

## **Postscript**

### **Sermon Notes: Esther 10:1-3**

**Week 09 -- 2010**

**QUICK REVIEW** - Looking back over your sermon notes, was there a particular point or passage of Scripture that challenged, confused or caught your attention?

### **MY STORY**

1) What would you say is your greatest accomplishment to date? Or if you have a Brag Book what in it would be circled and underlined? Explain.

2) At some point in your life you will probably ask yourself, "why am I where I am, why here, why now? Where would you look to find answers for such questions?"

### **DIGGING DEEPER**

1) Paul talked about the fact that Xerxes "advanced Mordecai" to second in the realm. What are your thoughts about the Christian's interaction and involvement in the world? Do you think Christians should avoid secular success? Explain.

2) Consider the following verses. What conclusions can you draw from them about our place in the world and our relationship with it?

### **John 17:11**

*And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.*

### **Jude 1:24**

*Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus*

*Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.*

### **Philippians 3:20**

*But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,*

3) Discuss each of the verses below. What are they warning us about? Give examples for each verse that illustrate the warning.

### **James 4:4**

*Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*

Is there an area in your life that could be described as "friendship with the world"?

### **James 1:27**

*Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this...and to keep oneself unstained from the world.*

What steps could you take this week to avoid being stained by the world?

### **1 John 2:15**

*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions--is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.*

### **Romans 12:2**

*Do not be conformed to this world,*

What do you think are some of the more common ways Christians wrestle with conformity to the world?

### **1 Corinthians 11:32**

*But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.*

How would you know if God was disciplining you about involvement in the world?

### **TAKING IT HOME**

1) This week we concluded our look at the Book of Esther. It is a book about Providence. Is there an area in your life in which you are struggling with the truth of providence. Share it with the group and have they pray with you.

2) Looking back on the Book of Esther how has your view of God changed.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

