

Message Notes: I see your plot of genocide and raise you another

Scripture Passages (taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – *Disney World*

Where we've been - Esther, a reversal of fortunes

The ascension of Mordecai

Esther 8:1-2

Esther's appeal for her people

Esther 8:3-6

Review of the term "Agagite"

King Xerxes' response

Esther 8:7-8

Word spreads

Esther 8:9-10

Details of the Edict

Esther 8:11-12

Word spreads Part II

Esther 8:13-14

Mordecai's reversal of fortune

Esther 8:15

The celebration by the Jews

Esther 8:15b-17

BIG QUESTION from Esther

Is all this okay?

Themes further developed in the Bible

"Holy War" and the Cross of Christ - Who is God fighting?

Habakkuk 1:13

Genesis 2:17

Romans 5:12

Romans 5:15, 17

Gospel Application

Is all this okay?

Esther 8:1-17 That same day King Xerxes gave Queen Esther the estate of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came into the presence of the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her. 2 The king took off his signet ring, which he had reclaimed from Haman, and presented it to Mordecai. And Esther again appointed him over Haman's estate. 3 Esther again appealed with the king, falling at his feet and weeping. She begged him to put an end to the evil plan of Haman the Agagite, which he had devised against the Jews. 4 Then the king extended the gold scepter to Esther and she arose and stood before him. 5 "If it pleases the king," she said, "and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, devised against the Jews to destroy the Jews in all the king's provinces. 6 For how can I bear to see disaster fall on my people? How can I bear to see the destruction of my family?" 7 King Xerxes replied to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, "Because Haman attacked the Jews, I have given his estate to Esther, and they have impaled him on the pole he set up. 8 Now write another decree in the king's name in behalf of the Jews as seems best to you, and seal it with the king's signet ring—for no document written in the king's name and sealed with his ring can be revoked." 9 At once the royal secretaries were summoned—on the twenty-third day of the third month, the month of Sivan. They wrote out all Mordecai's orders to the Jews, and to the satraps, governors and nobles of the 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush. These orders were written in the script of each province and the language of each people and also to the Jews in their own script and language. 10 Mordecai wrote in the name of King Xerxes, sealed the dispatches with the king's signet ring, and sent them by mounted couriers, who rode fast horses especially bred for the king. 11 The king's edict granted the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies. 12 The day appointed for the Jews to do this in all the provinces of King Xerxes was the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar. 13 A copy of the text of the edict was to be issued as law in every province and made known to the people of every nationality so that the Jews would be ready on that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. 14 The couriers, riding the royal horses, went out, spurred on by the king's command, and the edict was issued in the citadel of Susa. 15 When Mordecai left the king's presence, he was wearing royal garments of blue and white, a large crown of gold and a purple robe of fine linen. And the city of Susa held a joyous celebration. 16 For the Jews it was a time of happiness and joy, gladness and honor. 17 In every province and in every city to which the edict of the king came, there was joy and gladness among the Jews, with feasting and celebrating. And many people of other nationalities became Jews because fear of the Jews had seized them.



Orlando

81°

3:14 pm

H: 82 L: 66

3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM
82°	82°	81°	79°	77°	75°

Sunday		84° 66°
Monday		84° 68°
Tuesday		81° 68°
Wednesday		79° 66°
Thursday		77° 64°



Updated 4/27/13 3:13 PM



Minneapolis

72°

2:14 pm

H: 73 L: 54

2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM
72°	72°	73°	72°	72°	70°

Sunday		81° 52°
Monday		72° 57°
Tuesday		75° 41°
Wednesday		45° 36°
Thursday		39° 34°



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MENU**
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CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES



















