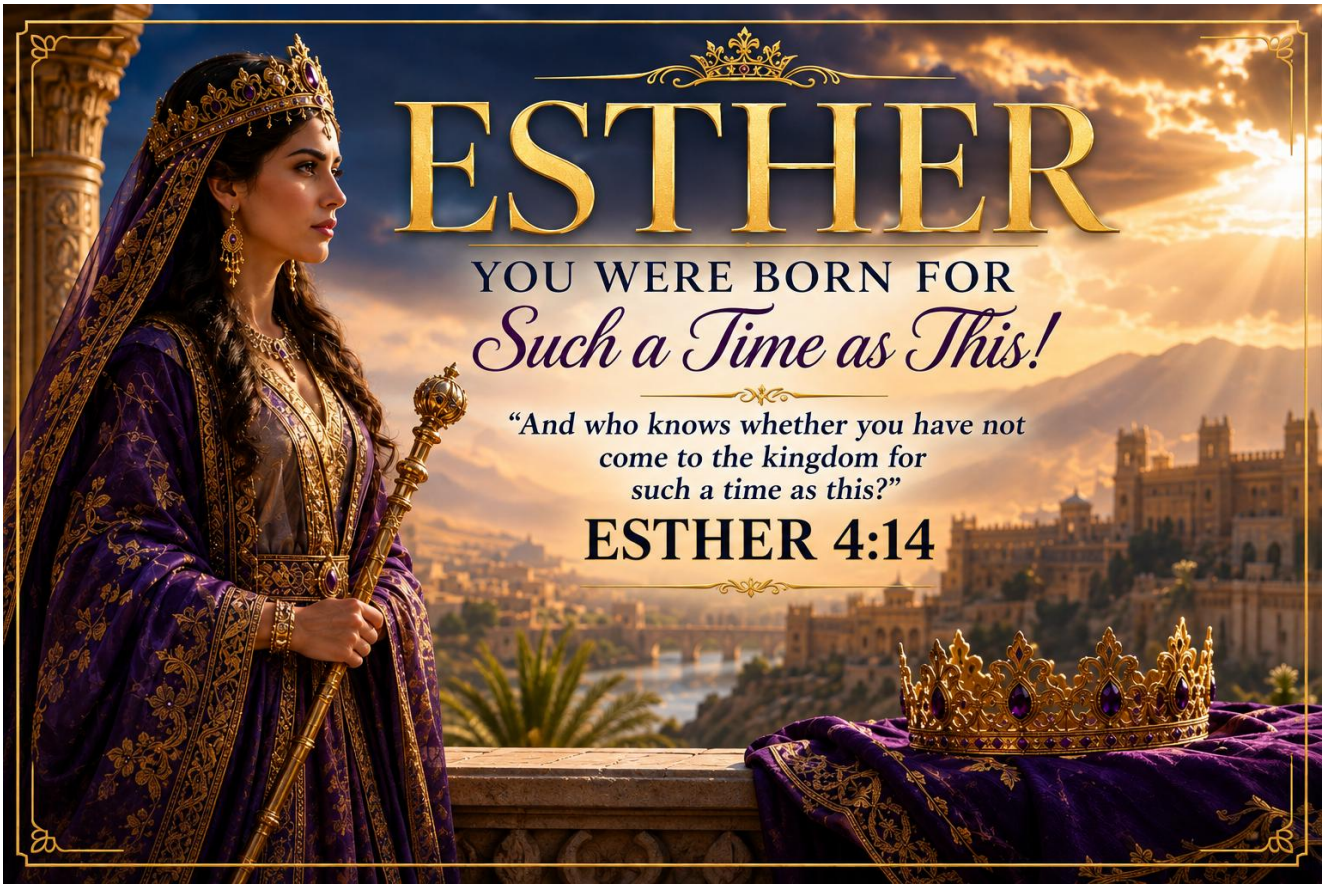
ESTHER

You Were Born for Such a Time as This!



