

***“A Message To Tell!”***  
***Esther 9:29-32***

**Introduction:**

1. As We Are Nearing The Conclusion Of Our Series Through Esther:
  - Please Turn With Me In Your Bibles This Morning To:
    - Esther Chapter 9 - Where We Have Already Seen:
      - One Of The Primary Results Of The Deliverance Of The Jews During The Time Of Esther!
  - The Result? It Was The Establishment:
    - Of A New Holiday!
      - The Feast & Festival Of Purim:
        - Which Reminds Us Of The Lots That Were Cast By That Wicked Haman:
          - In Order To Determine The Day That The Jews Were To Be Destroyed!
  - But What Happened Instead?
    - According To Psalm 33:10 - “The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect!”
      - God, With His Great Power & Through His Gracious Providence:
        - Canceled Out Haman’s Wicked Plan:
          - And Delivered His People From Destruction!
2. This Became The “Reason For The Season” Of Purim!
  - And It Was Something Worth Celebrating!
    - And So - Even Today - Year After Year - In The Springtime:
      - The Jews Celebrate Purim In Order To Remember:
        - What Is Recorded In This Book!
  - And Much Of Esther Chapter 9:
    - Records For Us Just How The Feast Of Purim Came About!
      - It Was First Established By:
        - The People Themselves!
          - When All Throughout The Empire Of Persia - On The Day They Had Rest From Their Enemies - There Was A Spontaneous Celebration By The People Themselves!
    - Then - Mordecai Sent Out A Letter:
      - To Encourage The People:
        - To Continue This Celebration Every Single Year:
          - So They Would Not Forget The Feelings Of Those Days & Their Freedom!
    - But Then - Another Letter Was Sent Out:
      - This Time - It Was Authorized By Both:
        - Mordecai & Esther:
          - To Confirm The Practice Of This New Holiday:
            - Throughout Their Generations!
  - 3. And It Is This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter:
    - That We Will Read & Learn More About:
      - This Morning - From 9:29-32 - “Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim. / And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth, / To confirm these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry. / And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book!”
    - Now - It Would Seem To Us At First:
      - That This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Does Little More Than The 1<sup>st</sup> Letter:
        - The One Sent Out By Mordecai In 9:20!
          - And Although There Were Probably Many Similarities - There Are Some Key Differences As Well!
      - And Those Differences Are What Motivated:
        - Esther Herself To Communicate To Her People:
          - With A Passionate Message Of Her Own!
      - In The Words Of John Trapp:

- Esther Wrote These Words – “Out Of A Holy Zeal For God And A Godly Jealousy Over Her People, Lest They Should Hereafter Slight Or Slack In This Service!”
- Esther Did Not Want Her People – God’s People – To Ever Forget:
  - The Real “Reason For The Season” Of Purim!
- And So - In These Verses We See:

# ***1. The Great Power Of The Message!***

- 9:29 - “Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim!”
  - This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim:
    - Was Initiated By Esther Herself!
    - And So - We Read Of:
  - The Great Importance Of The Message!
    - It Was Something That Was Worth:
      - All Of The Time & Effort:
        - And Even Expense - To Get Out To All Of Her People:
          - No Matter Where They Lived In The Persian Empire!
    - And So - Esther & Mordecai:
      - Used All The Resources Available To Them:
        - Including The Famous Persian Postal System:
          - Whose Motto - If You Remember - Was - “Neither Snow Nor Rain Nor Heat Nor Gloom Of Night Stays These Couriers From The Swift Completion Of Their Appointed Rounds!”
    - Esther’s Message Was So Important:
      - We Read Also Of:
  - The Great Influence Of The Messengers!
    - Both Esther & Mordecai!
      - We Need To Remember That:
        - Before Everything That Happened In The Book Of Esther:
          - They Were Ordinary Jews From An Ordinary Tribe Trying To Live Out An Ordinary Life In A Foreign Land! But Persia Was Not All That Foreign To Them - They Had Been Born In Captivity & Likely Grew Up Right There In Shushan! And Esther Herself Was Orphaned As A Child & Then Adopted By Her Older Cousin!
    - But - In God’s Own Providence:
      - He Raised Them Up To Their Positions:
        - Of Power & Influence!
          - Esther As Queen Of All Persia!
          - And Mordecai As Prime Minister To The King!
    - And Even Though They Had No Jewish Royal Blood:
      - Running Through Their Veins:
        - They Recognized That They Had Been Raised Up For “Such A Time As This!”
          - Isn’t This Also What God Does With Those Who Are His True Children?
      - You May Have No Royal Blood In Your Veins - But - Revelation 1:6 - Jesus Christ “Hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen!”
        - This Is What God Did For Esther & Mordecai!
          - And Now - “They Had Taken A Deep Interest In The Welfare Of Their People!” (McRie)
  - They Used The Influence & The Opportunity:
    - Given To Them By God:
      - To Get The Message Of Their Deliverance Out To All Of Their People!
    - This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim:
      - Was A United Message!
        - Published & Sent By Both Esther & Mordecai! And It:
      - Was An Urgent Message!
        - But What Could Have Been So Urgent That Hadn’t Been Addressed In Mordecai’s 1<sup>st</sup> Letter?