ESTHER

a reversal of fortunes



King Xerxes



Queen Vashti



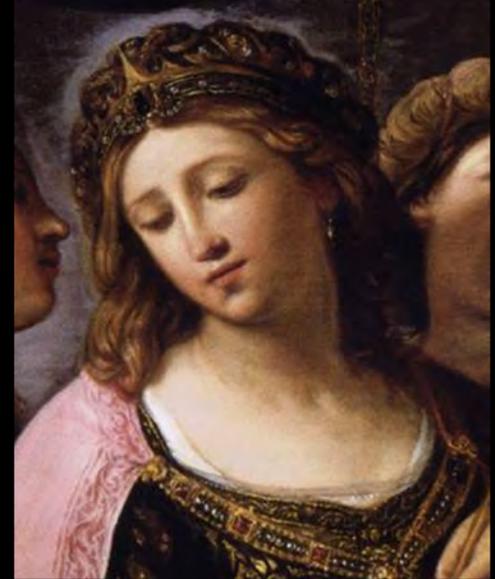
King X



Vashti



King Xerxes



Queen Esther



King



Esther



King Xerxes



Mordecai



Haman

Haman looks to kill Mordecai's people

Esther 3:5-6

5 When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged. 6 Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.



King X



ordecai

Haman





King Xerxes



Mordecai



Queen Esther

The ascension of Mordecai

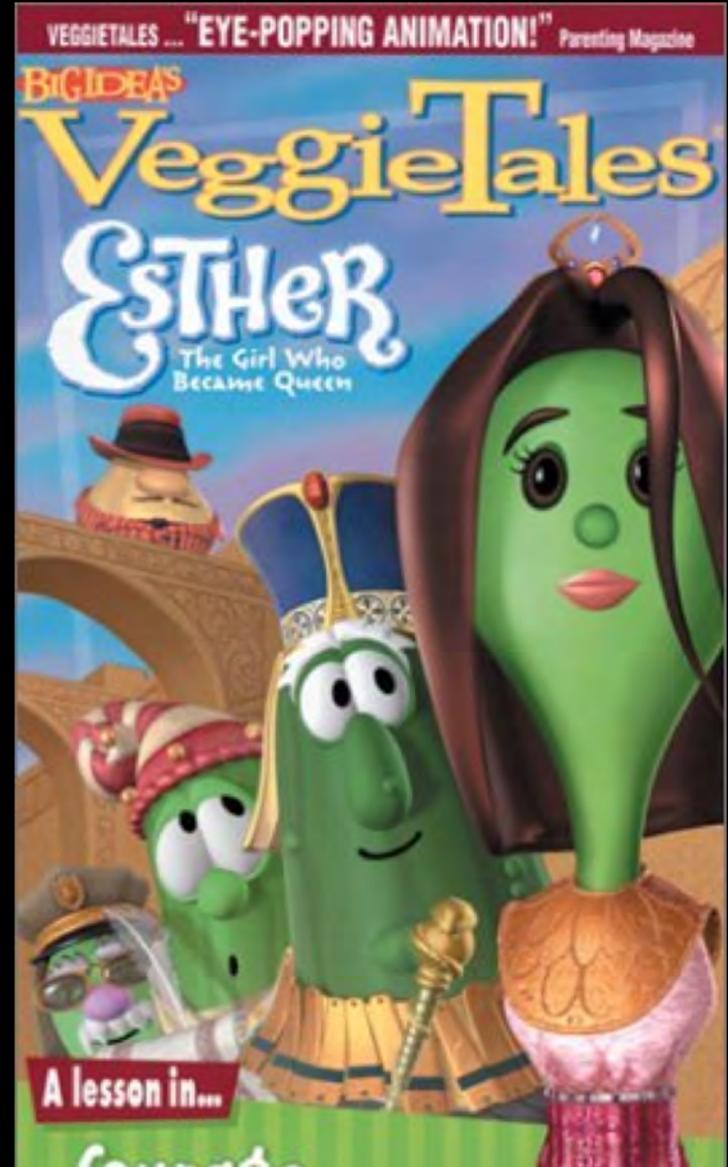
Esther 8:1-2

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Esther's appeal for her people

Esther 8:3

3 Esther again pleaded with the king, falling at his feet and weeping. She begged him to put an end to the evil plan of Haman the Agagite, which he had devised against the Jews.



"The Agagite"

ESAU

⇒ AMELEK

⇒ AGAG

⇒ HAMAN

Esther's appeal for her people

Esther 8:4-6

4 Then the king extended the gold scepter to Esther and she arose and stood before him. 5 "If it pleases the king," she said, "and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, devised and wrote to destroy the Jews in all the king's provinces. 6 For how can I bear to see disaster fall on my people? How can I bear to see the destruction of my family?"

