



Esther – Textbook Reading



Textbook Reading

(Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)

Ch. 18

- ☐ Contents (Esther)

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 18

The Book of Esther

Contents

- What does the textbook say about the issue of monotheism versus polytheism? How was this a challenge to the Jews in the Persian empire? How did Mordecai respond, according to the textbook?
- What are the different sections of the book of Esther? How do they each contribute to and move the story forward to its climax and conclusion? How is this book structured, according to the textbook?
- How did Esther become queen? Why? What other background information was given before the problem is described?
- What did Haman convince the king to do? Why? What does the textbook mention about an official Persian decree?
- What was the only hope remaining for the saving of the Jewish people, according to the textbook? How is this central to the plot of this book?
- What risk did Esther take to do this? How did Mordecai convince her to do this? What does the textbook say is the theme of this book? How does that apply today?
- How did the king respond to Esther? What did she request from him?
- How does the textbook explain the fact that the king could not sleep that night?
- What did the king do when he was reminded what Mordecai had done? Why does the textbook describe this as a twist of irony? What should we learn from this?
- What happened to Haman at the dinner? What does the textbook describe as more irony? How is this related to the point of this entire story?
- How did they deal with the matter of Haman's decree? What was the ultimate result?
- What is the feast of Purim and how is it related to this story?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter