

ESTHER STUDY – week #1

Throughout the scriptures we see that God uses natural things, place and circumstances to reveal eternal truths to us. The book of Esther is an allegory about God’s plan for the Church; yesterday, today and in the future. We will discover there are many symbols and types in the book of Esther. (Spelled Ester in the Hebrew)

Let me caution here, we need to be careful not to overdo it with the symbols and types when looking at this prophetic book of the Bible. We can completely miss the message if we do this. Being in the ministry of Worship Arts, I fully understand that we have to find the balance with symbols, colors and the worship tools. People will shy away from us if we spend too much time and energy on the symbols and types. We can get downright weird! We must weigh everything with scripture because God’s Word is our lifeline our measuring rod.

- ALLEGORY: is a story that uses symbolism to convey a moral truth to the heart of man.
- TYPE: can be a person, thing or event that represents another (especially future things and events.)

Esther the main character in our story of study is a type of the Church within the Church or to term it another way the Bride of Christ.

Let me clarify this point about “The Church” and “The Bride”.

- The Church is the ecclesia which means: *the called-out ones*. Every believer in Jesus Christ is a member of the Church.
- The Bride is those believers that have taken their relationship with the King of all kings to another level. A deeper level if you will a level of intimacy. The Bride is a TYPE showing us a beautiful picture of our relationship with Jesus Christ who is the Bridegroom.

The book of Esther shows us how we as His Bride are being prepared to come into His presence, the presence of the King.

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- The King represents the King of kings and LORD of all lords spoken about in the Bible. Here are some scripture references using the terms King and LORD. Deuteronomy 10:17; 1Timothy 6:15; Revelation 17:14, 19:17.

There are 2 main themes that we find in the book of Esther. They are hidden truths that are just below the surface of this historic book.

1. IF IT PLEASE THE KING:

- a. Esther led a surrendered life to Mordecai and ultimately the King.
 - i. Mordecai is a type of the Holy Spirit our teacher
- b. She lived a life of true submission.
 - i. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20
- c. She gave to please not to get (receive)

This is one of my heart cries. LORD whatever You want me to do I will do. Is what I am doing or saying pleasing You?

2. FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS!

- a. Esther had a divine purpose & destiny her life.
- b. She knew true humility and walked in it.
- c. She heard the call of the Spirit and obeyed it.
 - i. “For if you fail to speak up now, relief and deliverance will come to the Jews from a different direction; but you and your father’s family will perish. **Who knows whether you didn’t come into your royal position precisely for such a time as this?**” Esther 4:14

A powerful insight to studying the scriptures is to look up the meanings of Biblical names. Names were of great significance and will help us to understand the meaning of what we are reading.

A good example is the name; Ahasuerus in verse 1 is actually a title of a King of Persia in those days. I thought it was his first name, didn’t you?

- Shushan in verse 2 means “lily” and was the winter palace for the kings of Persia.

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- Vashti (the Queen) means beautiful (verse 9).
- Mehuman means faithful. He was the king's right hand man, a eunuch of great power and understanding. There were 7 eunuchs to the king, look up their names and see what they mean for yourself.

Week one of this Esther Study by Beth Moore helps us to understand the political climate of that day during Esther's reign. I looked up Persia in Wikipedia to give us a reference point. I found it interesting and how it tied this study to our modern day.

Wikipedia

Iran, also called Persia, and officially the Islamic Republic of Iran, is a country in Western Asia. Throughout much of early history, the land known today as Iran was known as the Persian Empire. The first great dynasty in Iran was the Achaemenid which ruled from 550 to 330 BC. It was founded by Cyrus the Great. ... In the 7th century, the Arabs conquered Iran and introduced the people to Islam.

~Lora

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