I. The Feast of Purim: The Finale of Esther, Chapters 9 and10

A. Purim Celebrates the Redemption Plan of God.

1. “The best defense is a good offense” is a biblical truth.

2. Fighting life’s battles God’s way is often contrary to our own devices.

B. Haman’s character personifies pride’s deception and downfall.

C. Purim is among the everlasting feasts to be celebrated.

D. God can only be seen with eyes of faith in the book of Esther.

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I. Introduction to the Book of Job

A. A man named Job in a place called Uz is an apt beginning to poetic literature.

B. Biblical hermeneutics is at its best in the book of Job.

1. A decision of how to read is to be made before I connect with what I read.

a. That decision is the core of hermeneutics.

(1) Hermeneutics is the science of interpretation

(a) Hermeneuo is the Greek verb, to interpret

II. Romans 2 is a reminder that reading the New Testament before the Old is important.

A. Verses 28 and 29 teach a critical lesson in hermeneutics.

B. A spiritual vs. a literal hermeneutic is “literally” presented.

III. Matthew 1’s presentation of history as 14-14-14 is another critical lesson in hermeneutics.

A. Knowing that 14 is not 14 is essential for the eyes of faith to see.

B. 4, 7, 12 are all loaded with meaning. Are only 144,000 to be saved? Revelation 7

IV. The apocalyptic literature of the Bible offers another critical lesson in hermeneutics.

A. Revelation, Ezekiel, Zechariah all borrow language.

B. Matthew 24’s Olivet Discourse culminates Jesus’ use of language.

V. The vocabulary used in the scriptures is loaded with meaning.

A. What is Jesus’ first name in the Bible? Genesis 3:15 answers that.

B. How many names does Jesus have?

VI. Job’s historical placement in the Poetry section of the Bible is critically important.

A. Chapter One sets the “stage” for the truth being taught.

B. Literary license is at its best in the book of Job.

C. The setting and the characters open the door to the truth which follows.

VII. The declarations of Job in chapter one stand the test of time.

A. Naked I came from my mother’s womb and naked I will depart: Job

1. What if a man gains the whole world and loses his soul: Jesus.

B. The Lord gives and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord: Job

1. You know neither the scriptures nor the power of God: Jesus

VIII. The Gospel according to Job and the Gospel according to Jesus are the same message.