



DIGGING DEEPER

Esther 2v19 – 4v17 – Two Plots

PLEASE READ – The whole section!

GETTING STARTED

In what ways is the world hostile to Jesus today? Discuss...

PLOT 1 – THE ASSASSINATION OF XERXES (2v19-23)

Chat about the sequence of events in these verses and the 'hidden hand' of God...

Make a mental note (that these things were written down) for next week!!

PLOT 2 – THE ANNIHILATION OF THE JEWS (3v1 – 4v17)

How does the detail about Haman being an Agagite in Ch 3v1 function as a warning sign? See 1 Sam Ch 15 for wider context...

How does the underlying hostility between the Israelites and the Amalekites play out in Ch 3v5-6?

How does Ch 3v15 make you feel?

The annihilation order was sent out (3v12) on the day before the Passover celebration. How significant do you think that is? Is there hope?

What do we learn from Mordecai's instructions to Esther and from Esther's response? (Ch 4v5-16)

How does Esther point us forward to Jesus? Think about her willingness to identify with her people (See also Hebrews 2v11-17)

How should this story impact the way we identify with Jesus and his people?

Can you join Paul in saying the words below and really meaning them?

Meditate on the words below...

Rom 1v16: I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.