



ESTHER

JULY 5

Week 7: Triumph Over the Enemy

Key Scripture

The enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them. ² The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those seeking their destruction. No one could stand against them.

Esther 9:1-2

1. God protects his people

He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us.

2 Corinthians 1:10

2. God gives joy to his people

The city of Susa held a joyous celebration. ¹⁶ For the Jews it was a time of happiness and joy, gladness and honor. ¹⁷ In every province and in every city to which the edict of the king came, there was joy and gladness among the Jews, with feasting and celebrating.

Esther 8:15-17

For personal reflection or group discussion.

- What is your favorite holiday? Why?
- What have you experienced that seemed to be impossible and could only be explained as God's work?

Questions to go deeper in your faith.

- Three times in Chapter nine we read that the Jews refused to plunder the property of their enemies even though the edict permitted them to. This practice originated with Abraham. Read Genesis 14:17-23, why wouldn't he receive from the king of Sodom?
- The Jews did not commemorate the day of their victorious battle, but the day on which they rested from their enemies. The Jews did not make an anniversary of their war but of their rest. Do you have a day set aside where you rest and focus on the Lord? If so, how does this day make a difference in your week?
- The enemy joined them! Reflect on Esther 8:17: "*And many people of other nationalities became Jews because fear of the Jews had seized them.*" Seems like a case of, "If you can't beat them, join them!"

Challenges to strengthen your heart.

- What is something that you are joyful about today?
- Reflect on the book of Esther as a whole. Which parts of the story are most impactful? With which characters do you most identify?

Read Scripture about triumphing over the enemy.

Deuteronomy 20:4

Proverbs 2:7-8

1 John 5:4

1 Corinthians 15:57

Pray. Be bold, and pray specifically.

Ask the Lord to strengthen you for spiritual battle and praise him for the victory that you have through Christ.



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