



## BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A1594 ~ Haman hates Mordecai.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

In 1945 after the Second World War had finished in Europe, some Nazi war criminals arrived in Australia under the displaced persons migration scheme. While some continued their life of political involvement, others assumed new names and started a new life. Their country of origin information wasn't told to their neighbours or questions might have been asked about their war involvement. Their dark secrets were often carried with them into their graves.

The king of Persia's new queen also had a nationality secret. Her uncle Mordecai told her not to tell anyone that she was a Jew but she was still to fear God and do His commands as Mordecai had trained her to do.

Mordecai was from the Jewish tribe of Benjamin and had been taken into captivity from Jerusalem. He was an attendant in the king's court and regularly sat at the king's gate. He found out a plot by two door keepers who were planning to kill the king. He told the news to Queen Esther and she told the king in Mordecai's name.

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Mordecai was not rewarded at the time for supplying the news about the plot to kill the king but a record of the event was kept. And similarly, those who serve the Lord Jesus won't get their reward until He brings His beloved people to Himself. But the records of heaven will show the believers' works of faith and labours of love and God will not overlook these.

Haman had been promoted to the highest position in the land under the king. He was wealthy and through pride, expected everyone to bow down to him. Of course, good manners are never out of place and we should give honour where honour is due.

But Haman wanted more than honour; he wanted to be worshiped and his persistent self-seeking made him very unpopular with the ordinary people. By human nature, all unsaved people are idol worshippers. Self is our favourite idol and we're pleased to be treated as if everything is at our disposal.

Only when a person brings the 'self' life under the authority of the Lord Jesus when asking for salvation from all wrongdoing, does that desire for self-worship change.

Mordecai refused to bow down to Haman. His Jewish religion forbade him from giving honours which amounted to idol worship, as was Haman's sole desire. And the more Mordecai ignored him, the more determined Haman became to show that he was the boss.

Haman's anger of Mordecai turned into hatred and thoughts of revenge. He made up a plan to kill Mordecai and all the other Jews living in the 127 provinces of the kingdom.

Through his belief in lucky days, Haman cast lots to determine when would be a good day to have a massacre of the Jewish people throughout the kingdom. The day set delayed the execution for a time.

Haman went to the king with his plan, saying that the Jewish people were not obeying the king's laws and it would be better to get rid of them. He offered a huge sum of money to the king which the king couldn't refuse. So the king agreed to Haman's plan and gave him his ring to seal the letters in the king's authority before they were sent to all the provinces.

In Proverbs, Chapter 6, it says: "There are seven things that the Lord hates and cannot tolerate: A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that kill innocent people, a mind that thinks up wicked plans, feet that hurry off to do evil, a witness who tells one lie after another, and someone who stirs up trouble among friends."

Haman was guilty of breaking most of those things listed as detestable to God. When the Jewish people heard of this decree of the king's, they grieved. The first thing they thought was that God was punishing them for not returning to Jerusalem with the others. We must be very careful not to blame God as soon as things look bad. Where were the facts? Mordecai found out the details of the king's command and urged Esther to stop it by going to the king.

But the king's affections for Esther had cooled and she hadn't been called to his presence in 30 days. Eastern kings were supposed to only hear good news, so they reigned in a world of illusion, sheltered from reality. Even the queen had to have permission to talk to him. How different it is for those of us who desire to speak to the King of Kings. The Lord Jesus gives us free access to His throne at any time in prayer.

A crisis does not make a person; it only just shows what a person is made of. In spite of the danger involved, Mordecai publicly displayed his grief and let people know he was a Jew. God uses people to accomplish His purposes and Esther was His prepared servant for that difficult hour in Jewish history.

In times of stress, it's often helpful to remember the promises of God. He had promised a Messiah to come to the Jewish people and as He hadn't already come, the Jewish people could trust not be destroyed at this particular time. God's promises build our trust in Him.

What could Esther do? She told Mordecai to gather all the Jewish people in the city and urge them to fast and pray for three days and nights. She said she and her maids would do the same. At the end of that time, she would visit the king even though it was against the law. And she accepted that at the worst, she would be killed.

As all Jewish lives were under the threat of death from the king's decree sent by Haman, they prayed earnestly to God to save them. In the Epistle of James, Chapter 5, it says: "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." The hymn writer said: "Are you weary, are you heavy-hearted? Tell it all to Jesus. Are you anxious what shall be tomorrow? Tell it to Jesus alone!"

In our personal lives, we try to focus on 'love' and not its opposite 'hate.' But there are a number of Bible teachings about hatred. The Lord Jesus said in John's Gospel, Chapter 15, said: "They hated me without a cause." And: "He who hates Me, hates My Father also."

The Apostle John taught in his first epistle that we can expect to be hated at times by people in the world. He said: "Don't be surprised, my friends, if the people of the world hate you. We know that we have left death and come over into life; we know it because we love others. Those who do not love are still under the power of death.

This is how we know what love is: Christ gave his life for us. We too, then ought to give our lives for others! Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action."

If you don't have this strong love for others, ask the Lord Jesus for it. He knows all our areas of weakness and will help us when we ask Him for this in prayer.

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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