

Trusting God's firm control

Esther 6, page 399

I. KING XERXES – SLEEPLESS IN SUSA: GOD CONTROLS WHAT SEEMS TO BE RANDOM CHANCE (ESTHER 6:1-5).

- A. Royal aids picked the story of Mordecai preventing the king's assassination to read to him on a sleepless night (6:1-2; 2:21-23).
- B. Royal aids reported that Haman was in the court when the king asked for someone to plan Mordecai's honor (6:3-5).
 - What seems random is under God's control (Daniel 4:37).

II. HAMAN – OBSESSED WITH MORE HONOR: GOD CONTROLS HUMILIATION AND HONOR (ESTHER 6:6-11).

- A. Haman assumed King Xerxes was giving him even more honor so he proposed a lavish parade of honor (6-9).
- B. Xerxes commanded Haman to honor Mordecai with the extravagant parade he longed to have for himself (10-11).
 - Don't long for praise because God humbles those who seek honor for themselves (Matthew 23:5-7; 10-11).
 - Trust God to reward or honor you (Psalm 75:7; 1 Samuel 2:8).

III. HAMAN – WARNED BY FRIENDS & FAMILY: GOD CONTROLS THE FALL OF HIS ENEMIES (ESTHER 6:12-14).

- A. Haman was mortified as he returns home (6:12-13a).
- B. Haman's friends and family predicted his demise (6:13b-14).