

# This Wicked Haman

Esther 7

## The fall...

"The \_\_\_\_\_ heard round the world." It's referring to the beginning of the American Revolutionary War in 1775. The phrase comes from the opening stanza of Ralph Waldo Emerson's **Concord Hymn** written in 1837 and refers to the first shot of the American Revolution at the Old North Bridge in Concord, Massachusetts.

Way back in the spring of 474 B.C., at the peak of Persian prominence, when they were the greatest empire in the world, both in power and in size, **the fall of Haman was the \_\_\_\_\_** that was felt throughout the empire. Like a great earthquake, its shockwaves were felt far and wide by everybody, and we can only imagine the impact it had on them, either the shock of fear or the wave of jubilation. That's the historic window that we are peering through today:

## The downfall of a wicked man:

### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (1-2).

Actually the table has already been set, and it's now ready to turn on Haman. The trigger only needs to be pulled that will turn the table. So, on the night that Haman built his 75-foot-high gallows to hang Mordecai, the king couldn't sleep (**Esther 6**).

**6:14-7:2:** Now that the king asked a third time, God is ready for Esther to pull the trigger on the trap. Haman's downfall is beautifully, perfectly, sovereignly set up! And it's utterly terrifying for the wicked man.

### 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ (3-6).

**Verses 3-4:** Imagine how completely dumbfounded the king must have been after hearing her wish and request. There are two previously unknown realities here that stunned the king. First, the people the king agreed "to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate" were Esther's people. The king didn't even \_\_\_\_\_ his queen's ethnicity. Second, Queen Esther

is a member of the people group to be wiped out! And it hasn't yet registered that he was the seller of this sold out people group.

**Verses 5-6:** Remember how terrified the Jews were at Haman's decree in chapter 4? Now the second table is turned on Haman. First, he was utterly humiliated earlier that day as the leader of Mordecai's parade, but now he's terribly terrified before the king and his Jewish queen. Also, this is the third shocker for the king: his highest and most trusted official was the foe and enemy who deceived the king, plotted the whole nasty affair, and used the king in his pathetic attempt at revenge! And presently unknown to Haman, he's Satan's wicked pawn, and King Ahasuerus is God's instrument of justice.

### 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ (7-10).

**Verses 7-8:** How ironic! Haman was full of wrath because a *Jewish man* wouldn't bow down before him in fear, but now Haman is bowing down in terror before a *Jewish \_\_\_\_\_*, begging for his life.

**Verses 9-10:** It becomes apparent that the king's palace staff are not Haman's friends—on the contrary, they don't like the guy either, but they are, it seems, fans of Mordecai. **Haman's great fall** created an earthquake, sending shockwaves powerfully felt throughout the kingdom. The enemies of the Jews felt the shock of horror, and the Jews and their friends felt the vibration of jubilation!

## The great fall of a wicked man!

But in the previous chapter, we saw the beginning of the exaltation, the lifting up, at just the right time Mordecai, the man of God. In this chapter, we see God's sovereign hand protecting and honoring Esther, the woman of God. There's a *principle* behind the narrative that runs all the way through the Scriptures. **Galatians 6:7-8:** "Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup>For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

Do you believe that **Esther 7** is not only Haman's, Esther's, and Mordecai's reality, but is your reality as well?