

Tables Turned

Esther 5.1-6.14

1. Prayer Paves the Way, 5.1-2

... for God's purposes

to be accomplished

nervous? prepare thoroughly 4.16

Prov 21.1

pray - don't panic Col 4.2; 2 Cor 10.4-5

2. An Indirect Way may be Best, 5.3-8

- *be canny, not clumsy vs 3-4*
stomach: the way to a man's heart!
- *be shrewd, not brash John 4*
- *be prepared to bide your time vs6-7*
wait on the Lord Isaiah 40.31
he will guide Psalm 32.8;

3. Pride comes before a Fall, 5.9-14

- *the folly of boasting vs10-12*
Prov 12.23

- **life is never perfect vs 9,13; 3.2**
don't expect it to be!
keep a good appetite for heaven
keep thanking God for blessings

4. God moves in Mysterious Ways

... his wonders to perform 6.1-14

- **the king's inability to sleep v1**
- **the nation's official archives vs1-2**
- **an administrative oversight v3**
God will reward Heb 6.10
Mat 6.4,6; 10.42
- **a timely appearance vs4-5**
- **one man's self-centred pride v6-11**
Prov 29.23; Mat 23.12;
Mk 9.35; 10.31; Prov 16.18
God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble
1 Peter 5.5-6