



Esther

Week 6

When the Hidden Hand Becomes Crystal Clear

Pastor David Wright - Reston Bible Church - Sunday, October 19, 2025



When the Hidden Hand Becomes Crystal Clear

Four Main Characters

- **King Ahasuerus**
- **Queen Esther**
- **Mordecai**
- **Haman**

God Protects His People Through

- **Governmental Rule**
- **Personal Restraint**
- **Divine Reversal**

God Protects His People Through

- **Governmental Rule**
- **Personal Restraint**
- **Divine Reversal**

God Protects His People Through Governmental Rule

Then Esther spoke again to the king. She fell at his feet and wept and pleaded with him to avert the evil plan of Haman the Agagite and the plot that he had devised against the Jews. When the king held out the golden scepter to Esther, Esther rose and stood before the king.

Esther 8:3-4 ESV

God Protects His People Through Governmental Rule

And she said, “If it please the king, and if I have found favor in his sight, and if the thing seems right before the king, and I am pleasing in his eyes, let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, which he wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all the provinces of the king. For how can I bear to see the calamity that is coming to my people? Or how can I bear to see the destruction of my kindred?”

Esther 8:5-6 ESV

God Protects His People Through Governmental Rule

Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, “Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows, because he intended to lay hands on the Jews. But you may write as you please with regard to the Jews, in the name of the king, and seal it with the king's ring, for an edict written in the name of the king and sealed with the king's ring cannot be revoked.”

Esther 8:7-8 ESV

God Protects His People Through Governmental Rule

...the king allowed the Jews who were in every city to gather and defend their lives, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate any armed force of any people or province that might attack them, children and women included, and to plunder their goods, on one day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.

Esther 8:11-12 ESV

The Counter-Decree

Esther 3 – The Decree

Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with instruction to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, women and children, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods.

Esther 8 – The Counter-Decree

Then he sent the letters by mounted couriers... saying that the king allowed the Jews who were in every city to gather and defend their lives, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate any armed force of any people or province that might attack them, children and women included, and to plunder their goods, on one day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.

The Counter-Decree

Esther 3 – The Decree

Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with instruction to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, women and children, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods.

Esther 8 – The Counter-Decree

Then he sent the letters by mounted couriers... saying that the king allowed the Jews who were in every city to gather and **defend their lives**, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate **any armed force** of any people or province that might attack them, children and women included, and to plunder their goods, on one day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.

God Protects His People Through Governmental Rule

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God... for [the government] is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

Romans 13:1, 4 ESV

God Protects His People Through Governmental Rule

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV

...on the very day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to gain the mastery over them, the reverse occurred: the Jews gained mastery over those who hated them.

Esther 9:1b ESV

In Susa the citadel itself the Jews killed and destroyed 500 men, and also killed Parshandatha and Dalphon and Aspatha and Poratha and Adalia and Aridatha and Parmashta and Arisai and Aridai and Vaizatha, the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, **but they laid no hand on the plunder.**


Esther 9:6-10 ESV

The Jews who were in Susa gathered also on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar and they killed 300 men in Susa, **but they laid no hands on the plunder.** Now the rest of the Jews who were in the king's provinces also gathered to defend their lives, and got relief from their enemies and killed 75,000 of those who hated them, **but they laid no hands on the plunder.**

Esther 9:15-16 ESV

God Protects His People Through

- **Governmental Rule**
- **Personal Restraint**
- **Divine Reversal**



“All Capitol Hill Baptist Church ever asked for is equal treatment under the law so they could meet together safely as a church. The District is paying a price for religious discrimination, and we are pleased that our client’s First Amendment rights have been vindicated.”



**If possible, so far as it depends on you, live
peaceably with all.**

Romans 12:18 ESV

God Protects His People Through

- **Governmental Rule**
- **Personal Restraint**
- **Divine Reversal**