

## Story Time - Read the story to the children

### Lesson 131: MORDECAI IS HONORED

#### ESTHER 6:1-14

After Haman was given permission to build the 75-foot tall hanging post by the king, that same night the king could not sleep. So he told a servant to bring him the history book and read it to him. (The Book of History of the Kings lists everything that happens during a king's rule.) The servant read the book to the king. He read about the evil plan to kill King Xerxes. That was when Mordecai had learned about Bigthana and Teresh. These two men were the king's officers who guarded the doorway. They had planned to kill the king, but Mordecai learned about the plan and told someone about it. Then the king asked, "What honor and good things have been given to Mordecai for this?" The servants answered the king, "Nothing has been done for Mordecai." Haman had just entered the outer area of the king's palace. He had come to ask the king to hang Mordecai on the hanging post Haman had commanded to be built. The king said, "Who just came into the courtyard?" The king's servants said, "Haman is standing in the courtyard." So the king said, "Bring him in." When Haman came in, the king asked him a question. He said, "Haman, what should be done for a man the king wants to honor?" Haman thought to himself, "Who is there that the king would want to honor more than me? I'm sure that the king is talking about honoring ME!" So Haman answered the king, "You should do this for the man the king loves to honor: Have the servants bring a special robe that the king himself has worn and a horse the king himself has ridden on. Have the servants put the king's special mark on the horse's head. Then put one of the king's most important leaders in charge of the robe and the horse, and let the leader put the robe on the man the king wants to honor. Then let him lead him on the horse through the city streets. And as he leads him, let him announce loudly, 'This is what is done for the man the king wants to honor!'" "Go quickly," the king commanded Haman. "Get the robe and the horse and do just as you have suggested for Mordecai the Jew. He is sitting near the king's gate. Do everything that you suggested!" So Haman got the robe and the horse. Then he put the robe on Mordecai and led him on horseback through the city streets. Haman announced loudly ahead of Mordecai, "This is what is done for the man the king wants to honor!" After that Mordecai went back to the king's gate, but Haman hurried home with his head covered because he was embarrassed and ashamed because he thought that HE was the man that the king wanted to honor, not Mordecai. Then Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him. His wife and the men who gave him advice said, "If Mordecai is a Jew, you cannot win. You have already started to fall. Surely you will be ruined!" While they were still talking to Haman, the king's servants came to Haman's house. They made Haman hurry to the party that Esther had prepared for them.

## 131. MORDECAI IS HONORED

(ESTHER 6:1-14)



"So Haman got the robe and the horse. Then he put the robe on Mordecai and led him on horseback through the city streets. Haman announced loudly ahead of Mordecai, "This is what is done for the man the king wants to honor!" " **ESTHER 6:11**

# 131. MORDECAI IS HONORED

ESTHER 6:1-14

## **MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Pride goes before destruction."* PROVERBS 16:18

## **TRUE OR FALSE**

1. That night the king couldn't sleep so he ordered that the history book be brought to him and read to him. TRUE or FALSE
2. In the history book it said that Mordecai wanted to kill the king. TRUE or FALSE
3. The king asked "What honor and good things have been given to Mordecai for this?" TRUE or FALSE
4. Nothing had been done yet for Mordecai to honor him for saving the king's life. TRUE or FALSE
5. When Haman came in the king asked him, "What be done to punish the man the king wishes to punish?" TRUE or FALSE

## **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

1. Who did Haman think that the king wanted to honor?
2. Can you name some of the things that Haman said to do for the man the king wished to honor?
  - Bring a robe that the king has worn
  - Bring a horse that the king has ridden
  - Put the king's special mark on the horse's head
  - Let the king's most important official take the horse
  - Put the man on the horse and let him wear the robe
  - Announce loudly, "This is what is done for the man that the king wishes to honor!"
3. Did Haman do all those things for Mordecai?
4. How did Haman feel about doing all those things for Mordecai? Was he happy about it?
5. What did Haman's wife and the wise men tell Haman? Did they tell him that if Mordecai is a Jew, that Haman will not win and will fall before him?
6. After Mordecai talked to his wife and friends, what happened? Did the king's servants come to get him? Why?

## **Lesson 131 Activity**

### **Act it Out!**

**Have the children act out the story!**

**Characters:**

One child is Haman

One child is Mordecai

The rest of the class can play the people of the town

**Materials:**

A sheet or coat to put on Mordecai.

**Instructions:**

Have "Haman" put the "robe" on "Mordecai", then lead him (or her) around the room by the hand announcing, "This is what is done to the man that the king wishes to honor!" several times, then let "Haman" let go of "Mordecai's" hand and go away hiding his face in shame.

The rest of the "townspeople" cheer "Yay! Mordecai!" as Haman parades Mordecai around the room.

Act it out until each child has played a part.

### **OPTIONAL CRAFT:**

#### **The Royal Crest**

In Esther 6:8 we see Haman's idea to honor the one who pleases the king. One of the things he states is that there should be a royal crest placed on the horse's head to signify that this was a royal procession. The king that we serve is Jesus, and we are subjects in His kingdom. To help us always remember, we will make a royal crest. You will need yellow/gold and purple construction paper. Allow the children to get as creative as they want to. The crest should be round and using markers they can write inside of the crest. As a suggestion they can write, "Jesus is King" on the crest or they can write out James 4:10 which goes with today's theme, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up." Provide stickers, sequins or stones for the children to glue to the crest for decorations. Gold or metallic foil may also be used. **PRAYER** Lead the children in a prayer of praise and adoration to God. Ask the Lord to protect them from pride and to give them a humble heart. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.

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