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Calamity Averted by Esther
4:4 to 9:19



The insubordination of **Mordecai** brought about the mortal threat that required **Esther** to disobey **the king (4:11)**. **Her** natural desire to obey was confronted by the need to save **her** people from death. The obedience to **king** and husband had to give way to the overriding importance of saving the people of ADONAI. Once convinced that **she** must identify herself with the needs of the Jews, **she** acted with courage and became a leader who took the initiative and changed the dynamic.

Nothing has been said so far in the book to suggest either **Esther** or **Mordecai** were people of great faith in **t**he LORD. But here it is revealed that they at least believed that God was concerned for the welfare of His **chosen people (Deuteronomy 7:6)**. In this climatic section we can see the **providence** of God working behind the scenes on behalf of His own. Although the name of ADONAI is not overtly mentioned (**To see link click Ac – The Book of Esther from a Jewish Perspective: Unique Characteristics**), He is surely in control.

The chiastic structure of the entire book is easily observable. This indicates the great degree of literary awareness of the human author. The turning point is **the king's** sleepless night **(6:1)**, around which the chiastic structure is constructed.[57]

A Opening and background **(Chapter 1)**

B The king's first decree **(Chapters 2** and **3)**

C Haman tries to destroy Mordecai **(Chapters 4** and **5)**

D That night the king could not sleep (6:1)

C Mordecai's triumph over Haman **(Chapters 6** and **7)**

B The king's second decree **(Chapters 8** and **9)**

A Epilogue **(Chapter 10)**