

"What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given to you."

"If it pleases the king, let the king together with Haman come to a banquet I have prepared." (5:3-4)

## ? Why didn't Esther just unload? Why supper #1... then supper #2?

We do not know WHY. But we <u>do</u> know that <u>this delay made possible</u> the king's discovering and honoring Mordecai prior to the revelation that Mordecai was the one Haman planned to kill.

## WHAT IS THE CHANCE...?

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails. (Prov. 19:21)

The king's heart is in the Lord's hand. He directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases. *(Prov. 21:1)* 

He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed! (Job 9:10)

At the end of this amazing sequence of events, Haman has NO CHOICE but to honor Mordecai. This is a picture of the <u>future</u> <u>judgment</u> when God will say to some, "You will now be EXALTED." and to others "You will now be HUMBLED." We cannot perceive or predict God's future REWARDS. Many deeds of love, service, or commitment to God are **unnoticed** or even **secret** in this life.

But God has noticed, and this is written in his Annals, never to be <u>forgotten</u> or <u>neglected</u>! So, when you give... do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do... so that your giving may be in secret. Then the Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. *(Mt. 6:2-4)* 

But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. (*Mt.19:30*)