

From Tears to Joy Esther 8:1-9:17

- I. **The tears:** the battle of Gog and Magog goes forward
 - A. *Despite a great reversal in favor*
 - 1. Despite the fact that Haman Gog is dead (v. 1)
 - 2. Despite the fact that the Jews are in charge (v. 2)
 - 3. Despite the tears of the queen (v. 3)
 - 4. Despite the favor of the King toward the Jews (v. 4)
 - B. *Because it has been decreed*
 - 1. God's prophecy was determined (Ezekiel 38-39)
 - 2. the king's decree could not be reversed (Esther 8:5-8)
- II. **The joy:** the battle of Gog and Magog will favor the Jews
 - A. *Success in defending themselves is predestined by God (Ezek. 38-39)*
 - B. *Permission to defend themselves is granted by the king (8:9-14)*
 - C. *The Jews can rejoice with faith and hope (8:15-17)*
- III. Lessons learned
 - A. *Personal lessons*
 - 1. It is right to defend oneself (8:11; 9:2)
 - 2. It is right to seek the civil government's defense (9:3)
 - 3. We should long for and pray for Israel to be saved (8:3-6)
 - B. *Prophetic lessons*
 - 1. There will be a turning of the hearts of physical Jews to Christ
 - 2. There will be even greater blessing among the Gentiles.