



ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

Full House, Joker Trumped | Esther 7 & 8

1. What emotions does the theme of 'God's judgement' evoke within you? Would you feel comfortable discussing this with your non-Christian friends and family? Why? Why not?
2. If you were to tackle this theme as a discussion with your non-Christian friends and family, how would you go about it? Discuss as a group.
3. Is Chris right when he said we all want judgement for the wrongs of others, but we'd rather avoid it ourselves?
4. Do you have a hierarchy of sins? Which sins feature near the top of your list? Does God have a hierarchy of sins? Can you think of a world event which has caused your blood to boil with anger and your heart to long for judgement/justice of others?
5. Discuss Somerset Maugham's quote: *'If I wrote down every thought and every deed I have ever done, men would call me a monster of depravity.'* Cross reference this with Romans 7:24-25. Can you relate?
6. Do you feel any kind of pity for Haman in Esther 7-8? Why? Why not?
7. Christians do not believe in karma. How is the punishment of Haman not instant karma?
8. Chris suggested it's not enough to just 'forgive and forget' when a person is seriously wronged. How are the themes of forgiveness, justice and judgement overlapping but different? Can you have one without the other? Discuss.
9. *"The Roman's Road To Salvation"* is a collection of Scripture verses from the book of Roman's which, together, describe the human problem (Romans 3:10, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23a); humanity's hope in Christ (Romans 6:23b, Romans 5:8); the sinners response (Romans 10:9-10, Romans 10:13); and, the result of salvation (Romans 5:1-2, Romans 8:1). Study these verses together. Is this a helpful model to answer Q2? Why is the 'but' in Romans 6:23 so important?
10. How is God's judgement hope giving? Reflect on the words of Revelation 21:1-5.