Queen Esther — called, prepared, and positioned for such a time as this.

Esther chapters 1–10 I would recommend reading the entire book of Esther before continuing with this teaching. —Lora

Hidden

The book (Scroll of Esther) is one of the greatest books of the Bible next to Song of Songs in my opinion. It's an allegory. An allegory is a story with hidden and symbolic meanings which reveal deep truths to us.

The name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther, not even once but, as a prophetic people, the Spirit of God will reveal the hidden things in this book as you

press in. You will see the prophetic plan of God for the Church within the church (the Bride), now and in the future.

> *For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*
>
> *—Jeremiah 29:11*

The story of Esther takes place in Shushan, the royal city. Shushan can also be pronounced Susa which means lily. In the Song of Songs we are lilies among thorns; a fragrant and pure spotless Bride. Therefore, Shushan is the city of God's chosen ones (lilies)…His Bride.

> *Song of Songs 2:1-2*

- The BRIDE I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys.
- The BELOVED Like a lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters.

Esther is a book of Celebrations and Feasting! Shushan was BIG on feasting, it seems like they could find a reason to have a holiday banquet for just about anything, we read in chapter 2 that the king made Esther a great feast (Esther 2:18) and later Purim is still celebrated as written in Esther chapter 9.

Esther: A Woman Destined for Greatness

Let's take a look at this scripture in Esther:

The name ESTHER has 2 meanings:

1. Star (Persian)
2. Concealment, secret or hidden (Hebrew)

She was born with the name Hadassah which means:

1. Myrtle: righteous
    a. The righteous are called myrtles. (Zechariah 1:8)

When we look at types (remember we are talking allegory) Esther is a type of the Church within the Church, the remnant that the scriptures talk about in the old and new testaments. Esther represents the Bride of Christ who is being prepared to come into the king's presence and who will eventually reign with Him.

We could say concerning ourselves, He is making us ready to reign with Him in His kingdom as we the Bride submit to the processes of: purification and preparation (the dying to self).

The book of Esther spans over about a 4 year period of time. It begins talking about the feast (festival) that the king had which lasted 180 days in all. Can you imagine? An all out celebration for 180 days, wow! As we continue to read in chapter 1 the Queen (Vashti) did not submit to the kings request and she was ousted from her position which caused the king great distress, he loved her.

The Process — Preparation

The king had to find a new bride and sought out virgins from the region of 120 provinces, to come and begin the process of purification.

> *Then the king's servants who attended him said: "Let beautiful young virgins be sought for the king; "and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather all the beautiful young virgins to Shushan the citadel, into the women's quarters, under the custody of* ***Hegai the king's eunuch****, custodian of the women. And let beauty preparations be given them.*
>
> *—Esther 2:2-3*

- A **eunuch** was a man that had been castrated. It was especially common to castrate men who tended the royal harem as we read with Hegai.

> *Each young woman's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus after she had completed twelve months' preparation, according to the regulations for the women, for thus were the days of their preparation apportioned: six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with perfumes and preparations for beautifying women.*
>
> *—Esther 2:12*

When we speak of the process of purification, we must understand that it takes time. No, we cannot skip the process or hurry it along. The process was 12 months. The number 12 in scripture refers to governmental authority as well as a completeness or perfection (maturity). Authority in the kingdom is not just handed over to someone, they must enter the process. Then, after the process of purification, the young maiden was prepared to see the king, not before.

The oil of Myrrh is mentioned as part of the process in Esther 2:12. Myrrh was a very precious commodity and still is today in Middle Eastern cultures.

Myrrh

- There is an ancient Egyptian list of over 800 recipes using myrrh for all types of skin conditions and beauty treatments

- It promotes spiritual awareness and is used today to enhance the fragrance of many expensive perfumes on the market
- 1st mention is in Genesis 37:25, it was brought from afar on the spice route
- An ingredient in the anointing oil (Exodus 30:23)
- The Magi brought a gift of myrrh to the Christ child (Matthew 2:11)
- Myrrh means the same in; Greek, Latin, Arabic & Hebrew = bitter

Why would we (The Bride-to- be) need preparation with myrrh?