- See In A Moment!
- But - Doesn't The Power Of Esther's Message:
  - Remind Us Of Our Own Message Of Deliverance:
    - The Gospel?
    - And How It Is:
  - A Message Of Such Great Importance:
    - That God The Father Sent:
      - His Only Begotten Son Into The World:
        - That We Might Live Through Him! (1 John 4:9)
    - There Is No Greater Message:
      - Than The Gospel!
        - And So - There Is No Greater Messenger:
          - Than Jesus Christ Himself!
  - And So - After He Came To Deliver & Redeem:
    - His People From Their Sin & Impending Destruction:
      - He Gave All Those Who Believe In Him His Own Power & Authority:
        - To Tell Others About His Great Message!
  - Great Commission - Matthew 28:18-20 - "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. / Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: / Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen!"
- And Now - Every Christian - Has:
  - "A Message To Tell!"
    - A Message Of Great Importance!
      - And So - We Need To Use Every Opportunity We Have & Any Influence We Have:
        - To Get The Word Out - Even As Esther Did!

\* We Also See From Esther 9:

2. ***The Great Peace Of The Message!***

- 9:30 - "And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth!"
  - This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim:
    - Was Sent Out In A Very Special Way!
      - "With Words Of Peace And Truth!"
        - This Was Not The Normal Way That Haman Nor The King Would Have Sent Out Their Decrees To Their Subjects!
  - But To Esther & Mordecai:
    - The Jews Were So Much More:
      - Than Mere Subjects!
        - They Were Their Own People / Their Own Family! God's People!
          - And They Were There To Serve Them!
  - And So - They Promoted Their Message:
    - "With Words Of Peace And Truth!"
      - This Can Describe:
- The Manner Of The Message!
  - That Is - They Sent It Out With Words Of:
    - Thoughtfulness & Tenderness!
      - They Didn't Want To Burden Their People, But To Encourage Their People!
        - And To Promote Their "Peace" & "Shalom!"
  - And As The Jews Would Eventually Receive:
    - This Letter From Queen Esther & Mordecai:
      - They Would Have Experienced What Is Described In Proverbs 25:25 - "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country!"
    - But - I Think These Words Were More Than Just:
      - A Salutation / A Greeting!
  - Because - These Words Could Also Describe:
- The Message Itself!
  - "Words Of Peace & Truth!"

- The Letter Contained Words Of Peace:
  - That Were Based On The Truth:
    - Of All That Took Place In Persia In Order To Deliver The Jews From The Hands Of Haman & Their Enemies!
- Now - What Else Can These Words Describe?
  - “Words Of Peace & Truth!”
    - This Is What We Find - Not Just In This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim:
      - But In The Book Of Esther Itself!
        - It Is A Book Full Of Peace & Truth & Hope!
    - But - This Can Extend Further:
      - To The Bible As A Whole!
        - Every Book / Letter - “Words Of Peace & Truth” – And Hope!
    - And Of Course:
  - These Words Can Also Describe:
    - Our Own Message Of The Gospel:
      - And Of Jesus Christ Himself!
        - In John 1:14 - We Are Told That - “The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth!”
          - Jesus Himself Is The Greatest Word Of Peace & Truth & Hope!
    - And So - When Esther & Mordecai Sent Out This Letter:
      - They Were Following After Christ Himself, Their Coming Messiah, With Their Words!
        - And They Used Their Power To Present Peace & Truth To Their People!
  - And This Is Our Message To Tell As Well!
    - Because “Peace & Truth” Is What:
      - Is Needed Most In The Hearts & Lives:
        - Of Every Person On Earth!
          - Peace With God & The Truth Of The Gospel!
    - And This Is What God Himself Offers:
      - Through Jesus Christ!
        - Jeremiah 33:6 - “Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth!”
    - Peace & Truth Can Only Come From The Lord!
      - Have You Received It?
        - Do You Have Peace With God? Peace In Your Heart?
  - Our Message To Tell:
    - Is The Message Of “Peace & Truth!”
      - Also See:

