



Who Wins in the End? Leaders Tips

Commit to Growth

Read Esther 9 & 10

1. **Summarize the events of the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth days of Adar.**

The sons apparently followed the racism of their father, so they tried to kill Jews on the one day allowed in the original decree. They probably wanted revenge for their father's death. But it backfired on them too!

2. **Why do the Jews seem intent to "take no prisoners" and "take no plunder" (v. 9:10,15,16) despite the king's permission to do so?**

It's important to realize here that the Jews acted in self-defense, attacking those who sought their destruction. However, there were boundaries to their actions. Refer to Genesis 14:21-24, where Abraham refuses the plunder from Sodom and compare it to when Saul takes the plunder from the battle of the Amalekites. The Jews remembered this incident and acted based on their history.

3. **Purim is the most revered Jewish festival, celebrated to this day. Why is that? How was it established? Where did it get its name?**

Purim is viewed as a crucial time of remembrance for the Jews because of the great saving act of God and remembering would allow them to keep perspective to God's work in their lives. It's one of remembrance and celebration of God's faithfulness and is still remembered today.

4. **God has saved his people and blessed Esther and Mordecai for their obedience to him? Summarize what happens to Esther and Mordecai at the end of the story (9:29-10:3).**

In the end, they experience real victory, wealth, happiness and peace. They are exalted and rule with authority under the decrees of God.

5. **In the Old Testament, God often instructs his people to commemorate the times when he acted to provide for and save his people. Why is remembering God's acts of faithfulness so important to us as believers?**

As we recall God's faithfulness it helps us to trust him for the future. As Scripture tells us, "this I recall, therefore I have hope."

6. **What are some ways you could celebrate what God has done for you?**

Take time to give thanks to God for his faithful involvement in your life!