Cayucos Community Church Sermon Notes: 2-19-2023, Pastor Dale James

Thrive: The Esther Chronicles

Mischief is brewing

Wherever you are, it's by Divine Appointment

The jump from Joseph to Esther

For such a time as this (4:14)

How hostile can our world become?

Backstory to a planned genocide for Jews

Xerxes (Ahasuerus)

Hadassah (aka Esther)

Mordecai

Haman

When rulers demand God's people to do what He forbids, they must resist.

Will Mordecai's "religious exemption" stand?

See Acts 4:19-20; 5:29

Thriving in a hostile world demands great wisdom & clear thinking about what God actually prohibits versus what we want.

Standing for your faith convictions comes at a price – but God is big enough to defend anything He wants. (3:1-5)

Truthfulness does not require sharing everything you know when it hasn't been required. (2:10; chapters 5-7)

Deliverance comes from YHWH.

Pride & power compel people to stand against God, but if He so chooses, He can take them out. (6:13)

While God can deliver by fiat, He most often works through the agency of humans courageous enough to submit to and trust Him. (4:13-14)

God's victories are to be remembered and celebrated!

Maybe we don't party enough.

Purim (from the word for "lot")

Take it Home