



## L3L53: Esther Saves Her People

### Esther 7-10

*Haman had built a gallows for Mordecai, but his opportunity to tell the king about the plan to use them instead turned into a conversation about how to honor Mordecai for his good deeds. Haman, humiliated from having to lead a parade of honor for his enemy Mordecai, after sulking to his wife at home, arrived at Esther's second banquet. At the banquet, King Ahaserus asked Esther what she desired, and he would give it to her – even up to half the kingdom! Haman and the king were both caught off guard by Esther's request, and a lovely banquet quickly turned into the queen's triumph and the end of a very bad day for Haman.*

#### Discuss:

- What do you think Haman was thinking about when he came to Esther's second banquet?
- What was Esther's petition to the king? Esther had the opportunity to ask for any desire up to half of the kingdom! For what could have she asked? What can we learn about Esther from her response to the king?
- How did the king respond to Esther's request? Why do you think he reacted the way he did?
- What happened to Haman? What happened to Mordecai in the end?
- How did Haman's plan turn out for the Jews? How did the king help fix the situation for them?
- In the book of Esther, the name of God is not used at all. What things from the narrative show us that God was working with the characters throughout the story?



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#### Memory Challenge:

##### Esther 7:3

Then Queen Esther answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the King, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request."