### 3. ***The Great Purpose Of The Message!***

- 9:31-32 - “To **confirm** these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had **enjoined** them, and as they had **decreed** for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry. / And the decree of Esther **confirmed** these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book!”
  - The Great Purpose Of This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim:
    - Was:
      - To “Confirm” Those Days:
        - Among The Jews!
          - 4 Times - The Same Word Is Used:
            - To “Confirm!”
        - Esther & Mordecai:
          - Knew How Prone We Are As People:
            - To Forget - And So They Wanted To Confirm Their Commitment:
              - To Remember Their Deliverance!
        - But This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim Was Also Sent:
      - To Complete:
        - Their Understanding Of What Took Place!
          - This Is The Big Difference Between Mordecai’s 1<sup>st</sup> Letter & Esther’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter:
            - They Were Not Only To Remember To Celebrate Their Days Of Deliverance!
              - They Were Also To Remember:

- “The Matters Of The Fastings And Their Cry!”
  - Esther Wanted The People:
    - Before & During Their Celebrations:
      - To Never Forget The “Whole Story” Of Their Deliverance!
- They Needed To Remember:
  - The First Decree Of Haman!
  - The Great Danger They Faced:
    - As A Nation!
  - The Painful Distress:
    - They All Felt - When There Seemed To Be No Hope For Them!
      - When “There was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes!” (4:3)
  - The Impending Destruction:
    - As The Fateful Day Kept Getting Closer & Closer!
- The Jews Were Not To:
  - Enjoy The Great Feast Of Purim:
    - Without First Remembering:
      - The Sorrowful & Fearful Fasting That Esther Had To Endure For 3 Days Before She Appeared Before The King!
    - Because - “At The Risk Of Her Life, She Had Preserved Theirs!” (Lawson)
    - Also:
- The Jews Were Not To:
  - Enjoy The Great Celebrations Of Purim:
    - Without First Remembering:
      - The Bitter & Tear-Soaked Cries Of Themselves & Their Children!
- This Was The “Whole Story” That:
  - They Needed To Remember:
    - During Those Days Of Purim!
      - Because The Darker It Is, The Brighter The Light Will Seem, When It Is Finally Turned On!
- This Ought To Be The Great Purpose:
  - Of The Message We Have To Tell As Well!
    - We Need To Share:
      - The “Whole Story” Of The Gospel!
- This Includes:
  - Not Only The Words:
    - Of God’s Grace & Deliverance:
      - Through Jesus Christ!
  - But Also The Words:
    - Of Man’s Rebellion & Danger:
      - Because Of Sin!
- And How God Is Truly:
  - “The Judge Of All The Earth” Who Will Always Do What Is “Right!” (Genesis 18:25)
- And That Is Why:
  - “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men!” (2 Corinthians 5:11)
    - We Have A Message To Tell!
      - And It Is Urgent! We Need To Be Passionate & Persuasive:
        - “Confirming” The Truths Of The Gospel Over & Over Again!
  - Until - Their Eyes Are Opened - And They Are Turned:
    - “From darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins!” (Acts 26:18)
  - Perhaps Even - There Is A Letter:
    - That You Need To Write:
      - To Someone You Know & Love:
        - Who Needs To Hear About God’s Message Peace & Truth!

## **Conclusion:**

1. The Message Of Esther:

- In This 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter Of Purim:
  - Is Just A Foreshadow Of:
    - Our Own Message Of The Gospel!
    - Our Message Is About:
      - A Greater Danger!
      - And An Even Greater Deliverance!

2. And So - We Need To Have:
  - The Same Heart & Spirit Of:
    - Both Esther & Mordecai!
      - United - Because We To Have A Message To Tell!
      - And We Need To Use The Opportunities & Influence God Has Given Us:
        - To Get This Message Out!
  - It Is A Message:
    - Of Great Power!
    - Of Great Peace!
    - And Of Great Purpose!
  - “We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right, a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light! For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light!”

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