

Secret Sovereignty: Part 2

What is God doing in crises?

God uses the crisis to

1. Awaken Our Faith

Esther 3:1-6

Deuteronomy 25:17-19

The result of Mordecai's and Esther's crisis: They are moved to identify with God and His people even when it's risky.

God uses the crisis to:

2. Reveal Himself as Rock-solid and Trustworthy

Esther 4:3 and Joel 2:12-14 (on same slide if possible. if not, no big deal)

Esther 4:16

3:5, 15; 5:9, 13, 14

God uses the crisis to:

3. Prepare us for joy

"Significant deliverance doesn't happen without significant peril."

Reversals in Esther

- Mordecai fasting and in mourning (4:1) and Haman well-fed, joyful and glad of heart (5:9)
- Reversal: Mordecai dressed in the king's robes and honored (6:11) and Haman in mourning (6:12)
- Haman recounts all his splendor and accomplishments with his family, pleased and joyful at the thought of building a gallows to execute Mordecai (5:14)
- Reversal: Haman's family predicts Haman's demise at Mordecai's hands (6:13)

Esther 7:1-10

O Joy that seekest me through pain
I cannot close my heart to thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be

O Cross that liftest up my head
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be

Applications:

1. It's a really exciting time to be a Christian

2. Train one another to slay dragons - and then don't "freak out" when there's an actual dragon to kill