

- A. Unable to change a particular circumstance, the Lord's people must live in ways that are true to him...they must not abandon themselves to apostasy or give up the principles of their faith. The hope for the the situation is the working of God through His people and if they are disobedient or rebellious, the means for His work are curtailed.
- B. The civic responsibility requires them to be true in principle and practice. There are several examples of this in Esther...but note in being true one is not to be foolish in the hope that some sort of demonstrable bravado would save the day. When Esther hears of the plot she does not jump up a scream that she is Jewish...she will bring this to light when it is advantageous for securing help for her people.
- C. ^{is} The stay together...they help and support one another and take the advantages provided by a "family".
- D. They will not impede the work of God by trying to do it on their own or substituting private ends for spiritual goals.
- E. They will stay concerned for the processes and procedures of what is right and will not, in any understandable way, give their energies to the forces of evil.

III. Conclusion:

We might add that they will not hide nor try to conform to the images about them so that they are invisible. They will continue to be the people of God but a people who walk worthy of the calling in which they are called.

*Esth 4:1
1 Pt 2*

MESSAGE # 19: How Do We Understand the Hatred Shown to the Jews

I. Introduction:

This might seem to be a sideline as we bring our Esther studies to a conclusion but since the heart of the book is the plan to exterminate the Jews it reminds us, necessarily, that throughout all of history God has had a program and the enemy has steadfastly sought to interrupt or ruin it. Since the Hebrew peoples are a key part of that program, it is only natural that they would be hated by those who hate God. That hardly explains the anti-Jewishness of some who know God and I suppose the best we can say for them is that