

## **The Crisis Begins Esther 3**

### **I. Haman & Mordecai – 3:1-5**

1. Who is Haman – 1, 8  
Haman, son of Hammedatha the Agagite  
Jewish tradition links him to King Agag - 1 Sam. 15:8  
King Saul is to destroy Amalekites for what they did to Israel - 1 Samuel 15:1-8  
King of Amalekites who attacked Israel– Ex. 17-8-16  
Amalek attacked from the rear of Israel – Deut. 25:17-19  
Amalek was the grandson of Esau – Gen. 36:12  
Whoever Haman is, he is the Jews enemy – Est. 3:8
2. His rise to power – 1-2  
Promoted by the king to second seat  
King's edict – all were to bow down to him
3. Mordecai refuses to bow – 2-4  
King's men question his refusal – 3-4  
He told them that "he was a Jew"
4. Men report to Haman – 4-5  
Want to see if Mordecai will stand  
Tell Haman Mordecai is a Jew  
This enrages Haman even more

- Set 13<sup>th</sup> day of 12<sup>th</sup> month as the date
3. All people are to prepare for this day - 14
4. King & Haman celebrated - 15  
But the city of Susa was perplexed

### **II. Haman's Plot – 6-11**

1. He wants to annihilate all Jews – 6  
Not satisfied to just kill Mordecai
2. He chooses a date by lot (Pur) – 7  
In 1<sup>st</sup> month of year he picks 12<sup>th</sup> month  
God sovereignly controls casting of lots
3. He presents his plan to the king – 8  
Note; he does not identify the people  
"certain people, scattered throughout empire"  
"their laws are different from everyone else"  
"they don't keep your laws"  
"It is not to your profit to tolerate them"
4. He offers to pay the cost – 9  
If king will decree "Jews" annihilation  
He will pay 10,000 talents of silver (ab. 75 lbs)
5. King authorizes Haman's plot – 10-11  
Gives Haman his ring as official seal  
Promises government will pay the cost  
Haman can annihilate "this people"
6. No doubt Haman is prompted by Satan  
One of Satan's attempts to destroy Israel  
Keep God from bringing His Son as Savior

### **III. Edict is Delivered – 12-15**

1. Scribes wrote edict as directed – 12  
As they were commanded by Haman  
On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month  
Wrote in name of the king, sealed with his ring
2. Sent letters to every province – 13  
All Jews, men, women & children to be killed