

**“The Inevitable Conflict”**  
Esther 3:1-15

**Today's BIG IDEA:**

***When God's people follow God's ways, the world will***

**Outline of Esther 3**

**A. Haman's \_\_\_\_\_ ascent (vs1-2a)**

**B. Conflict between Haman and Mordecai (vs 2b-5)**

**BECOMES**

**C. Conflict between Persian Empire and Jews (vs 6-15)**

**1. The way of the \_\_\_\_\_**

The world practices:

- Self-indulgence
- Deceitfulness
  - Haman fails to mention Jews by name when conspiring with the King
  - Exaggerates their offenses and threat to the King
  - Offers a bribe to get his way
- Idolatry (not just of false man-made gods, also of man)
  - Haman desired self-exaltation
  - Haman was enraged when Mordecai refused

**2. The way of God's \_\_\_\_\_**

God's people practice:

- Self-denial
- Honesty

- Worship the one true God

The ways of God's people are/should be in stark contrast to the ways of the world.

**3. The inevitable \_\_\_\_\_**

**2 Things @ play in this conflict in Esther 3**

**I. Ancient history between Haman's people and Mordecai's people (1 Sam 15, Exodus 17:15)**

- Haman the Agagite vs Mordecai the Benjamite
  - i. Agag – King of Amalekites (1 Sam 15)
  - ii. Saul son of Kish – Conquers the Amalekites  
Samuel – Cuts Agog, the king into pieces
- Conflict foretold way back in Exodus 17:15

*This conflict was part of God's sovereign plan, Queen Esther was part of God's sovereign plan to save His people from destruction.*

**II. Even greater and more ancient history between the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ people that continues even to this day.**

This conflict is part of God's sovereign plan, King Jesus is God's sovereign plan to save His people from destruction. (Revelation 12:9-11)

*And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. - Revelation 12:11 ESV*

**APPLICATION QUESTIONS:**

1. What are some ways that we see today's culture in conflict with God's ways?
2. Do we live lives that offer a stark contrast between the ways of God's people and the ways of the world?
3. When conflict with the world over the way we follow Christ becomes inevitable, what are some promises we have from God regarding our sustenance and deliverance? (1 John 2:15-17, Romans 12:2, Eph 6:10-18)