renouncing love is the law of life for earth and heaven; that the love which "seeketh not her own" has its source in the heart of God; and that in the meek and lowly One is manifested the character of Him who dwelleth in the light which no man can approach unto. {DA 19.2}

The time of purification is 360 days. These 360 days is the same as the prophetic time of Rome. The key in the time of the Millerites was the day for a year teaching (the Lord empowered it) and using this key all other truths come correctly into view including the 2300, 1260, 1290 & 1335. This is not to say that the foundation of the church is not the 2300 day prophecy.

This truth of the 360 days of Rome has been largely forgotten today. As well as the other time prophecies that the reformers used to teach such as Islam in Revelation 9 (150 year & 391 year 15 day prophecies) and the trumpets, today is widely rejected even in the church. Miller could be considered as the person who presented the teachings of the reformers the most closely, and that the world has largely forgotten or rejected them.

Daniel 11:24

²⁴ He shall enter peaceably even upon the fattest places of the province; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall forecast his devices against the strong holds, even for a time.

Even for a time . . .

The battle of Actium – September 2, 31 BC – Begins Rome's 360 years' reign

From 31 BC, a prophetic "time," or 360 years, would bring us to AD 330. Hence it becomes a noteworthy fact that the seat of empire was removed from Rome to Constantinople by Constantine the Great in that very year. Daniel and Revelation, *Uriah Smith pg.100*

William Miller's Dream – 10x6x6=360 – I dreamed that God, by an unseen hand, sent me a curiously wrought casket about **ten inches long by six square**, made of ebony and pearls curiously inlaid. **To the casket there was a key attached**. I immediately took the key and opened the casket, when, to my wonder and surprise, *I found it filled with all sorts and sizes of jewels, diamonds, precious stones, and gold and silver coin of every dimension and value,*

beautifully arranged in their several places in the casket; and thus arranged they reflected a light and glory equaled only to the sun. {EW 81.2}

- Oct 22 1844 Investigative Judgment - The time of purification the time that the day for a year principle becomes understood and empowered time is no longer Gods true remnant church is revived the understanding of Rome pagan-papal is understood. Everything is according to the purification now.

Esther requires nothing in outward show – The true beauty of an inward Christ like loveliness

¹⁵ Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

The inner beauty is revealed at the appropriate time – Esther is an obedient child – The church is obedient to her master Christ

²⁰ Esther had not yet shewed her kindred nor her people; as Mordecai had charged her: for *Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him.*

Mordecai – Meaning of Mordecai is "little man" Strong's, "contrition" or "bitter" Hitchcock's bible names – Just as Christ made Himself of no reputation

These are all fitting names because God often uses the weakest of the weak to display his glory. The Lord often uses bitter experiences to purify his people. Only the Lord can bring good out of evil.

Example:

Laodicea - The weakest of the weak.

Laodicea becomes Philadelphia!

Of the seven churches the first five receive praise and a rebuke from Christ. Of the last two churches Philadelphia receives no rebuke and Laodicea receives no praise. Laodicea is in the worst shape of all of the churches and has turned her father's house into a house of merchandise by being rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing. Notwithstanding Jesus blesses her with the greatest light of all time and power during the latter rain. There is a bitter experience though Laodicea endures the greatest time of testing the world has ever known. This is the same message as John the Baptist. And

He (John the Baptist) had declared to the people that in order for the way to be prepared before the Lord, the prophecy of Isaiah must be fulfilled; the mountains and hills must be brought low, the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain. He had looked for the high places of human pride and power to be cast down. He had pointed to the Messiah as the One whose fan was in His hand, and who would thoroughly purge His floor, who would gather the wheat into His garner, and burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Like the prophet Elijah, in whose

spirit and power he had come to Israel, he looked for the Lord to reveal Himself as a God that answereth by fire. {DA 215.2}

Ellen White a type of the last day church was often referred to as the weakest of the weak and in her name a symbol of what Laodicea needs.

