

Breaking Negative Cycles (Purim)

How did the 3 daily thanks project going?

The Original Identity

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in **our image**, in **our likeness**, and **let them rule ...**" **Love RULING the Earth**

The Restored Identity

Eph 2:8 For it is **by grace** you have been **saved, through faith** — and this not from yourselves, it is **the gift of God** —

2 Cor 5:17 NKJ Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is a new creation*; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

I am come that they may have **OVERFLOWING LIFE!**

I have spoken that **my joy may be in you and your joy may be full!**

How Do We Succeed? What if we've had Failures forever

SHAKING OFF PAST FAILURES — Breaking the Cycles of Family Breakdowns

Max Jukes, lived a godless life. (a warden in 1870's noticed that 6 inmates from same family – all descendants of **Max Jukes**) He married an ungodly girl, and from their 5 daughters and 2 sons there came were 310 who died as paupers, 150 were criminals, 60 were thieves, 7 were murderers, 100 were drunkards, and more than half of the women were prostitutes. His 540 descendants cost society over a million dollars.

Jonathan & Sarah Edwards 1,394 known descendants ... of which 13 became college presidents, 65 college professors, 3 United States senators, 30 judges, 100 lawyers, 60 physicians, 75 army and navy officers, 100 preachers and missionaries, 60 authors of prominence, one a vice-president of the United States, 80 became public officials in other capacities, 295 college graduates, among whom were governors of states and ministers to foreign countries.

God's Purpose – REWRITE History – Break the Cycle

You don't have to repeat the INIQUITIES (Alcohol, Drugs, Failure)

You might be the one who totally changes the FUTURE OUTLOOK

Purim! A whole Nation delivered from BAD LUCK!

Trusting God in the Worst Circumstances

PARTY TIME!

Esth 1:1 ESV Now in the days of Ahasuerus, the Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia over 127 provinces, **2** in those days when King Ahasuerus sat on his royal throne in Susa, the citadel,... **3** in the third year of his reign **he gave a feast** for all his officials and servants. ... **4** while he showed the riches of his royal glory and the splendor and pomp of his greatness for many days, **180 days**.

5 And when these days were completed, the king gave for all the people present in Susa the citadel, both great and small, **a feast lasting for seven days** in the court of the garden of the king's palace. ...

9 Queen Vashti also gave a feast for the women in the palace that belonged to King Ahasuerus.

10 On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded ... **11** to **bring Queen Vashti** before the king with her royal crown, **in order to show the peoples and the princes her beauty**, for she was lovely to look at. **12** But **Queen**

Vashti refused to come at the king's command delivered by the eunuchs. At this the king became enraged, and his anger burned within him.

A domestic incident becomes a *national crisis*

BEAUTY CONTEST

Esth 2:1 ESV *After these things*, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her. **2** Then **the king's young men** who attended him said, **“Let beautiful young virgins be sought out** for the king.

5 Now **there was a Jew** in Susa the citadel whose name was **Mordecai**, the son of Jair, son of Shimei, son of Kish, a **Benjaminite**, **6** [Kish] had been carried away from Jerusalem among **7 He was bringing up Hadassah, that is Esther**, the daughter of his uncle, for **she had neither father nor mother**. The young woman had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at,

12 Now when the turn came for each young woman to go in to King Ahasuerus, after ... twelve months ... of their beautifying, six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices and ointments for women—

Four Years, 1400 nights later

15 When the turn came for Esther... to go in to the king, **she asked for nothing except what Hegai** the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, **advised**. Now Esther was winning favor in the eyes of all who saw her.

ESTHER'S FAVOR & FEAST

17 the king loved Esther more than all the women, ..., so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. **18** Then the king gave a great feast ... **Esther's feast**. He also granted a remission of taxes to the provinces and gave gifts with royal generosity.

MORDECAI UNCOVERS THE PLOT

21 In those days, as Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate,..., two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. 22 And this came to the knowledge of Mordecai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai. 23 When the affair was investigated and found to be so, the men were both hanged on the gallows. And it was recorded in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.

HAMAN THE AGAGITE (Descendant of Amalek)

Esth 3:1 **ESV** After these things King Ahasuerus **promoted Haman the Agagite**, the son of ..., and advanced him and **set his throne above all the officials** who were with him. 2 And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate **bowed down** and **paid homage** to Haman, for the king had so commanded concerning him. But **Mordecai did not bow** down or pay homage.

