



Sunday Morning Sermon (by Ray Reynolds)
January 29, 2017

"THE POSITION OF ESTHER"

TEXT: Esther 5



Introduction: Are you a planner? An organizer? What happens when your plans get interrupted? More than likely it is not a life and death scenario. However, in this chapter it is life or death! Esther trusted that this was what God wanted her to do, so she planned out how she would approach the king (**Esther 4:14**). Esther patiently won the favor of the king before making her petition. She uses her position as queen to influence the king. What will happen? Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. The Jubilation of Haman (Esther 5:1-8)

- ◆ Queen Esther receives the scepter, not the sword.
- ◆ King Ahasuerus prefers the banquet, not banishment of his queen.
- ◆ Haman was full of pride, not pity.
- ◆ Mordecai will bow to God, not to a guy.

II. The Preoccupation of Haman (Esther 5:9-13)

- ◆ Haman boasts about his possessions.
- ◆ Haman boasts about his posterity.
- ◆ Haman boasts about his promotion.
- ◆ Haman boasts about his position.

III. The Retaliation of Haman (Esther 5:14)

- ◆ The resentful purpose of the gallows.
- ◆ The ridiculous height of the gallows.
- ◆ The rancorous nature of the gallows.
- ◆ The remarkable construction of the gallows.

Conclusion: This chapter closes before Esther can accomplish her mission, but things are going well and she will complete her task. Through the providence of God, and her careful planning, everything will work out in the end. However, there is another very valuable thing we must learn from this lesson. **Romans 12:19** says, "My friends, do not try to punish others when they wrong you, but wait for God to punish them with his anger. It is written: 'I will punish those who do wrong; I will repay them,' says the Lord." This is a quote from **Deuteronomy 32:35** and it is echoed throughout the Bible. Godly people reflect the image of God, but we are NOT God. We need to let Him to His job!