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King Xerxes' response

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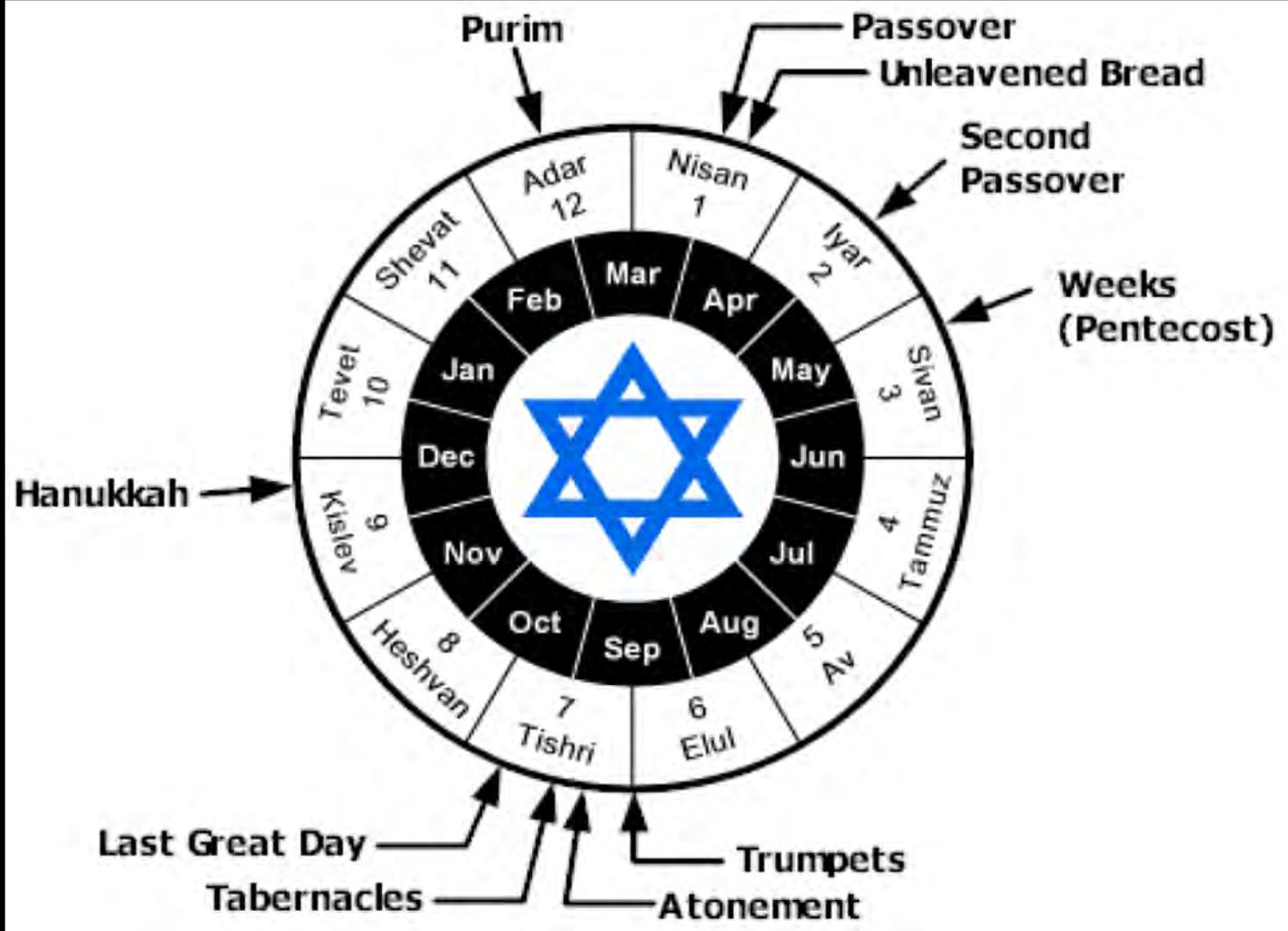
8 Now write another decree in the king's name in behalf of the Jews as seems best to you, and seal it with the king's signet ring – for no document written in the king's name and sealed with his ring can be revoked."



