

***The Gifts Of God***  
***Esther 8:1-2***

**Introduction:**

1. It's Good To Be Back With You This Morning:
  - To Look Into The Word Of God Together!
    - Now, I Know That For The Last Couple Of Weeks:
      - You Have Been In The New Testament Books:
        - Of Colossians & Luke!
      - And I Appreciate Both Art & Jim Leading Our Worship Through God's Word!
  - But For This Morning:
    - We Are Going To Head Back Once Again:
      - To The Old Testament Book Of Esther:
        - And To Right Where We Left Off:
          - In Esther Chapter 8!
2. And Our Primary Text For This Morning:
  - Will Be The First 2 Verses Of Esther 8:
    - Which Begin With These Words:
      - In 8:1 - "On That Day!"
        - Now - Before We Go Further - I Want Us To Review & Remember Together All That Happened "On That Day!"
    - "That Day" Started:
      - All The Way Back In Chapter 6:
        - When Late That Previous Night - Or More Likely - Very Early In The Morning On "That Day":
          - "Could Not The King Sleep!" (6:1)
      - And Beginning With:
        - The King's Sleepless Night:
          - So Much Transpires On "That Day!"
    - It Was The Day:
      - When Haman:
        - First Came To The King:
          - "To speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him!" (6:4)
    - But It Was Also The Day:
      - When The King:
        - After Being Reminded Of The Loyal Actions Of Mordecai:
          - Commanded Haman To Honor Mordecai With Royal Honors, Leading Him Through The Streets Of Shushan Declaring - "Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honor!" (6:9)
    - It Was The Day:
      - When Esther:
        - Had Prepared A Second Banquet For The King & Haman:
          - So That She Might Finally Share Her Great Burden:
            - 7:3-4 - "If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request: / For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish!"
    - And It Was Also The Day:
      - When Haman:
        - Was Justly Convicted & Condemned:
          - For His Crimes Against The King & His Kingdom!
            - 7:10 - "So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified!"
    - All Of This Happened:
      - "On That Day!"
        - On That One Single Day!
  - 3. But - Even Though All Of These Things:
    - Took Place In The Space Of That Relatively Short:
      - 24 Hour Span Of Time:

- We Notice That The Queens Petition & Request Has Still Not Yet Been Fully Granted:
  - By The King!
- Because It Seems As If The King:
  - Is Still Focused More On Himself:
    - Than On His Queen:
      - And Her Petition & Request!
  - You See:
    - It Was To Pacify His Own Wrath:
      - That Haman Was Executed!
  - But Now It Seems:
    - There Was Something Else:
      - He Needed To Pacify:
        - Like His Own Guilt!
- If The King Was Honest With Himself:
  - He Too Was Complicit & Responsible:
    - For The Danger Posed To His Queen:
      - And Her People!
  - After All:
    - He Was The One Who Had Elevated:
      - Haman - A Proud & Ambitious & Wicked Man - Into Such A Position Of Authority!
    - He Was The One Who Had Granted:
      - Haman Permission To Enact A Decree To Destroy & Annihilate A Group Of People In His Kingdom Without Investigating His Claims!
    - He Was The One Who Had Left:
      - Haman Alone With His Queen In The Banquet Room When He Was Trying To Deal With His Rage!

4. And So - Continuing On In 8:1-2 - Likely To Pacify His Own Guilt:
- “On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews’ enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her. / And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman!”
  - What Great Gifts:
    - The King Gives To His Queen & To Mordecai!
      - Yet - He Still Leaves Esther’s Petition & Request Undone!
        - Her Life & The Lives Of Her People Were Still In Danger!
  - But In The Providence Of God:
    - We See That Much More Is Given To Esther & Mordecai:
      - Than Esther Had Even Requested!
  - In These Verses:
    - There Are 4 Transactions:
      - Made By The King - That God Will Use:
        - To Reverse The Plot That Haman Made Against The Jews!
          - Because The Lord’s Ways Are Much Higher Than Our Ways! And His Thoughts Are Much Greater Than Our Own Thoughts! (Isaiah 55:9)

\* The First Transaction & Gift Made By The King Was:

**1. A Special Right:**

- Given To The Queen - Which We Find In:
  - 8:1 - “On That Day Did The King Ahasuerus Give The House Of Haman The Jews’ Enemy Unto Esther The Queen!”
    - Now - In Ancient Persia - Whenever A Man Was Condemned To Death:
      - The Property Of That Man Became The Personal Property Of The King!
        - And So - The “House Of Haman” - Upon Haman’s Execution - Did Not Go To His Wife - Did Not Go To His Sons - But Went Directly To The King!
- And So The King Granted Esther:
  - The Right To Have Everything:
    - That Belonged To Haman!
      - His Entire “House!”
  - Now - The “House Of Haman” Would Have Been:

