



LIFE GROUP NOTES

Week Beginning: 23rd April 2023

Celebrating Salvation.

Esther 9:20-10:3



Warm Up

What have you enjoyed most about this series on Esther? What have you learned?

Background and context

The book closes with the victory of the Jews over their enemies and the introduction of an annual celebration to mark the salvation of the people (Purim). This passage highlights five themes from the book on which we can reflect: God's sovereignty, sacrifice, reversal, judgement and celebration. Our study is an overview and reflection of the whole book.

Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

Read the passage together. What surprises you? Is there anything you do not understand?

1. How does the casting of the 'pur' (lot) reveal **God's sovereignty** and Haman's foolishness?
2. In the crucifixion of Jesus, how is **God's sovereignty** revealed?
3. How does Mordecai's life of **sacrifice** encourage Esther to model his actions? How does she do so? How does this point us to Jesus?
4. How does the book of Esther reveal **reversal** as a major theme? Think about Mordecai and Haman.
5. How does the life and teaching of Jesus reveal God's plan of **reversal** for humans and creation?
6. How did the **judgement** Haman received have an impact on others? How might one person's sin impact others around them?
7. God always wants justice when He **judges**. He is also merciful. How does Jesus fulfil both perfectly?
8. The book of Esther starts and ends with a **celebration**. What is the difference between the two?
9. Why is faith in Jesus a cause for **celebration**, both now and in eternity?

Growing in discipleship: Practical application

10. Can you think of examples of how God works His purposes out despite the 'evil' we see around us?
11. What **reversal** have you seen in your life? Share a testimony.



Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.