Word Spreads

Esther 8:9-10

9 At once the royal secretaries were summoned – on the twenty-third day of the third month, the month of Sivan. They wrote out all Mordecai's orders to the Jews, and to the satraps, governors and nobles of the 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush. These orders were written in the script of each province and the language of each people and also to the Jews in their own script and language. 10 Mordecai wrote in the name of King Xerxes, sealed the dispatches with the king's signet ring, and sent them by mounted couriers, who rode fast horses especially bred for the king.



Details of the Edict

Esther 8:11-12

11 The king's edict granted the Jews in every city the right to assemble and protect themselves; to destroy, kill and annihilate the armed men of any nationality or province who might attack them and their women and children, and to plunder the property of their enemies. **12** The day appointed for the Jews to do this in all the provinces of King Xerxes was the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar.

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Word Spreads Part II

Esther 8:13-14

13 A copy of the text of the edict was to be issued as law in every province and made known to the people of every nationality so that the Jews would be ready on that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

14 The couriers, riding the royal horses, went out, spurred on by the king's command, and the edict was issued in the citadel of Susa.

Mordecai's reversal of fortune

Esther 8:15

15 When Mordecai left the king's presence, he was wearing royal garments of blue and white, a large crown of gold and a purple robe of fine linen.



The celebration by the Jews

Esther 8:15-17

15 And the city of Susa held a joyous celebration.

16 For the Jews it was a time of happiness and joy, gladness and honor. **17** In every province and in

every city to which the edict of the king came, there was joy and gladness among the Jews, with feasting and celebrating. And many people of other nationalities became Jews because fear of the Jews had seized them.

Big Question from Esther

Is all this okay?

The Jews are God's chosen people?

Deuteronomy 9:6

Know, therefore, that the Lord your God is not giving you this good land to possess because of your righteousness, for you are a stubborn people.

The Jews are God's chosen people?

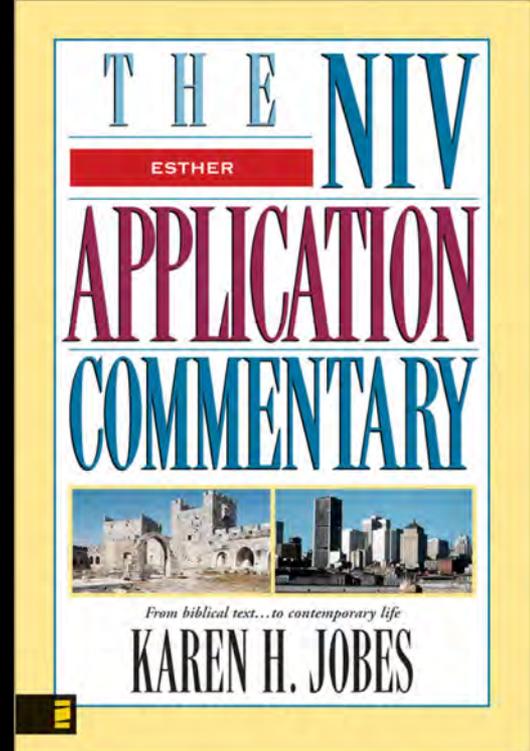
Lamentations 2:5

The Lord is like an enemy; he has swallowed up Israel. He has swallowed up all her palaces and destroyed her strongholds. He has multiplied mourning and lamentation for Daughter Judah.

Theme Further Developed in the Bible

“Holy War” and the Cross of Christ

The contemporary significance derived from this passage depends on whether or not the reader views its meaning through the cross of Jesus Christ. If the reader does not, then it is indeed difficult to avoid using this text as a biblical rationale for some form of continued “holy” war...Christians who understand the hermeneutical implications of the cross of Jesus, however, must understand the significance of the passage quite differently.