- Very Substantial!
  - Remember - Haman Had Even Offered The King The Sum Of 10,000 Talents Of Silver:
    - In Order To Get His Permission To Destroy The Jews!
    - It Was A Vast Sum Of Money!
- And So - The House Of Haman Would Have Included:
  - All Of His Houses!
  - All Of His Land!
  - All Of His Money!
  - And Even All Of His Servants!
    - And Haman's Wife & Sons:
      - Were Left With Nothing!
- Now - Why Would The King Do This?
  - Not Only To Pacify His Guilt:
    - But - I Believe - Because He Saw Something In His Queen Through All Of This!
      - He Saw In Her:
        - Great Courage!
        - Great Loyalty!
        - Great Benevolence!
        - And Perhaps Even Great Faith!
  - And So - He Knew That He Could Entrust:
    - All Of Haman's Estate To Her!
      - And In The Words Of Matthew Henry - "What Haman Would Have Done Mischief With, Esther Will Do Good With!"
- And Now - Esther Had The Right:
  - To Use Everything From The "House Of Haman The Jews' Enemy" To:
    - Counteract Haman's Plot To Destroy Her People!
      - Again - God's Ways Are Higher Than Our Ways! And His Thoughts Are Higher Than Our Thoughts! (Isaiah 55:9)

\* The Second Transaction & Gift Made By The King Was:

**2. A Special Recognition:**

- Given To Mordecai - Which We Also Find In:
  - 8:1 - "And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her!"
    - Now - Remember That To Come Before The King In Ancient Persia:
      - Was A Great Privilege!
        - Even The Queen Could Not Legally Enter Into His Presence Unless She Were Called For By Name! (2:14)
  - But There Were Some:
    - Who Were Given This Privilege & Had The Right To Appear Before The King At Any Time!
      - Back In 1:14 - We Learn That There Were Only 7 Princes Who:
        - "Saw The King's Face, And Which Sat The First In The Kingdom!"
  - And Now - Mordecai:
    - Is Given This Privilege & This Right!
      - To Appear Before The King At Any Time!
- But - Why Would The King Do This?
  - 8:1 - "For Esther Had Told What He Was Unto Her!"
    - You See - Finally - After More Than 5 Years:
      - Esther Tells Her Husband - The King:
        - The Special Relationship That Existed Between Her & Mordecai!
    - Mordecai Was One Of Her Own Kindred:
      - And Part Of Her Own Family!
        - But Even More - He Was Her Own Father!
          - And Esther Was Finally Able To Show Her Gratitude To Him!
      - Because She Was So Grateful To Him:
        - For His Parenting!
        - For His Protection!
        - And For All Of His Provision!
  - And Now - Mordecai Had The Recognition:

- For His Own Love & Loyalty:
  - To Her / To The Jews / To The King:
  - Even More - To The Lord!

\* The Third Transaction & Gift Made By The King Was:

**3. A Special Reward:**

- Also Given To Mordecai - Which We Find In:
  - 8:2 - “And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai!”
    - The Royal Signet Ring:
      - Was An Important Sign & Symbol In Ancient Persia!
  - It Was A Sign:
    - Of The King’s Friendship & Favor!
  - And It Was A Symbol:
    - Of One’s Position & Power:
      - In The Empire!
  - And So - Again - “The King Took Off His Ring, Which He Had Taken From Haman, And Gave It Unto Mordecai!”
    - Now - We Are Not Told When:
      - The Ring Was Taken Off Haman’s Finger:
        - But The Significance Of This Act Is Clear!
  - Everything That Haman Was In The Kingdom:
    - Now - Mordecai Would Be!
      - Second In Command!
        - Given The King’s Implicit Trust To Enact & Carry Out Decrees!
- But - Why Would The King Do This?
  - Because He Found In Mordecai:
    - A Character That Was The Complete Opposite Of Haman!
  - Haman Was A Proud Man:
    - Whereas Mordecai Was Humble!
      - How Do We Know This? He Had Demonstrated His Humility In His Faithful Service At The King’s Gate For Years!
  - Haman Was An Ambitious Man:
    - Whereas Mordecai Was Loyal!
      - How Do We Know This? He Had Demonstrated His Loyalty To The King By Sparing The King’s Life!
  - Haman Was A Wicked Man:
    - Whereas Mordecai Was Righteous!
      - How Do We Know This? Because Of The Clear Evidence Of His Faith In The God Of His Fathers! And His Faith Would Be Counted As Righteousness! (Abraham)
- And Mordecai Was Given This Great Reward!

