

1. In the material, moral spheres
2. In the supernatural and/or physical spheres

E. God does not advertise:

He will announce that He is going to do something and His people need to believe and perform in accord with His will. This is how He takes the wise in their own conceit, catches people in the traps they have laid for others.

III. Conclusion:

The ways of God are inscrutable but not unobservable. In any part of the Bible His direction and interest may be seen being served by His grace.

MESSAGE # 18: The Civic Responsibility of the Lord's People.

I. Introduction:

Thank you for being with us today in these talks which summarize some of the things we have seen in the Book of Esther. As noted early in our study the Name of God does not appear in Esther although the work of God is apparent in every aspect of the book. Considering the ways of God in our previous discussion we can see how Esther is a dramatic presentation of God working and intention and we can learn from it that no force is able to frustrate Him in the execution His great plan. But we also observe in this book that while God is working His will it is crucial that His people be obedient and responsive to His direction. Our mention of civic responsibility is not intended to take us into a world of politics but to help us see how God's people should live in their relationships with one another and the society in which they find themselves. It is an important lesson and certainly should not be forgotten in the character of the age in which we find ourselves living.

Somehow we have to understand that there are times and situations that are not to our liking and also beyond anything we can do to secure immediate change. How then, or what then, is our responsibility as we live in such a setting? That is what I hope to discuss with you today...for these few moments in the conclusion of Esther.

II. Discussion: