### Esther

## Chapter 7

1So then, the king and HaMan went in to [eat and] drink with the queen on the 2nd day of the banquet, 2and the king asked Esther:  
  
 ‘What would you like, Queen Esther?  
  
 ‘What’s your request or petition?  
  
 ‘Whatever you may ask is yours… Up to half of my kingdom!’  
  
3And she replied:  
  
 ‘If I’ve found favor before the king, my request and petition is for him to grant life to my people...  
  
 4‘For my people and I have been sold for destruction, ravaging, and as male and female slaves… Including our children!  
  
 ‘I haven’t mentioned this to you before, but the one who slandered us is no longer worthy to sit in the courtyard of the king.’  
  
5Well at that, the king asked:  
  
 ‘Who would have dared to do such a thing?’  
  
6And Esther said:  
  
 ‘A man… An enemy… HaMan… This wicked man!’  
  
Well, HaMan became very upset before the king and queen, 7and the king just got up and walked out into the garden.  
  
So then HaMan appealed to the queen, because he saw that he was in a bad situation.  
  
8Then when the king returned from the garden, he found that HaMan had fallen on the queen’s bed as he was begging her.  
  
And the king asked:  
  
 ‘Are you attacking my wife here in my own home?’  
  
Well when HaMan heard that, he didn’t know what to say. 9Then Harbonah (one of the king’s eunuchs) said to the king:  
  
 ‘{Look!} HaMan has prepared a very tall pole [on which he’s planned to hang] MordecAi, the man who protected the king…  
  
 ‘He had it erected next to his home.’  
  
And the king said:  
  
 ‘Then let him be hung on it!’  
  
10So HaMan was hung on the pole that he’d prepared for MordecAi that day, and this ended the king’s rage.