

ESTHER

The Book of Esther, Like The Book of Ruth, Is A Behind The Scenes Account Of A Story That Takes Place Inside Of A Larger Story. The Big Story Is The Return Of Jews To Jerusalem Under Zerubbabel, Ezra and Nehemiah To Rebuild The Temple And The City Walls. The Story Of Esther, Is A Behind The Scenes Look At God _____ On Behalf Of His People. It's The Type Of Story That Would Have Only Become Ancient Folklore, Had God Not Had It Penned And Placed In The _____. It's A Story Of A Sovereign God, Working Behind The Scenes To _____ His People.

- **Author:** The Actual Author Of The Book Of Esther Is _____. A Few Of The Suggested Possible Authors Are: Mordecai, Ezra or Nehemiah.
- **Setting:** The Book of Esther Takes Place During The Time Of _____ Reign In The World. King Ahasuerus Ruled From 486-465 B.C. and Esther Covers The 483-473 Portion Of That Reign. It's Very Important To Understand That Artaxerxes (of Nehemiah) and Ahasuerus (Of Esther) Are _____. Artaxerxes Is How The Kings Name Appears When Translated From Greek and Ahasuerus Is The Hebrew Transliteration Of _____.

Let's Review World Leadership During This Time In World History. When The Book Of Ezra Opens Cyrus Is King Of Persia. He Overthrows Babylon And Begins The Return Of Jews To _____. By Chapter 7 of The Book Of Ezra, Cyrus Has Died And Artaxerxes Is Reigning. His Reign Covers The Book Of Nehemiah & Esther.

Characters In Esther:

Ahasuerus (King of Persia) – Is Artaxerxes

Vashti – The Queen & Wife of Artaxerxes

Mordecai – The Jewish Captive Uncle of _____

Esther – The Eventual Queen & _____ of Mordecai

Haman – Kings Right Hand Man Who _____ Mordecai

- **Food for Thought: As Has Been Pointed Out By Many Bible Students, God Is Not _____ In The Book Of Esther. However, It Is Evident That He Is Very Much A Part Of The Story. In The Story of Esther, We See God Working In What Seems To Be “Coincidences” & “Ironic Reversals”. This Aids The Faith Of The Believer In That When You Can’t _____ Directly Working, It Doesn’t Mean He Isn’t!**

Chapter 1

The Book Opens With The King Throwing A Feast or Banquet To Celebrate His Personal _____ And _____. This Banquet Lasted _____ Days. In A State of Drunkenness, The King Demands That His Wife Queen Vashti Be Brought Before Him And Her Beauty Put On Display. She Refuses The Request And The King Is Enraged. He Plots With Others In The Kingdom On How To Handle Her _____. They Were Worried That Her Rebelliousness Would Be An Example To Other Woman That Would Repeat It. So They Talked The King Into Making A Decree That For Her Rebellion, Vashti Would Be _____ From being Queen And Another Would Take Her Place.

Chapter 2

The Servants Of The King Want Him To Have A _____ To Find A Replacement For Former Queen Vashti. It’s Here That We Are Introduced To Mordecai & Esther. Esther was _____ And She Was Chosen During The Gathering Of The _____ From The Land To Be Considered To Be The Next Queen. The King Was Smitten By Esther’s _____ And Crowned Her Queen. He Celebrated The Occasion With Another Great Feast. Now Esther Concealed From The King That She Was a _____. At The End Of The Chapter, Mordecai Overhears A Plot To _____ The King From 2 Men, He Tells Esther And She Tells The King. This Spoils The _____ For Assassination And Gains Mordecai Great Favor In The Kings Eyes.

Chapter 3

The Chapter Opens With Haman Getting Promoted To _____ In Command In The Kingdom. This Brought Haman Great _____ And _____ In The Kingdom, So Much So That Men Would Bow In His Presence. All But Mordecai, He Wouldn't Bow. This Enraged Haman And Caused Him To Want To _____ Both Mordecai And His People (The Jews). Haman Concocted A Story That There Was A Group Of People In The Kingdom Who Were _____ Against The King, He Offered To Destroy Them And Was Given _____ To Do So. A Group Of Astrologers Were Advising Haman On What To Do By Casting Lots (V7) Which Was Called Pur.

Chapter 4

The News Of Haman's Plan For Their Extermination _____ Both Mordecai & The Other Jews. So Much So That They Began To Wear Sack Cloth And Weep Bitterly. Mordecai Took His Display To The _____ Hoping To Get A Chance For Mercy From The King. Esther, Fearing For Mordecai's Life, Sent Him Raiment To Put On, Afraid His Display of Sorrow Would Give Him Away And Get Him Killed But He _____ The Raiment. Then She Sent A Messenger To Plead With Him To Stop. He Sent Word Back With The Messenger About Haman's Plan And How That Esther Should _____ To The King. Esther Sent Word To Mordecai That It Wasn't Possible For Her To Fulfill This Request, To Which He Responded With One Of The Most Famous Passages In The Book.

[Est 4:14](#)and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?

Esther Took That Challenge And Told Mordecai To Call The Jews To Fast And Pray For _____. She Was Going To Approach The King And If She _____, She _____.

Chapter 5

Esther Starts To Execute Her Plan. Plans A Banquet And Invites Both The King And _____. At The Banquet She Is Going To Make Her Request Known to the King. The Chapter Closes With Haman Making Gallows To Hang Mordecai On.

Chapter 6

The King Is Having A _____, So He Calls For The Records Of His Life To Be Brought Up And Read To Him. When They Were, He Was Reminded That Mordecai Had Saved His Life By Spoiling An Assassination Attempt On It. The King Wants To Know If Mordecai Had Been _____ For What He Did And He Hadn't. In A Twist Of Events, _____ Is Appointed To Be Part Of Honoring Mordecai, The Very Man He Wanted To Kill. Chapter Ends With Haman Being Summoned To The Banquet Of Esther.

Chapter 7

The King Asked Esther What Her Request For Him Was, To Which She Responds, The _____ Of The Individual Who Sought To Kill Her And Her People The Jews. The King Grants Her Request And Ask _____ It Was. She Responds That It Was Haman. So They _____ Haman On The Gallows He Had Built To _____ Mordecai On.

Chapter 8

The King Gives The Position That Haman Once Held To _____. Esther Asks Him To _____ The Previous Declaration He Made About The Jews. He Made An Irreversible Decree _____ The Jews. He Also Empowered The Jews To Overcome Their Enemies.

Chapter 9

**The Jews _____ Their Enemies
The Feast Of Purim Is Initiated**

Chapter 10

The _____ Of Mordecai