



# *Esther*

SEE GOD'S PROVIDENCE

# STORY RESET

## *Two Edicts*

- Edict #1 – How God Demonstrated His Providence by **Positioning** a **Queen**
- Edict #2 – How God Demonstrated His Providence by **Rescuing** a **People**



# STORY RESET

## *A Handful of Reversals*

- Esther was received . . .
- Mordecai was honored . . .
- Haman was exposed . . .
- Haman was hanged . . .
- Esther was given the house of Haman . . .
- Mordecai was elevated . . .



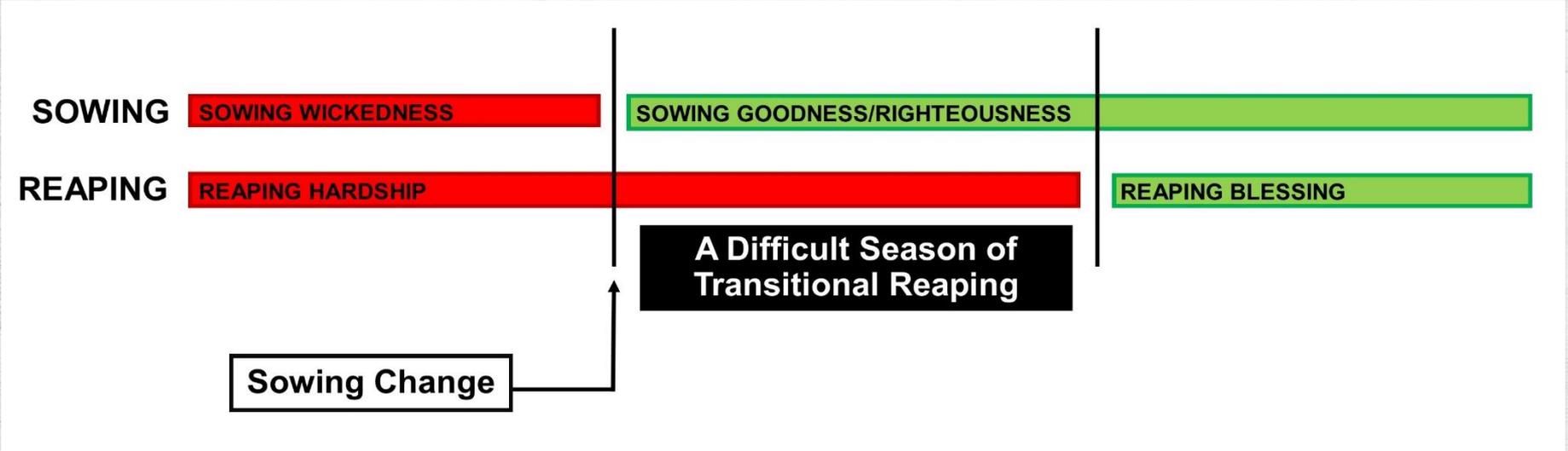
# THE HARDSHIPS OF SOWING & REAPING (EVIL)

- ***3 Key Laws of Sowing and Reaping***
  - #1 – You will reap what you sow.
  - #2 – You will reap after you sow.
  - #3 – You will reap more than you sow.



# THE HARDSHIPS OF SOWING & REAPING (EVIL)

- *A Difficult Season of Transitional Reaping*



# THE HARDSHIPS OF SOWING & REAPING (EVIL)

- ***A Sobering Thought:*** Those within my circle of acquaintance and my sphere of influence will reap the harvest of what I have sowed long after I am gone.



# THE BEAUTY OF PAYING IT FORWARD

- God had providentially blessed Esther and Mordecai.
- Haman was selfishly dissatisfied because he wanted everyone to bless him. Esther and Mordecai were selflessly dissatisfied because they yearned for others to be blessed.
- ***A Sobering Stewardship:***  
When the righteous are blessed, they long to bless others.



# PROBLEM

*... let a royal edict be issued by him and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media so that it cannot be repealed ...*

*– Esther 1:19*



# THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD IN THE IMPOSSIBLE

- God had providentially **exposed** Haman's wicked plot.
- God had providentially **prospered** Esther and Mordecai and **placed** them in a position of **influence**.



# THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD IN THE IMPOSSIBLE

- In God's providence, Ahasuerus granted a **counter-edict** which allowed the Jews to defend themselves.
- In God's providence, Ahasuerus directed the counter-edict to be **published** throughout the entire kingdom.
- ***A Stabilizing Hope: For nothing will be impossible with God. – Luke 1:37***



# THE JOY OF A PEOPLE THAT HAS SEEN ...

**Compare . . .**

*Esther 3:15 – The couriers went out impelled by the king’s command while the decree was issued at the citadel in Susa; and while the king and Haman sat down to drink, the city of Susa was in **confusion**.*



# THE JOY OF A PEOPLE THAT HAS SEEN ...

*with ...*

*Esther 8:15-17 – Then Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal robes of blue and white, with a large crown of gold and a garment of fine linen and purple; and the city of Susa **shouted** and **rejoiced**. [16] For the Jews there was **light** and **gladness** and **joy** and **honor**.*



# THE JOY OF A PEOPLE THAT HAS SEEN ...

We have been talking about “great reversals”.  
These verses describe the reversal of the  
**disposition** of an entire kingdom!



# APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Are you sowing malice and unrighteousness or goodness and righteousness?

*Galatians 6:7 – Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man sows, this he will also reap.*



# APPLICATION QUESTIONS

2. Are you a generous steward of God's providential blessing?

*II Corinthians 1:3-4 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, (4) who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*



# APPLICATION QUESTIONS

3. Are you resting and waiting?

*Psalm 37:7a – Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him . . .*



# APPLICATION QUESTIONS

4. Are you rejoicing in God's providential blessing?

*Romans 15:13 – Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*



BILLY SUNDAY -

“If you have no joy in your religion, there’s a leak in your Christianity somewhere.”

