

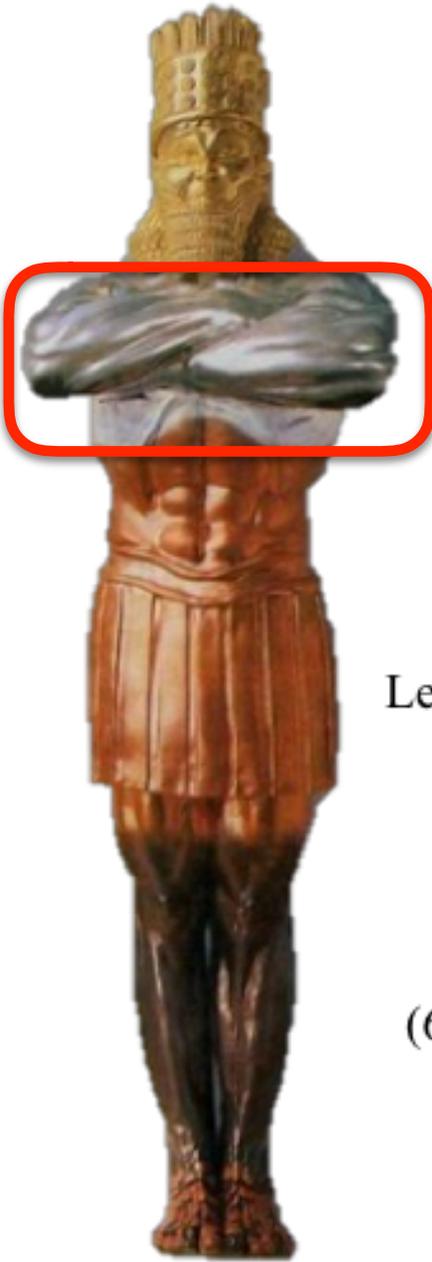
Mt. Pleasant  
Bible Institute  
[www.kjbstudy.com](http://www.kjbstudy.com)

*Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor*

A ministry of the  
***Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church***

**Lee Swor, Pastor**

# THE FOUR GENTILE WORLD EMPIRES



## 1. Babylon

Head of Gold  
Lion with Eagles' wings  
(606 BC- 537 BC)



## 2. Medo-Persia

Breast and Arms of Silver  
Bear with three ribs in mouth  
(537 BC- 334 BC)



## 3. Greece

Belly and Thighs of Brass  
Leopard with four heads and four wings  
(334 BC- 64 BC)



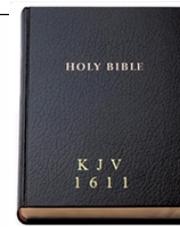
## 4. Rome

Legs of Iron  
A dreadful and terrible beast  
(64 BC- Second Coming of Christ)

### *The Final Form of Rome*

Feet and Toes part Iron and part Clay  
10 horns on the beast





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# The Four Gentile World Empires

*The Medo-Persian Empire*

# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:2-3



## XERXES I

### Est 3:2-3

2 And all **the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and revered Haman: for the king had so commanded** concerning him. **But Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence.**

3 Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, **Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?**

### **The king's servants, that were in the king's gate.**

- Mordecai was among the king's servants that served at the king's gate (v.2-3; 2:21)

### **Bowed, and revered Haman: for the king had so commanded.**

- BOWED= Heb. *kara*= appears 36x in the Hebrew OT and is translated BOWED 10x; BOW 4x; BOW DOWN 5x; BOWETH DOWN 2x; BOWED DOWN 1x; SUBDUED 2x; FELL 2x; SUNK DOWN 1x; CAST HIM DOWN 1x; SMOTE DOWN 1x; STOOPED DOWN 1x; BROUGHT DOWN 1x; BROUGHT 1x; VERY LOW 1x; COUCHED 1x; KNEELING 1x; and FEEBLE 1x
- REVERENCED= Heb. *shachah*= appears 172x in the Hebrew OT and is translated WORSHIP 99x; BOW 31x; BOW DOWN 18x; OBEISANCE 9x; REVERENCE 5x; FALL DOWN 3x; STOOP 1x; CROUCH 1x; etc.



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:2-3

## XERXES I

- Why would the king command such a thing unless he delegated full royal authority to Haman and expected his subjects to treat him as they would the king himself?

### **Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence.**

- Reminiscent of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego (Dan 3:18), Mordecai refused to bow to Haman and he stuck out among the crowd

### **Why transgressesst thou the king's commandment.**

- Reminiscent of the Chaldeans who identified Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego as conscientious objectors and betrayed them to the king (Dan 3:8-12), Mordecai's co-workers witnessed his refusal to bow to Haman and became concerned that his civil disobedience would endanger them



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:4

## XERXES I

### **Est 3:4**

Now it came to pass, when **they spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not** unto them, that **they told Haman**, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: **for he had told them that he was a Jew.**

### **They spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not.**

- Mordecai's co-workers implored him every day to comply with the king's commandment and bow to Haman, probably warning him that his petty convictions were going to get them all killed
- But, just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, Mordecai stood fast in his refusal even if it meant death (Dan 3:16-18)

### **Dan 3:16-18**

**16** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

**17** If it be so, **our God whom we serve is able to deliver us** from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

**18** **But if not**, be it known unto thee, O king, that **we will not** serve thy gods, nor **worship the golden image which thou hast set up.**



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:4

## XERXES I

### They told Haman.

- Just like the Chaldeans betrayed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego to Nebuchadnezzar (Dan 3:8-12), so Mordecai's co-workers betrayed him to Haman
- Given they implored him every day, it is likely they did not want to take this action but did so to avoid being implicated with Mordecai
- The fact they told Haman that Mordecai refused to bow and reverence him indicates that Haman had not noticed Mordecai's civil disobedience to this point, but in the minds of Mordecai's co-workers it was just a matter of time so they took matters into their own hands

### For he had told them that he was a Jew.

- Mordecai's co-workers may have reluctantly betrayed him to Haman but they didn't have to tell him that Mordecai was a Jew
- They did this to try to curry favor with Haman in light of disclosing that one of their own was directly defying the king's commandment and dishonoring him
- Why did Mordecai tell his co-workers that he was a Jew when he was so adamant that Esther not tell anyone that she was a Jew (2:10,20)?



