

Esther 4 • How God Works in the World

1. Introduction

- a. An Agagite is a descendant of King of _____, ruler of the _____ whom _____ failed to completely conquer per God's orders. (See 1 Sam. 15)
- b. The Amalekites as descendants of _____ and the Jews as descendants of _____ embodies the strife between the elder and the younger.
- c. Haman – the descendant of Agag – is a major type of _____, a king beside the Euphrates River who seeks to eradicate God's people through _____.

2. (v.1-3) This is both the complete spiritual and physical _____ of God's people.

3. (v.4-12) Mordecai's personal example is that personal _____ will have be undertaken.

4. (v.13-17) Mordecai's counsel:

- a. He appeals to her inner thoughts and feelings to do the _____.
- b. He points out she will eventually be _____ and suffer the same fate.
- c. He emphasizes that whether or not she remains silent, God will _____ His people. Therefore He will _____ her as well if she speaks up.

- d. He proposes this is the _____ God had in mind for her all along.
- e. Taken altogether: Esther is not queen for her own _____ but for God's _____; therefore she **IS** in the _____ place at the _____ time.

5. (v.13-17) Esther's response: She got people involved _____. However God would use her, she did not want to do so without _____ support. She will approach the King of Heaven in the same manner as the king of the earth: " _____ ". (Est. 5:4; 5:8)

6. How God Works in the World

- a. **Disobey vs. Plan:** We can _____ the natural order and _____ God's commands.
- b. **Demand vs. Pray:** We can assume that we _____ what is needed and expect God to agree and answer our prayers _____.
- c. **Despair vs. Trust & Obey:** We can assume God doesn't _____ prayer or _____ to our needs and live as though there is nothing but the _____.