



A Better Way

Esther 5:2-4(NIV): "When *he saw Queen Esther* standing in the court, he was *pleased* with her and held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand... 3 Then the king asked, 'What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you.' 4 'If it pleases the king,' replied Esther, 'let the king, together with Haman, come today to a banquet I have prepared for him.'"

Esther 5:7,8(NIV): "Esther replied, 'My petition and my request is this: 8 If the king regards me with *favor* and if it *pleases the king* to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come *tomorrow* to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the king's question.'"

Esther 5:14(NIV): "This suggestion delighted Haman."

Esther 7:3-6(NIV): "Then Queen Esther answered, 'If I have found *favor* with you, Your Majesty, and if it *pleases you*, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. 4 For I and my people have been *sold to be destroyed*, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been *sold* as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king.' 5 King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, 'Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?' 6 Esther said, 'An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!'"

Esther 8:3-8(NIV): "Esther again *pleaded with the king, falling at his feet and weeping*. She begged him to put an end to the *evil plan* of Haman the Agagite, which he had devised against the Jews. 4 Then the king extended the gold scepter to Esther and she arose and stood before him. 5 'If it *pleases the king*,' she said, 'and if he regards me with *favor* and thinks it the *right thing to do*...'"

What I Like is What is Right

ADMIT it

Jeremiah 17:9(NET): "The human mind is more deceitful than anything else."

"The emotional tail wags the rational dog." Jonathan Haidt

"We are indeed selfish hypocrites so skilled at putting on a show of virtue that we fool even ourselves." Jonathan Haidt

"The confidence people have in their beliefs is not a measure of the quality of evidence but of the coherence of the story the mind has managed to construct." Daniel Kahneman

1 Kings 3:9(CEB): "Please give your servant a discerning mind in order to govern your people and to distinguish good from evil."

Dr. David DeSteno

STOP it

Psalm 37:7(NIV): "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him..."

Psalm 62:5(Amp): "For God alone my soul waits in silence..."

SLOW it

Pr. 19:2(GW): "A person in a hurry makes mistakes."

Proverbs 18:13(EASY): "Listen carefully before you answer. If you answer too quickly, you will be ashamed..."

Pr. 29:20(GW): "Have you met a person who is quick to answer? There is more hope for a fool than for him."

Matthew 7:2(NLT): "For you will be treated as you treat others. The standard you use in judging is the standard by which you will be judged."

James 1:19(NIV): "Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry"

God is SLOW

Exodus 34:6(NIV): "And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, 'The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.'"

All scriptures referenced are from the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.