

Esther 7:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

Analysis

Haman executed: **'So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified'**. Haman's execution on the very gallows (75 feet high, Esther 5:14) he built for Mordecai demonstrates perfect poetic justice and divine retribution. Psalm 7:15-16 teaches that the wicked fall into pits they dig for others—Haman embodies this principle. The king's wrath being 'pacified' shows justice satisfying royal anger, though deeper redemption requires the counter-decree of Esther 8. Haman's death foreshadows Satan's ultimate defeat—the enemy seeking to destroy God's people ultimately destroyed by his own devices.

Historical Context

Ancient execution by hanging or impalement was public spectacle demonstrating royal justice and warning against similar crimes. That Haman died on the specific structure he prepared for Mordecai added dramatic irony recognized by ancient audiences. Seventy-five feet height (50 cubits, Esther 5:14) made the execution highly visible throughout Susa. Archaeological evidence shows ancient Near Eastern kingdoms used public execution for political crimes, both as punishment and deterrence. The reversal of Haman's plot—from planning Jewish genocide to being executed while Mordecai is honored—demonstrates God's justice and providence. Jewish celebration of Purim commemorates this deliverance annually.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Haman's execution on his own gallows illustrate divine justice and the principle that evil rebounds on evildoers?
2. What does this reversal teach about God's sovereignty protecting His covenant people from seemingly unstoppable threats?

Interlinear Text

וַתֵּלֶן	אֶת	הָמָן	עַל	הַעֵץ	אֲשֶׁר	הָיָה
So they hanged	H853	Haman	H5921	on the gallows	H834	that he had prepared
H8518		H2001		H6086		H3559
לְמֹרְדֵּכַי	וַחַמַּת	הָמָן	לָהּ	שָׁכְכָה:		
for Mordecai	wrath	Then was the king's		pacified		
H4782	H2534	H4428		H7918		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 7:16 (Parallel theme): His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.

Ezekiel 5:13 (Parallel theme): Thus shall mine anger be accomplished, and I will cause my fury to rest upon them, and I will be comforted: and they shall know that I the LORD have spoken it in my zeal, when I have accomplished my fury in them.

Daniel 6:24 (Kingdom): And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

Judges 15:7 (Parallel theme): And Samson said unto them, Though ye have done this, yet will I be avenged of you, and after that I will cease.

Zechariah 6:8 (Parallel theme): Then cried he upon me, and spake unto me, saying, Behold, these that go toward the north country have quieted my spirit in the north country.

Esther 2:1 (Judgment): After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

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