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:5

## XERXES I

### **Est 3:5-6**

**5** And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath.

**6** And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that *were* throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, *even* the people of Mordecai.

### **When Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not.**

- The implication is that Haman had not noticed that Mordecai refused to bow and reverence him until Mordecai's peers brought it to his attention and he intentionally looked for it

### **Then was Haman full of wrath.**

- Haman is a type of SATAN since he is called the ADVERSARY and ENEMY (Est 7:6) cf. (Matt 13:39; 1 Pet 5:8)
- Haman was full of WRATH when he SAW that Mordecai bowed not just as the dragon (Satan) had great WRATH (Rev 12:12,17) when he SAW that he was cast unto the earth (Rev 12:13)



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:6

## XERXES I

### **Haman sought to destroy all the Jews.**

- Haman was filled with contempt toward Mordecai and his initial impulse was to kill him but when Mordecai's peers told Haman that Mordecai was a Jew, he changed his mind and desired to destroy all Jews
- Haman's personal hatred and desire for revenge against Mordecai certainly fueled his genocidal intentions, but it is also possible that ancestral hatred factored in
- Haman could have known that it was the Jews who attempted to exterminate his people, the Amalekites, some 600 years earlier (1 Sam 15:3), so when he was told Mordecai was a Jew, he saw an opportunity to avenge himself and his people



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:7

## XERXES I

### Est 3:7

**In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.**

### **In the first month, that is, the month Nisan.**

- The first month of the Hebrew calendar is called NISAN in Persian and ABIB in Hebrew (Exo 12:2; 13:4), and corresponds to March-April on the Gregorian calendar

### **In the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus.**

- The first Jewish month of the 12th year of Xerxes corresponds to March 474 BC

### **They cast Pur, that is the lot.**

- THEY= could be the Persian equivalent of the monthly prognosticators (Isa 47:13), who were responsible for determining divinely appointed times (i.e.- the day and time rulers should take specific actions to merit the blessing of the gods)
- PUR is the Persian word for “lot”, and casting lots was like determining what action to take based on the outcome of rolling dice or flipping a coin



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:7

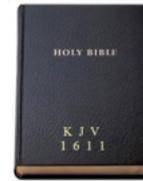
## XERXES I

### **From day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month.**

- The lots were cast every day for an entire year to determine which day the genocide should be executed
- This would be comparable to rolling multiple dice each day and recording the sum value of the dice, and believing that the day with the highest value at the end of the year was the time appointed by the gods

### **The twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.**

- The twelfth month on the Hebrew calendar was ADAR, and corresponds to February-March on the Gregorian calendar
- Haman's cronies cast lots every day from March 474 BC through February 473 BC



# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:8-9

## XERXES I

### **Est 3:8-9**

**8** And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws *are* diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore **it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.**

**9** If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed: and **I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.**

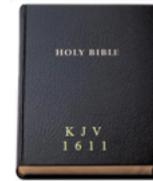
### **It is not for the king's profit to suffer them.**

- Without specifically mentioning the Jews, Haman accuses them before the king as being a rebellious and deserving of extermination because of their potentially wide spread influence

### **I will pay ten thousand talents of silver.**

- Haman offered to fully subsidize the holocaust so that it didn't come out of the taxpayer's money
- Haman must have been a multi-millionaire at the time or had access to millionaire donors whom he was certain would directly contribute to his genocidal cause
- One talent is approximately 75-100 pounds
- Silver is weighed in Troy ounces and there are 12 Troy ounces to one pound; so there are 900-1,200 Troy ounces to one talent and 9,000,000-12,000,000 in 10,000 talents

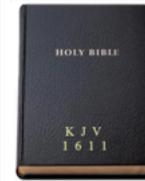
# The Medo-Persian Empire- Est 3:8-9



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## XERXES I

- The current value of silver is \$14.70 per ounce, so 10,000 talents of silver would equate to \$132,300,000-\$176,400,000 in current money
- A reasonable question to ask is, was Hitler's holocaust of WWII also funded by a wealthy institution or individuals?
- The Reichskonkordat was a concordat (i.e.- "treaty") between the Vatican and Nazi Germany signed on July 20, 1933 by Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pacelli (who later became Pope Pius XII) on behalf of Pope Pius XI and Vice Chancellor Franz von Papen on behalf of President Paul von Hindenburg
- It was a treaty that guaranteed the rights of the Roman Catholic Church in emerging Nazi Germany
- The relationship between the Vatican and Nazi Germany, specifically Pius XII and Hitler is extremely suspect in spite of repeated attempts by the Catholic Church to cover-up, gloss over, or deny some of the accusations and evidence that has surfaced over the years
- HAMAN, an AMALEKITE running the PERSIAN empire, sought to initiate the first holocaust
- HITLER, an AUSTRIAN running the THIRD REICH, initiated the Nazi holocaust



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