\* But A Fourth Transaction & Gift Was Made - This Time - Buy The Queen:

**4. A Special Responsibility:**

- Given To Her Adoptive Father - Mordecai - In The Last Part Of:
  - 8:2 - “And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman!”
    - Who Would Be A Better Choice:
      - To Oversee & Manage:
        - The New Property That She Had Just Been Given?
  - Mordecai Had Proven Himself:
    - To Be A Faithful Steward:
      - Over All That Had Been Given Him!
        - And Esther Knew That He Would Use This Special Responsibility As An Opportunity To Do Even More Good:
          - For Her & For Their People - The People Of God!

**Conclusion:**

1. All Of These Transactions:
  - Were Made By The King:

- And Would Eventually Be Used To Reverse:
  - The Evil Plot Of Haman Against God's People!
- And So - Even If The King Granted These Gifts:
  - In Order To Pacify His Own Guilt:
    - It Was All Done According To The Pleasure & Providence Of God!
- 2. But As Great As These Transactions & Gifts Were:
  - That Were Made By An Impetuous Persian King:
    - Imagine The Even Greater Transactions & Gifts:
      - Made By The Lord:
        - To All Of His People!
          - Not Just Esther & Mordecai!
          - Not Just Faithful Jews!
          - But To All Who Are In Christ Jesus!
  - Ephesians 1:3 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ!"
    - You See - The Gifts Granted:
      - By King Ahasuerus – Were Only Temporal:
        - And Temporary!
    - But - The Gifts Granted:
      - By God - To His Own Children:
        - Are Heavenly & Timeless!
- 3. What Does The Lord Give To His People? He Too Grants:
  - A Special Right!
    - Not Merely To Possess The Estate:
      - And The Possessions Of A Man:
        - Like Haman!
    - But The Right To Even:
      - Inherit The World!
        - Psalm 37:7-9 - "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. / Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. / For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth!"
    - When You Belong To The Lord:
      - Through Faith In Jesus Christ:
        - The Whole Earth Will Belong To You!
        - To Use In Your Eternal Service For The Lord!
        - He Also Gives:
  - A Special Recognition!
    - Even Though Esther Was Not Ashamed Of Her Relationship With Mordecai As Her Father:
      - It Took Her 5 Years Before She Could Disclose That Relationship To The King!
    - But The Recognition That The Lord Offers:
      - To His People - Is Immediate!
        - Hebrews 2:11 - "For which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren!"
      - Jesus Himself Calls All Who Believe In Him:
        - His Own "Brethren!"
          - Which Means That You Have God The Father As Your Own Father!
    - And There Is No Greater Relationship:
      - And No Greater Recognition That You Can Have:
        - If You Are A "Child Of The King!"
          - And This Relationship Is Something We Never To Be Ashamed Of As Well!
      - "O I Could Sing Forever Of Jesus' Love Divine, Of All His Love And Tenderness For This Poor Life Of Mine!" (Edna R. Worrell)
      - He Also Gives:
  - A Special Reward!
    - The Ring That King Ahasuerus Gave To Mordecai:
      - Was Eventually Taken Away From His Own Hand!
        - And Eventually - That Ring Has Disappeared Into History!
    - But - Listen To What The Reward For God's People Is Like:

- 1 Peter 1:3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, / To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you!"
- The Rewards That You Are Given:
  - Simply Because You Belong To Christ:
    - "Fadeth Not Away!"
    - And That Is Why He Also Gives:
- A Special Responsibility!
  - Just Like Mordecai - To Be:
    - "Faith-Filled & Faith-Ful Stewards" Over All Of The Great Gifts God Has Given You!
  - Jesus Tells Us In:
    - Matthew 6:19-21 - "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: / But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: / For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also!"
- 4. The Gifts Of God To His People:
  - Are Timeless & Without Repentance! (Romans 11:29)
    - To Those Who Have Come To Him:
      - Through Faith Alone In Jesus Christ!
  - Do These Gifts Belong To You Today?
    - They Are Infinitely Greater Than:
      - The Gifts Granted By The King To Even Esther & Mordecai!
        - And They Can Be Yours - Bought "Without Money & Without Price!"
  - And Once They Belong To You:
    - Special Right / Recognition / Reward / Responsibility:
      - You Now Have The Opportunity To:
        - "Serve The Living & True God!" (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
        - In Faith & In Faithfulness!

**Grace Baptist Church**  
**Stephen Elmer, Pastor**  
**4245 North 200 West**  
**Greenfield, Indiana 46140**  
**317-326-2362**  
[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)  
[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)  
[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)