

Vindictiveness Backfires

Esther 7.1-10

Haman: “hoisted by his own petard”

1. Vindictiveness often backfires

what goes around, comes around

Mat 7.1-2; Gal 6.7

➤ ***guard against all bitterness***

Heb 12.5 have faith in God

➤ ***never harbour grudges***

Gen 27.41; Mark 6.19; Lev 19.18

be willing to forgive

Mat 6.9,12,14-15; 5.43-48

➤ ***never seek revenge***

Rom 12.16-21 leave it to God

2. Cultivate a good sense of timing

➤ ***Esther’s perfect timing***

a three-day fast; she bided her time;

then struck with precision v3-4,6

- **Haman's woeful timing**
a poor choice of 'lucky' day 3.7
a poor day for publication 3.12
a bad time to visit the king 6.4
no time to molest the queen!
- **good timing comes**
from being in touch with God
Jesus, the perfect example
John 2.4, 7.6,8,30; 8.20
John 12.31; 13.1; 17.1
- **wise lessons about timing**
Eccles 3.7,17; 8.5-6,9

3. Leaders must know what's going on

- ***danger of being isolated, insulated***
- ***additional eyes and ears needed***
and good lines of communication