Revelation 3:18

¹⁸ I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Ellen - Bright and shining light, the eye salve that Laodicea needs is Gods word

Gould – Gold tried in the fire

White – White raiment

Mary Magdalene – Looked down on by everyone as a prostitute – Anoints his body for burial, the first at the tomb, the first person Jesus sees and comforts, the first to tell the disciples

John the Baptist – Of himself said he was the lesser light

Chapter 3

Haman a type of the man of sin begins his ascension. A carnal character full of pride and self-serving

¹After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.

The controversy over true worship begins here we see a command for false worship – This is a direct violation of the third commandment. It is also a rejection of the third angels message.

Third commandment rejected – Judgment – Third message rejected

This commandment not only prohibits false oaths and common swearing, but it forbids us to use the name of God in a light or careless manner, without regard to its awful significance. By the thoughtless mention of God in common conversation, by appeals to Him in trivial matters, and by the frequent and thoughtless repetition of His name, we dishonor Him. "Holy and reverend is his name." All should meditate upon His majesty, His purity and holiness, that the

²¹ In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those which kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus.

²² And the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name.

²³ And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.

heart may be impressed with a sense of His exalted character; and His holy name should be uttered with reverence and solemnity. {Sons and Daughters of God 58.4}

It is not men whom we are to exalt and worship; it is God, the only true and living God, to whom our worship and reverence are due. According to the teaching of the Scriptures, it dishonors God to address ministers as "reverend." No mortal has any right to attach this to his own name, or to the name of any other human being. It belongs only to God, to distinguish Him from every other being. . . . "Holy and reverend is his name." We dishonor God when we use this word where it does not belong. . . . The Father and the Son alone are to be exalted.

{Sons and Daughters of God 58.5}

- ² And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and reverenced Haman: for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not, nor did him <u>reverence</u>.
- ³ Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?
- ⁴ Now it came to pass, when they spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: **for he had told them that he was a Jew.**

This was the reason for his apparent lack of respect that he worships and serves the only true God and him only.

- ⁵ And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath.
- ⁶ And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore **Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.**

The form of sorcery or divination – Biding their time for an opportune moment to strike

They cast lots to see what would the best time to destroy Gods people and to divide their spoil (v.14) Haman was biding his time for an opportune moment to strike, this is a prophetic characteristic of the papacy. Working quietly behind the scenes till an opportune moment to strike is evident. This was also a form of sorcery or divination (revelation 13:12-13). The papacy will use the "false prophet" America to repeat the history of the dark ages. She will make all nations bow to "her image of the beast" the false Sabbath.

⁷ In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

⁸ And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, **There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse**

from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.

⁹ If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.

Church and State join hands

This is where Haman desiring worship joins with the state to achieve its goal. At this time the power is given to this religio-political power to persecute

¹⁰ And *the king took his ring from his hand*, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy.

Haman is given the gold and silver to use as a weapon - No man can buy or sell Ezekiel 29:19

¹⁹ Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will give the land of Egypt unto Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall take her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army.

Daniel 11:43

⁴³ But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

Revelation 13:17

¹⁷ And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

¹¹ And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

Remember from before the king gathers his princes of Persia and Media that preside over the seven provinces (Esther 1:14) Haman has ten sons that are enlisted with him in the battle against Gods people. (Esther 9:7-10)

Over and over the enemies of Gods people are seen to divide into a seven head ten kingdom combination to destroy them. Here are just a few examples of the many (Revelation 12:3; 13:1; 17:3,7). Canaan had 10 sons Genesis 10:15-19. Joshua had 10 (kingdoms) Joshua 10:29-42-7 (heads) Joshua 11:1-5 enemies

¹² Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and there was written according to all that **Haman** had commanded unto the king's **lieutenants**, and to the **governors** that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring.

The Death Decree – For a time in the future – Notice they get drunk...

¹³ And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the

thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

¹⁴ The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, that they should be ready against that day.

