

MESSAGE # 8: Mordecai Reacts Esther 4:1-17

I. Introduction:

Thank you for joining us today in our studies in the Book of Esther. We are coming to the very heart of the book in the next few talks...the central thrust where the wisdom of God and the proper action of His people are best appreciated. We know that God is working but we need to remember that His people have a responsibility as well and the handling of that responsibility is one of the key tools in the effectiveness of His program. So we move into Esther 4:1-17 and see the steps advised by Mordecai and the actions taken towards meeting the deadly threat.

II. Discussion:

- 4:1....Note the response of Mordecai, an act of humiliation and stress with
- 4:2....a lamentation taken right to the king's gate even though he knows that no one can have an audience with the king when clothed with mourning garments. (These kings lived in fear of assassination---not without cause---Xerxes himself would be assassinated about nine years later---and they did not allow the entrance of "suspicious persons.")
- 4:3....and this action was not limited to Mordecai but was true throughout the Empire....why is there no mention that they prayed? Well, I will offer a few notes on that...!
- 4:4....Esther's attendants tell her of Mordecai's actions and she sends him more proper garments but he will not accept them...Esther apparently does not know the full intent of the decree./
- 4:5....When he continues his dirge, Esther sends Hatach, a court attendant to find out what is wrong....
- 4:6....and he proceeds to get the full story from Mordecai
- 4:7....allowing him to know what Haman has done to destroy the Jews and make the work profitable by taking their stuff for the king's treasury.
- 4:8....He gives Hatach a copy of the decree and begs him to show it to Esther and to call upon her to petition the king that this thing will not be allowed to happen.
- 4:9....Hatach carries out the mission

No mention of God!