GENOCIDE —

5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage to him, Haman was filled with fury. 6 ... Haman sought to destroy all the Jews...throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus.

PURIM — God is in the dice toss!

7 In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur (that is, they cast lots) before Haman day after day; and they cast it month after month till the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.

MORDECAI'S REQUEST

Esth 4:1 **ESV** When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, ..., and he cried out with a loud and bitter cry. ...

- 8 Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree ..., that he might show it to Esther and ... command her to **go to the king to beg his favor and plead with him on behalf of her people.**
- 10 Then Esther spoke ..., 11 "...if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—to be put to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter so that he may live. But as for me, **I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days.**"
- 13 Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "**Do not think** ... you will escape any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you keep silent at this time, relief and **deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place**, but you and your father's house will perish. And **who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**"

ESTHER'S FAST & FEASTS

- Esth 5:3 *ESV* And the king said to her, "**What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request?** It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom." 4 And Esther said, "If it please the king, **let the king and Haman come today to a feast** that I have prepared for the king."
- 6 And as they were drinking wine after the feast, the king said to Esther, "**What is your wish? It shall be granted you.** And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom..." 8 If I have found favor in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my wish and fulfill my request, **let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare for them, and tomorrow I will do as the king has said.**"

THE BEGINNING OF THE END

High Times for Haman —

- Esth 5:9 *ESV* **And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart.** But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate,... he

was filled with wrath ... **10** Nevertheless, Haman ...went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh. **11** And Haman recounted to them the **splendor of his riches**, the **number of his sons**, **all the promotions** with which the king had honored him, **13** Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate."

Sleepless night — "What has been done for Mordecai?"

Haman's Answer — Royal Robes, Royal Horse, Led through the streets

ESTHER'S SECOND FEAST

Esth 7:3 ESV Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be granted me for my wish, and my people for my request. **4** For **we have been sold**, I and my people, **to be destroyed**, to be **killed**, and to be **annihilated**."

HAMAN & THE 75 FOOT HIGH GALLOWS

Esth 7.9 JPS Then ... one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "What is more, a stake is standing at Haman's house, fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai — the man whose words saved the king." "**Impale him on it!**" the king ordered. **10** **So they impaled Haman on the stake** which he had put up for Mordecai, and the king's fury abated. So they impaled Haman on the stake which he had put up for Mordecai, and the king's fury abated.

9.13 his ten sons also impaled.

THE RELEASE OF ROYAL JOY

Esth 8:15 ESV Then **Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal robes** of blue and white, **with a great golden crown** and a robe of fine linen and purple, and **the city of Susa shouted and rejoiced**. **16** The Jews had **light** and **gladness** and

joy and honor. 17 And in every province and in every city, wherever the king's command and his edict reached, there was gladness and joy among the Jews, a feast and a holiday. And many from the peoples of the country declared themselves Jews, for fear of the Jews had fallen on them.

Mordecai accomplished what Saul had not!

Break the cycles! Don't give up!

The Shift (Repentance) occurs when we change our OS
from:

“What can I get?” to **“How can I serve?”**

This frees us to participate in the Divine Nature

Not focused on outcome, but focusing on service.

Practical:

Attitude is Everything — Rejoice!

Love in Motion — Act on the Feeling

Hold up your hands and say, “These are my **Father's**
hands.”

1. Contribute:

a. If you want to love anyone... give & nurture.

b. Think — How can I make life better for (a person)?
Love has a face.

For **Three Minutes** a day think about another

What would make him happy? What are
his needs?

Do at least one good thing. Might be a simple,
warm email, a word of encouragement.

Do this for a **month** and your mind will be recep-
tive to **CREATIVE WISDOM**

Giving is powerful — It connects us with the Image of
the Creator within

Receiving gives us resources, but we can hoard them.

In **GIVING** we are FULL, potent, strong, wealthy, power-
ful. We ARE overflowing, spending, alive, joyous!

Shine Like the Sun!

We want to leave this planet a better place than when
we arrived.

This is the **purpose** for each person, community and
generation!

Shine like the Sun! Don't mumble and grumble.
Shining like stars.

GRATITUDE — Love says, "Thank You!"

HUMILITY — I will change, I will be transformed, I will
become all things to all, to my family, to my spouse.

LOVE CREATES an "US"

**Our Father in Heaven — Your Name, your Nature are
Holy — Sanctify your Name!**

Experience the Glory! Pray for each other!