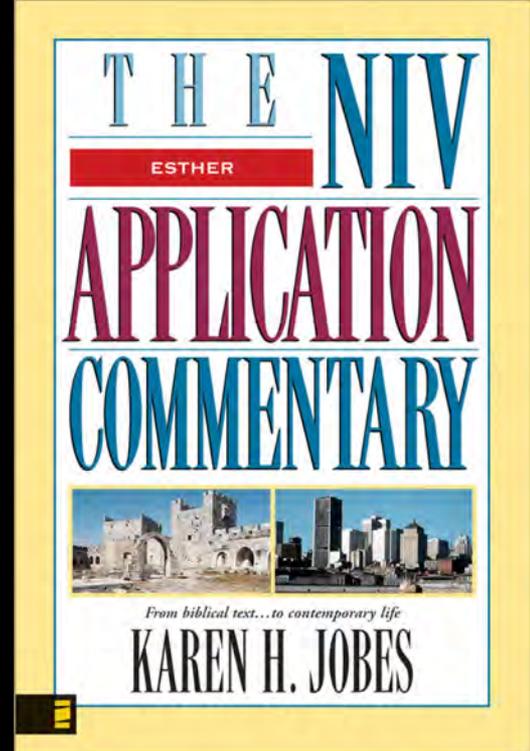


Theme Further Developed in the Bible

“Holy War” and the Cross of Christ

Who is God fighting?

From the beginning of time God's war has been against sin and evil. It is easy to think wrongly of sin and evil as being abstractions apart from people. We seem to want God to destroy sin and evil but leave people alone. However, sin and evil do not exist apart from beings who sin and beings who do evil, whether angelic or human. Sin entered the world when Adam and Eve aligned themselves against God (Gen. 3).

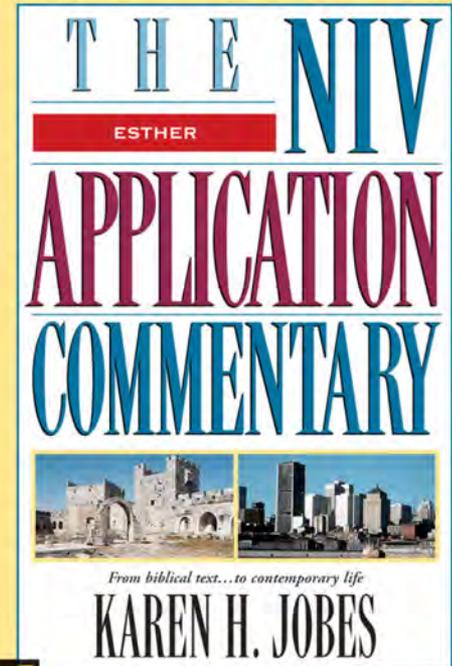


God's holy war against sin and evil

Habakkuk 1:13

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot
tolerate wrongdoing.

Because of Adam and Eve's separation from God, he pronounced his irrevocable decree of death against them and all their descendants. The nature of sin (singular) is opposition to God, expressed as disobedience to his revealed will, i.e., various sins (plural). Because we are all sinners and evildoers, we all have God's irrevocable decree of death against us.



God's holy war against sin and evil

Genesis 2:17

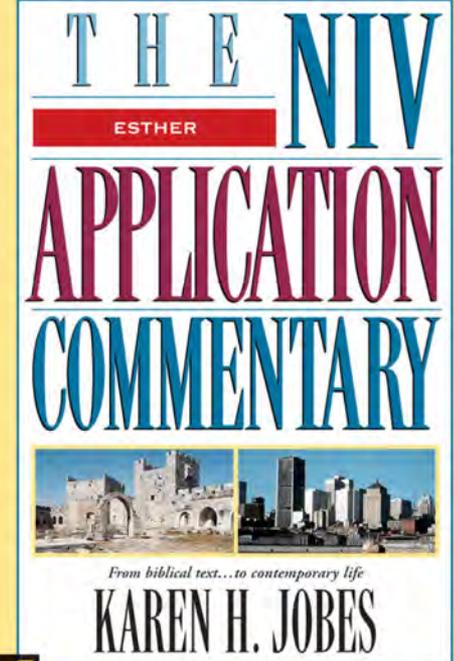
You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.

God's holy war against sin and evil

Romans 5:12

Sin came into the world through one man,
and death through sin,
and so death spread to all people because all sinned.

God could have justly destroyed the earth and everyone on it, for none of us is “good” by God’s high standards. Instead, he chose to issue a counter-decree to redeem a people out of sin and evil and into righteousness, removing them from the realm of his destruction to the realm of deliverance.



God's holy war against sin and evil

Romans 5:15, 17

15 For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many...17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Big Question from the Bible

Is all this okay?

Gospel Application

Do you believe you need help?

Gospel Application

Do you believe you need help?

**Do you believe that
the cross of Christ is THE answer?**