¹⁵ The posts went out, being hastened by the king's commandment, and the decree was given in Shushan the palace. And the king and Haman <u>sat down to drink</u>; <u>but the city Shushan was perplexed.</u>

The decree shall come as an overwhelming surprise

Transgression Has Almost Reached Its Limit

Time will last a little longer until the inhabitants of the earth have filled up the cup of their iniquity, and then the wrath of God, which has so long slumbered, will awake, and this land of light will drink the cup of His unmingled wrath.--1T 363 (1863). {LDE 41.1}

The cup of iniquity is nearly filled, and the retributive justice of God is about to descend upon the guilty.--4T 489 (1880). {LDE 41.2}

The wickedness of the inhabitants of the world has almost filled up the measure of their iniquity. This earth has almost reached the place where God will permit the destroyer to work his will upon it.--7T 141 (1902). {LDE 41.3}

Transgression has almost reached its limit. Confusion fills the world, and a great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an **overwhelming surprise**.--8T 28 (1904). {LDE 41.4}

Here we see the three fold enemy of Christ and his people come together in this story?

- Dragon The King duped, used, a patsy The police power of the state
- Beast Haman Demands False Worship Uses all the people Gold & Silver Police power of the state
- False Prophet Haman's ten sons We will see later that they were the enemies of Gods people as well (Esther 9:10; Revelation 19:20) Tenfold kingdom characteristic

Other examples of the three fold enemy: Gethsemane – The temple police (state under the power of the church) the religious leaders (church) and Judas (beast)

On the cross the parchment written in Hebrew Greek and Latin – Three Fold Enemy

Chapter 4 – The arrival of the loud cry

¹When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a <u>loud</u> and a <u>bitter</u> cry;

² And came even before the king's gate: for <u>none might enter into the king's gate clothed with sackcloth</u>. (This was against the law)

At this time Esther doesn't know what is going on only that Mordecai is breaking the Law ⁴ So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told it her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received it not.

- ⁵ Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.
- ⁶So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which was before the king's gate.
- ⁷ And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.

The first one we turn to in the time of trouble is our king Jesus

- ⁸ Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.
- ⁹ And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.
- ¹⁰ Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

Esther, overcome with fear at the awful realization that if she is to act her death will come as a sure result. There is a fearful struggle taking place in her heart and mind that is waged like a battle whose outcome totters in the balance. She conveys her fears to Mordecai.

¹¹ All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or women, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

The message returned is clear not only deliverance but also <u>enlargement</u> will be provided by God to his people. The stakes are high if she neglects or fails to act, her and her father's house will be destroyed. Esther was always obedient to her foster father and truth wins out she decides at all costs to herself to turn to PUT THE LORD FIRST and then to act according to the prompting of the Lords will. Wherever we are put by God we are to be faithful.

¹⁴ For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed; and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

³ And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

¹² And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

¹³ Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

Esther provides leadership at this time to Gods people and the <u>confusion</u> is departed they will all turn *together* to the Lord.

Zephaniah 2

- ¹ Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired;
- ² Before the decree bring forth, before the day pass as the chaff, before the fierce anger of the LORD come upon you, before the day of the LORD's anger come upon you.
- ³ Seek ye the LORD, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the LORD's anger.

The crisis that Esther faced demanded quick, earnest action; but both she and Mordecai realized that unless God should work mightily in their behalf, their own efforts would be unavailing. So Esther took time for communion with God, the source of her strength. {PK 601.3}

¹⁶ Go, *gather together all the Jews* that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

¹⁷ So Mordecai went his way, and *did according to all that Esther had commanded him*.

Notice the Three Days – Three Angels Messages

Hosea 6:1-6 – After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up ¹Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for ^{1AM} he hath torn, and ^{2AM} he will <u>heal</u> us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

²After two days will he revive us: in the 3AM third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

³Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

⁴O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for ^{1AM} your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.

