

Esther 8:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

Analysis

On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her. Following Haman's execution, the king immediately transferred Haman's estate to Esther and summoned Mordecai. The designation "Haman the Jews' enemy" emphasizes the conflict's ethnic-religious nature. Transferring executed traitors' property to victims was common ancient practice, both punishing the criminal's family and compensating victims. Esther revealing Mordecai's relationship ("what he was unto her")—her adoptive father and guardian—explains his summons. This verse begins reversing the decree's effects: Haman is dead, his property confiscated, and Mordecai gains access to the king. Yet the larger crisis remains—the immutable decree threatening all Jews still stands.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern law often confiscated executed criminals' property, redistributing it to victims or the crown. Haman's "house" included not just buildings but all property, wealth, and resources. This confiscation punished Haman's family (his wife Zeresh and ten sons) and compensated Esther. Revealing Mordecai's relationship to Esther publicly connected the honored official (chapter 6) to the queen, further elevating his status. Archaeological evidence shows Persian administrative practices included recording property transfers, making

such confiscations official and legal. The same day execution and property transfer demonstrates swift ancient justice.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does the immediate confiscation of Haman's property demonstrate that divine justice addresses both the perpetrator and reverses the effects of evil?
2. What does Esther's revelation of her relationship to Mordecai teach about the right timing for disclosure?

Interlinear Text

On that day	H1931	give	did the king	Ahasuerus	for Esther	the queen
H3117	H5414	H4428	H325	H635	H4436	
the house	H1004	of Haman	H2001	enemy	H6887	the Jews
H853	H3588	had told	H5046	for Esther	H4100	And Mordecai
						H4782
did the king	H4428			the king	H1931	came
				for Esther	H0	H935
				the king		H6440

Additional Cross-References

Esther 2:7 (Parallel theme): And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and

beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

Proverbs 13:22 (Parallel theme): A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Esther 2:15 (Kingdom): Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

Psalms 39:6 (Parallel theme): Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.

Luke 12:20 (Parallel theme): But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

Esther 7:6 (Kingdom): And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.