**Ezra-Nehemiah-Esther**

**Esther - Lesson 22**

**A High Honor or a High Hanging**

Read Esther 6 and 7

Memory Work: Proverbs 16:18-19 or James 4:7-10

Ask the Lord to help you to understand His word. Luke 24:45.

1.a. Re-read Esther 5:9-14. Haman went out j\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ with a g\_ \_ \_ heart until he saw M\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. Haman was filled with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

b. He called his friends and his wife together and told them \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Verses 11, 12.

 c. Then his wife and his friends told him what?

2.a. That night the king could not sleep...what do you think caused that?

 b. What was brought to the king to help him sleep?

c. Whom were Bigthana and Teresh?

 d. Had Mordecai protected the king and had he been honored?

e. Haman mis-read the king and thought the king was talking about him. Verses 6, 7. What did the king tell Haman to do? (Although not mentioned, how do you think God felt at this time?)

 f. How did Zeresh, his wife, sum up the situation? Esther 6:13

3. This was a hard dinner to swallow. What went on before the dinner?

Think About

4. How would this whole story have been different if Haman had treated others as he would have wanted others to treat him? Explain.

5. Why did Queen Esther not go to her husband or even Haman instead of putting on two banquets? Esther 4:16 Proverbs 3:5; 6; 16:3. What did this delay accomplish?

6.a. What does Esther wanting the Jews to fast with her for three days reveal about her and her beliefs?

b. Did Esther join these people...and whom else?

c. Today, should we as Christians fast? Isaiah 58:5-9. Matthew 6:16-18. James 4:7-10

7. Did Esther point fingers or just wait on the king? Esther 7:6

8.a. The king became mad and left...where did he go? Why do you think there?

 b. Now Haman is left alone and does what?

c. The king thought Haman was assaulting the queen, so the Eunuchs did what? (undoubtedly, one could see the gallows from the palace.)

 d. The king ordered \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. What made the king's wrath subside? Verse 10.