⁵Therefore have ^{2AM} I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: ^{3AM} and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth.

⁶For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

Chapter 5 - Esther puts on her royal apparel – The righteousness of Christ – The third day Esther rises up to the beginning of the battle

¹Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

¹⁵ Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

Esther was afraid but she had something we all need in an hour of crisis "Courage" borne by God and God's grace as we supplicate His throne. The law stated that she would die but the symbol of the king holding out the golden scepter was a legal declaration of pardon. Esther accepts the symbol of pardon and still presses closer with supplication. This is a type of Gods people after the close of probation, earnestly supplicating the King of Heaven to save them in their hour of trial...

- ² And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and *the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre* that was in his hand. So *Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre*.
- ³ Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the **half of the kingdom**. The difference here is that the Lord emptied all of his kingdom in the gift of Christ
- ⁴ And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.
- ⁵ Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.
- ⁶ And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the **half of the kingdom** it shall be performed.
- ⁷ Then answered Esther, and said, My petition and my request is;
- ⁸ If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to morrow as the king hath said.
- ⁹ Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai.

The prophetic characteristic of the papacy – Biding time till an opportune moment to strike...

- ¹⁰ Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife.
- ¹¹ And Haman told them of the **glory of his riches**, and the **multitude of his children**, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had *advanced him above the princes* and servants of the king.
- ¹² Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.
- ¹³ Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate. **The trap that the enemy of Gods people sets he will fall into himself**
- ¹⁴ Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

Chapter 6 – Mordecai (Meek) receives exaltation through God manifesting his providence using simple means

¹On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

² And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

³ And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

⁴ And the king said, Who is in the court? Now Haman was come into the outward court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.

⁵ And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in.

The Lord has a thousand ways to provide for us in which we know nothing {DA 330.1} In his haste to grasp glory for himself he forgets all about his vendetta against Mordecai

So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?

Here is a symbol of the transformation of Laodicea

- Royal apparel is brought which the king <u>useth</u> to wear The robe of Christ's righteousness
- The crown royal which is set upon his head Each believer is given a crown and told to hold fast
- Bring him on horseback through the street of the city The righteous will be an Ensign
- Later the King gives him his ring The sealing (Revelation 3:11)

¹⁰ Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

Because of Haman, the righteous are brought before the world as an ensign

¹² And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hasted to his house mourning, and having his head covered.

⁷ And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

⁸ Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:

⁹ And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

¹¹ Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

¹³ And Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.

¹⁴ And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hasted to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Chapter 7 – He shall come to his end with none to help him (Daniel 11:45)

So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

- ² And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.
- ³ Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:
- ⁴ For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.
- ⁵ Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?
- ⁶ And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.
- ⁷And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.
- ⁸ Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

Harbona or Harbonah = "ass-driver"

- ⁹ And **Harbonah**, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.
- 10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

Chapter 8 – The sealing

¹On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And *Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.*

 2 And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

- ³ And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.
- ⁴ Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king,
- ⁵ And said, If it please the king, and if I have favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces:
- ⁶ For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?
- ⁷ Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.

The King provides his seal

⁸ Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and **sealed** with the king's ring, may *no man* reverse.

⁹ Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieutenants, and the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.

Horseback, mules, camels & dromedaries – The number four a symbol of worldwide – Often when you see the number four in God's word you see The glory of God manifested on a worldwide basis, nations are humbled in the dust – Noah and his three sons, Three Hebrew worthies in the fiery furnace, the mount of transfiguration, Gethsemane (Jesus & 3 disciples) and The 4^{th} Angel of Revelation 18 (just to name a few)

- ¹⁰ And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on *horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries*:
- Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and women, *and to take the spoil of them for a prey*,
- ¹² Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.
- ¹³ The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.
- ¹⁴ So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And the decree was given at Shushan the palace.

The worldwide ensign is displayed – Nations come in – After the message is given Gods faithful come out! Revelation 18:4

- ¹⁵ And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.
- ¹⁶ The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.
- ¹⁷ And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the *Jews had joy and gladness*, *a feast and a good day* (**Pentecost**). And many of the people of the land became Jews; (*Nations come in*) for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.

