

Esther 5:7-8 (NIV)

Esther replied, "My petition and my request is this: ⁸ If the king regards me with favor and if it pleases the king to **grant my PETITION** and **fulfill my REQUEST**, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the king's question."

Esther 7:2 (NIV)

...the King again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."

Esther 7:3-4 (NIV)

Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, O king, and if it pleases your majesty, **grant me MY LIFE - this is MY PETITION.** And spare **MY PEOPLE - this is my REQUEST.**

⁴ For I and my people have been **SOLD** for **DESTRUCTION** and slaughter and annihilation

Final and FATAL Reversal

Esther 7-8

→ Why did God **ALLOW** Haman to take his **Plot** as far as he did?

Ezra 1:2-3 (NLT)

This is what King Cyrus of Persia says: **The LORD, the God of heaven**, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth. **He has appointed me to BUILD Him a Temple** at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. ³ **Any of you** who are **His people** may go to **Jerusalem in Judah** to **rebuild this Temple of the LORD...**

Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV)

...seek the peace and prosperity of
the city to which I have carried you
into exile. **Pray to the LORD for it,**
because IF it prospers,
you too WILL prosper.

It had now been **sixty years**
since **Cyrus's decree to rebuild**
Jerusalem. BBC

The Three Returns from Exile



Ezra 7:10 (NIV)

For Ezra had devoted himself to
the **STUDY** and **observance**
of the **Law** of the **LORD**,
and to **teaching its decrees**
and **laws** in Israel.

Psalm 119:71 (NIV)

It was **good for me**
to be **AFFLICTED** so that
I might **LEARN** Your decrees.

**→ Be PATIENT - God's Timing
is always Perfect**

¹⁰ So they **hanged** Haman

ON the **gallows** he had **prepared**

FOR Mordecai...

Proverbs 21:15 (NLT)

Justice is a JOY to the godly,
but it **TERRIFIES** evildoers.

Just as Haman's edict ordered
the **DESTRUCTION** of the **Jews** on the
thirteenth of Adar, the Jews now had
the **legal right to DEFEND** themselves
on that **same day**. HCSB

Hostilities would erupt **only IF**
people acted on Haman's decree.

The second edict **had meaning**
ONLY if the first edict was enacted.

HOTC

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

...I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy,
to offer your bodies as living sacrifices,
holy and pleasing to God--this is your
spiritual act of worship.

2 Do not **CONFORM** any longer to
the **pattern of this world...**

2 **Don't let the world** around you
SQUEEZE you into its own mold... (JBP)

² Do not **CONFORM** any longer
to the pattern of this world,
but be **TRANSFORMED**
by the **RENEWING** of your mind...