Divine Comedy (Esther Chapter 7)

INTRODUCTION

Sometimes we can miss the parallels that Esther truly holds as the comedy threatens to overwhelm the message of why it was placed within scripture. Esther 7 holds great semblance to Jesus taking on our sin by identifying us with Himself in His death and resurrection.

DI&CU&&ION

How would you define salvation to someone who didn't have any clue what it means?

EXPLANATION

Can you try to explain why the word 'redemption' is always related to the story of the Hebrews being set free from slavery in Egypt?

Why is it important to understand that in scripture, we are to see ourselves in the actions of the bad guys?

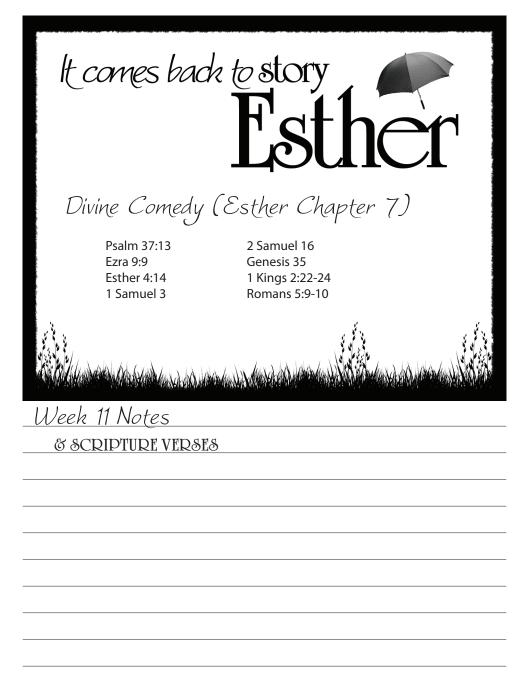
Besides what we talked about Sunday, how else are we like Haman?

How else are we like the King?

How are we like Esther?

APPLICATION

How can your life be more like what Esther's life became, a life that was willing to suffer for the salvation of people?



t comes back to story Esther

Week 11 Sermon Outlines

Divine Comedy (Esther Chapter 7)

Psalm 37:13 "but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming."

Today's section in Esther is like a big half hour sitcom on any major network. It is all about confusion, innuendo, diversion and comedy. God can use any situation to make a joke or bring about His purposes.

Just when we think we have it all together and everything is going our way it can fall apart just like it did for Haman. Haman is on the top of the world because of his unrighteousness and it seems like he is prospering because of it, but he is not, God humbles the proud and gives grace to the humble.

In the beginning of the Esther story the kings fury led to the dismissal of the queen, when his anger abated he realized he needed a new queen. Now his fury leads to the impalement of his highest official, when his fury abates he will need another one of those as well (which sets up the next chapter).

We cannot be a people who simply over look all that we are being told because the story is funny, this is the story of us. We are the reason this book is in scripture.

Salvation is defined as deliverance by God from God and His wrath (Romans 5:9-10). In Scripture we are to understand that we are the bad guys.

- We are Haman we want God's kingship for ourselves just like Haman wanted Xerxes'
- We are like Esther the only way we will be spared is through our personal relationship with the King.

When Jesus dies and raises from the dead, He links all of His people to Himself, the way Esther links herself to her people by connecting them with her. Because she was close to the King, her people were spared. The only way we are saved is by being connected to the one who is closest to the Father, Jesus.

Esther is an allegory of salvation, we are all found guilty though sometimes we are too dumbfounded to see it. When our eyes are opened to all of our sin we can plead to the King, but unlike Esther our king hears:

- Our King pays the price for which we were sold as slaves
- Our King, Jesus, is impaled in our place.

We are given love and redemption.