Chapter 9 – The tenfold kingdom comes to an end-The stone hits the image feet

- ¹Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, (though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them;)
- ² The Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt: and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all people.
- ³ And all the rulers of the provinces, and the lieutenants, and the deputies, and officers of the king, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them.

Gods people will grow greater and greater during the time of tribulation – They will be an unstoppable army as is found in $Joel\ 2$

- ⁴ For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.
- ⁵ Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them.
- ⁶ And in Shushan the palace the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men.

Hamans ten sons represent the false prophet of Revelation 19:20 another shade of meaning can illustrate the tenfold kingdom of the ${\rm d}^{\rm r}$ agon that reign for one hour with the beast

- ⁷ And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha,
- ⁸ And Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha,
- ⁹ And Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vajezatha,
- ¹⁰ The ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, slew they; but on the spoil laid they not their hand.
- ¹¹ On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the palace was brought before the king.
- ¹² And the king said unto Esther the queen, The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the palace, and the ten sons of Haman; what have they done in the rest of the king's

provinces? now what is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: or what is thy request further? and it shall be done.

- ¹³ Then said Esther, If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews which are in Shushan to do to morrow also according unto this day's decree, and **let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.**
- ¹⁴ And the king commanded it so to be done: and the decree was given at Shushan; and **they hanged Haman's ten sons.**

The Jews were not interested in the spoil just their personal safety.

- ¹⁵ For the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men at Shushan; but **on the prey they laid not their hand**.
- ¹⁶ But the other Jews that were in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and had rest from their enemies, and slew of their foes seventy and five thousand, but **they laid not their hands on the prey**,
- ¹⁷ On the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth day of the same rested they, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

Hosea 6:2

² After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

This is the second time that the Lord raises up and vindicates his truth and his church this time the church is at an end of her battle and joyful rejoicing the result of the triumph of God's power and love for her

- ¹⁸ But the Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.
- ¹⁹ Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the **unwalled towns**, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.
- ²⁰ And Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, both nigh and far,
- ²¹ To stablish this among them, that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,
- ²² As the days wherein the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them *from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day*: that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.
- ²³ And the Jews undertook to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them;
- ²⁴ Because Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to consume them, and to destroy them;
- ²⁵ But when Esther came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

- ²⁶ Wherefore they called these days Purim after the name of Pur. Therefore for all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and which had come unto them.
- ²⁷ The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to their writing, and according to their appointed time every year;
- ²⁸ And that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.
- ²⁹ Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim.
- ³⁰ And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,
- ³¹ To confirm these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry.
- ³² And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

Chapter 10 – Mourning is turned to Joy

- ¹And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.
- ² And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?
- ³ For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.
- ... we can never perfect a round, full Christian experience until every earthly support is removed, and the soul centers its entire affections about God. "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: Except the Lord keep the city, the watchmen waketh but in vain." $-\{MR926\ 36.2\}$

The decree that will finally go forth against the remnant people of God will be very similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews. Today the enemies of the true church see in the little company keeping the Sabbath commandment, a Mordecai at the gate. The reverence of God's people for His law is a constant rebuke to those who have cast off the fear of the Lord and are trampling on His Sabbath. {PK 605.2}

Satan will arouse indignation against the minority who refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God. Wealth, genius, education, will combine to cover them with contempt.

Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them. With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals, men will stir up the passions of the people. Not having a "Thus saith the Scriptures" to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to oppressive enactments to supply the lack. To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for Sunday laws. But those who fear God, cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the Decalogue. On this battlefield will be fought the last great conflict in the controversy between truth and error. And we are not left in doubt as to the issue. Today, as in the days of Esther and Mordecai, the Lord will vindicate His truth and His people. {PK 605.3}

Questions? feel free to contact me at: terry@3elijahs.com

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