

That Escalated Quickly (Esther 3:1-9)

That Escalated Quickly (3:1-9)

- Mordecai refuses to bow
- Haman, filled with anger, sets out to annihilate Mordecai and all Jews
- Q1: Why didn't Mordecai bow?
- Q2: Why did Haman react so strongly?
- Answer: Because Mordecai was a Jew and Haman was an Agagite

Saul Fails to Obey (1 Samuel 15:1-3, 7-9)

- Saul told to attack Amalekites: to destroy all people and cattle and take no plunder
- Saul wins battle but fails on both expectations
 - Agag, king of Amalekites, is captured alive
 - Plunder of best of stuff taken
- If Saul obeys God, there is no more Agag
 - No Agag = No Agagites = No Haman = No Threat in Esther!

Unprovoked Attack (Exodus 17:8-16)

- Israelites, on way out of Egypt, seemingly attacked unprovoked by Amalekites
- Amalekites at war with the Lord... and his people... long before Haman

Who is Amalek? (Genesis 36:9-12)

- Amalek was Esau's grandson
- Esau and Jacob have been in conflict since the womb of Rebekah (Gen 25:23)
- So descendants of Esau (Amalekites / Agagites) and descendants of Jacob (Israelites) being in conflict is part of larger story

Seed of Woman, Seed of Serpent (Genesis 3:15)

- *"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel"* (Gen 3:15).
- Haman - he was the seed of the serpent
 - And the seed of the serpent had one goal - to eliminate the seed of the woman
 - So Haman was just doing what all the seed of the serpent do
- But why would the seed of the serpent want to eliminate the seed of the woman?
 - Because if you cut off the line of the seed of the woman, you cut off the possibility of Messiah
 - One was coming - the true and final seed of the woman - who would crush the head of serpent
- Jesus, the Seed of the Woman, came to secure victory over all who would oppose him and his people
 - Haman doesn't win
 - The seed of the serpent doesn't win
 - The serpent doesn't win
 - *"The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet"* (Rom 16:20).
- Jesus, the Messiah, crushes Satan under his foot and secures our salvation forever!