

Esther 5:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.

Analysis

Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king. Haman added that he alone (besides the king) attended Esther's exclusive banquet, and was invited again tomorrow. The phrase "no man...but myself" emphasizes the singular honor. Haman viewed this as pinnacle achievement—private banquets with king and queen. Yet this very invitation was setting his trap. The honor he boasted about was actually the mechanism of his exposure and doom. Esther's banquets, which Haman interpreted as honoring him, were strategically creating the private setting where she would expose and condemn him (7:6). Providence uses human pride's blindness to position the proud for judgment.

Historical Context

Exclusive royal banquets represented enormous honor in ancient court culture. Being the only guest besides the king at the queen's feast would indeed be extraordinary recognition. Haman's boasting demonstrates he completely misread the situation—he thought Esther honored him when actually she was positioning him for exposure. His pride prevented him from questioning why he was receiving this attention, accepting it as his due. Ancient sources describe how courtiers

constantly competed for royal favor and proximity, making Haman's boasting understandable culturally while tragic dramatically. The irony of boasting about the invitation that would lead to his doom demonstrates how pride blinds to reality.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Haman's misinterpretation of Esther's invitation demonstrate how pride blinds people to reality and danger?
2. What does this teach about how God can use enemies' pride to position them for judgment while they think they're being honored?

Interlinear Text

אָסַת	רְ	הַבִּיאָה	לֹא	אַךְ	רְ	פָּמָן	וַיֹּאמֶר	יְהוָה
said	Haman	H637	H3808	did let no man come in			moreover Yea Esther	
H559	H2001			H935			H635	
אֲשֶׁר	בְּמִשְׁתַּחַת	הַמֶּלֶךְ	אֶל	בְּמִלְחָמָה	עִם	בְּמִלְכָה	הַמֶּלֶךְ	הַמֶּלֶךְ
the queen	H5973	unto her also with the king	H413	H4428			unto the banquet	H834
H4436							H4960	
אֵת	לִמְךָ	רְ	וְ	אָמַת	וְ	עַשׂ	תָּהָרְתָּה	
that she had prepared	H6213	H3588	H518	H853	H1571	but myself and to tomorrow	H4279	H589
בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה	בְּמִלְחָמָה
am I invited	H0	H5973	unto her also with the king	H4428				
H7121								

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 27:1 (Parallel theme): Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

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