

Pivotal Circumstances  
Esther 6:1 – 7:10  
February 7, 2012

- I. A Look Back
  - A. Chapters Four & Five
    - 1. Haman's edict
    - 2. Mordecai confronts Esther
    - 3. Cliffhanger
    - 4. Here's the deal
  
- II. A Turn of Events – Esther 6:1-14
  - A. Dark Comedy – Esther 6:1-11
    - 1. Irony
    - 2. Timing
    - 3. Misunderstanding
  
  - B. Coincidences
    - 1. Insomnia
    - 2. Choice of activity
    - 3. Haman's appearance
    - 4. Godincidence
  
  - C. Mordecai's Disappointment
    - 1. Delayed honor

2. Consider this

3. Our plans

D. Picturing Haman

1. What he wanted

2. Magical power

3. Reversal of fortune (peripety)

E. After the Parade – Vv. 12-14

1. Haman's wife and friends

F. Pivot Point

1. Insignificant event...seemingly

G. What this tells us

1. No one in the story, not even the king, is in \_\_\_\_\_ of what is about to happen

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III. A Second Banquet

A. Delicate and Dangerous Task

1. Accusing Haman without incriminating the king
  
2. No guarantee

B. Esther Finally and Skillfully Replies

1. Structure
  
2. Quotes Haman's edict

C. The King's Fury

1. Lost in translation
  - a. Xerxes' words
  
  - b. Esther's accusation
  
2. The king's quandary
  
3. Leaves the room

D. Haman's Further Folly

1. Harem law
  
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3. Harbona's words
  
4. Gallows

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1. Haman sought vengeance because a Jew would not bow to him...
  
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IV. An Unresolved Issue

A. Esther's Request

1. Had it been granted?

V. Divine Justice

A. Human Evil

1. Sets itself up against God
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VI. Identification With a People

A. Life and Death

1. Determined by identification with a people

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