

MESSAGE NOTES

DATE JUNE 14, 2020

MESSAGE: *Decisions Determine Destiny*

SERIES: *For Such a Time as This*

TEXT: Esther 2:21 – 3:15

Half the battle to _____ what God is really like is a willingness to say to yourself, “*maybe I’ve gotten Him wrong*”. And a _____ to be open to allowing our image of God to be reshaped by Jesus.

Our _____ determine our Destiny.

Bigthana and Teresh (two of the kings’ guards) were motivated by _____ to plot a murder.

Mordecai was filled with _____ for Haman and decides to publicly display his disrespect toward this Amalekite.

Haman, motivated by _____ and _____ decides to take it upon himself to slaughter an entire race of people.

Xerxes decision to approve Haman’s plan was motivated by _____ and would eventually contribute to his own death.

The hero of the book is _____ Himself, who is behind the scenes (or behind what we can see).

Xerxes is the kind of king who routinely hung people on crosses to demonstrate his _____. Jesus is the kind of King who puts Himself on a cross to demonstrate His _____.

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6/14/2020

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LIFE GROUP GUIDE

For more info about Life Groups & joining, go to myredeemer.church/education

BIG IDEA: OUR DECISIONS DETERMINE OUR DESTINY

Getting Started

What did you think about God when you were younger? How has that changed over the years?

Discussion Questions

1. Discuss some of the difficult decisions you have been faced with. What helped you decide how to respond?
2. The eunuchs were motivated by revenge, which led to their deaths. Share an example of someone who has let revenge control their life to the point of losing their life or losing those closest to them.
3. Mordecai was filled with contempt for Haman, which made a bad situation worse. How does contempt skew our perception of other people and make situations worse?
4. Haman was considered a very powerful man in the kingdom but he wasn't well respected. Discuss the differences between being powerful and being respected.
5. Read Esther 3:8. Haman was motivated by hate and pride. How have you seen hate and pride destroy relationships and lives?
6. King Xerxes was motivated by greed, which led him to be easily manipulated by Haman. Discuss a time when you were tempted to be manipulated by greed?
7. Many things such as revenge, contempt, power, hate, pride, and greed motivate people but Jesus was motivated purely out of love. How can knowing this truth help you the next time you are tempted with sinful motives?

Going Deeper

How can you begin to look at and love others differently this week, knowing that you have been transformed from the inside out?

PRAYER

Loving and faithful God, thank you for showing us the perfect way to live. We can be easily distracted by sinful pursuits and lose focus of Your mission for our lives. We are grateful for these reminders today to help us check our motives and no matter what we are experiencing, You are present and working in our lives and in the lives of those around us. Continue to transform us from the inside out and help us to see others as You see them. Amen.