

"How the Tables Have Turned" by Pastor Steve Durand



¹On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out.



On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them.



²The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those determined to destroy them.



No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them.



³ And all the nobles of the provinces, the satraps, the governors and the king's administrators helped the Jews, because fear of Mordecai had seized them.



⁴ Mordecai was prominent in the palace; his reputation spread throughout the provinces, and he became more and more powerful.



⁵ The Jews struck down all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them, and they did what they pleased to those who hated them.



⁶ In the citadel of Susa, the Jews killed and destroyed five hundred men. ⁷ They also killed Parshandatha, Dalphon, Aspatha, ⁸ Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha, ⁹ Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai and Vaizatha,



the enemy of the Jews. But they did not lay their hands on the plunder.



¹⁶ Meanwhile, the remainder of the Jews who were in the king's provinces also assembled to protect themselves and get relief from their enemies.



They killed seventy-five thousand of them but did not lay their hands on the plunder.



²⁰ Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far,



²¹ to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar ²² as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies,



and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration.



He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor.



²³ So the Jews agreed to continue the celebration they had begun, doing what Mordecai had written to them.



²⁴ For Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them and had cast the pur (that is, the lot) for their ruin and destruction.



But when the plot came to the king's attention,
 he issued written orders that the evil scheme
 Haman had devised against the Jews should come
 back onto his own head,



and that he and his sons should be impaled on poles. ²⁶ (Therefore these days were called Purim, from the word pur.)



Because of everything written in this letter and because of what they had seen and what had happened to them,



the custom that they and their descendants and all who join them should without fail observe these two days every year,



in the way prescribed and at the time appointed.

28 These days should be remembered and observed in every generation by every family, and in every province and in every city.



And these days of Purim should never fail to be celebrated by the Jews—nor should the memory of these days die out among their descendants.



¹ King Xerxes imposed tribute throughout the empire, to its distant shores. ² And all his acts of power and might, together with a full account of the greatness of Mordecai,



whom the king had promoted, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Media and Persia?



³ Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Xerxes, preeminent among the Jews, and held in high esteem by his many fellow Jews,



because he worked for the good of his people and spoke up for the welfare of all the Jews.





Esther 9:1

On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out. On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them.



Retribution & Restraint

Esther sovereignty in silence



Esther 9:2

The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those determined to destroy them. No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them.





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Remembrance & Rejoicing

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