

- I. Be patient, God sets the table and the stage; worry accomplishes nothing but evil (ch5)
 - A. God has a way of bringing things to a conclusion, that grants the faithful peace and leaves the rebel in pieces
 - 1. Esther through humility gains favor, while Haman in his pride, is blinded by offense
 - a) Offense is the nail in the coffin of our future. It does not bring life, it brings death
 - (1) You cannot come to your destiny while trying to destroy the life of another, vengeance is God's.
 - (a) Haman has come to a season, were none of his old tricks will work. He is going to run out of schemes and favor, because he has never grown up.
 - i) Ladies, remember, to pray with your husband, encourage him, but never beat the drum of war. You will end your home.
 - B. Psalm 37:6-8 - He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday. 7 Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his (own) way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes. 8 Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; *it leads* only to evil-doing.
- II. Be patient, God will bring honor to the honorable, disgrace to the fool (ch6)
 - A. A man who sets his heart on evil, will bring about his own end
 - 1. People who do not keep their word, have no boundaries and regularly overplay their hand
 - a) For those of us in Christ, we are not called to seek honor from men, but from God alone
 - (1) Because God is our judge, we do what is right to please Him.
 - (a) Pride never brings contentment; it disappoints again and again
 - 2. Mordecai is properly honored for his act of loyalty, and Haman is now truly stuck.
 - a) Hate never pays out, it just eats your life free of charge
 - A. James 5:4-8 - (to the rich) Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, *and* which has been withheld by you, cries out *against you*; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. 5 You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and put to death the righteous *man*; he does not resist you. 7 Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. 8 You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.
- II. Be patient, those who devise evil schemes come to an end quickly, while the righteous stand (7)
 - A. Men who devise evil, must associate with those of like mind. There is never communion, only competition
 - 1. In Christ, we are to fellowship in the light, which means, all we do is seen by God and all we plan will be tested and confronted by Him
 - a) No man can claim Christ and devise evil, without finding His life destroyed
 - (1) He may speak highly of himself, but his fruit will be rotten
 - (2) Haman's life was forfeit from the moment he attempted to destroy another.
 - (a) In Christ, we are called to crucify ourselves, never another. We are called to sacrifice ourselves and never anyone else.
 - i) Wait on God's timing, he allows the rebel to plan their own end and He plans the exalting of the righteous.

- B. 2 Peter 3:8-10 - **8** But do not let this one *fact* escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. **9** The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. **10** But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and [a]its works will be burned up.