Myrrh speaks of total surrender to God. Dying to self is a process of purification but only as we submit ourselves to that process. We must come to that place of inter-dependence in the LORD and let go of our independent ways.

All of us have inner struggles, feelings of inferiority or maybe superiority; we have nothing to offer and not feeling accepted in certain circles. Remember Esther was an orphan; she had many issues of insecurity to work through.

Favor from God and Men

What was the outcome of Esther working through the process? …Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her. (Esther 2:15)

Maybe some of us feel like we are in that place right now, dealing with inner struggles? Be encouraged this is not a permanent place in life; it's a stepping stone to destiny. The life of Esther is a guarantee that God's hand is on your life and He will make a way when there seems to be no way. Don't give up Beloved…press on! You can do this…You were born for such a time as this!

The scripture says; you are accepted in the beloved. Ephesians 1:6 …to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

And with that acceptance we can ask with confidence the question, LORD what is it that pleases You, my king?

These 5 words are one of the most quoted statements in this prophetic book:

…If it please the king

This statement is said 6 times in this short book of only 10 chapters. Would agree then that there must be some significance to this statement to be repeated so often throughout the entire book? When the scriptures repeat something it's worth noting.

The word IF begins this statement so it's not absolute, there are some conditions.

We must know or find out what pleases our King. Esther knew this; she asked the eunuch in charge, what pleased the king and did not rely on what she thought would please him as the other maidens were doing.

> ***Not my will but His will; it's not what I think would please the king but what He desires. If you don't know; ask the Holy Spirit, He's our teacher.***

The 1st instance, in chapter 1 verse 19 one of the kings princes is speaking with him: "**If it pleases the King**, let a royal decree go out from him, and let it be recorded in the laws of the Persians and the Medes, so that it will not be altered, that Vashti shall come no more before King Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she.

There is protocol (rules – laws) in the kingdom. We know that as daughters of God there are rules to live by according to His written word. The people of Shushan did not just approach the king; there were written decrees (laws) that they must follow.

According to Josephus (a Jewish historian) king Ahasuerus had made a law that none should approach him unless they were summoned (called). When the king sat on his throne he had men surrounding him, standing at attention with axes in their hands. These men were to execute punishment for approaching the king without being called. Esther knew this to be true and had great fear (reverence) when she approached the king unannounced in Esther chapter 4.

Esther listened to her Uncle Mordecai and heeded his words and responded with faith.

> *And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise.* ***And so I will go to the king which, is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!****"*
>
> *—Esther 4:13-16*

Esther has godly character

- Wise - she knew to wait for God's timing before revealing her identity
- Submitted - she followed Mordecai's commands
- Humble - If it please the king

- Faithful -she was an intercessor and knew the power of prayer & fasting
- Brave - If I perish I perish, she laid her life down for the brethren

Bravery — Are You Brave?

Here is another frequently quoted statement in this prophetic book:

…If I perish, I perish

Meanwhile, the enemy is at work behind the scenes creating chaos in the citadel of Shushan. (Esther 3:15 the city was perplexed=in confusion) Leave it to the enemy (HaSatan) to be planning a total take over and wiping out God's people from the face of the earth. Not much new there, amen?

BUT GOD…

There was one godly woman that stood up in bravery and said; "If I perish, I perish!" She knew that her life was at stake yet even so she listened to Mordecai who is a type of the Holy Spirit and heeded his words. "Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Are you brave? Are you willing to do whatever it takes to please your king?

People often ask Gary & I, aren't you afraid to go into the mission field? Usually they continue to speak of their fears and why they will not go, hoping to convince us to do the same. Beloved, we cannot let fear stop us! Who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this? Amen?

Charles Stanley

> ***Courage is a quality of mind or spirit that enables us to face dangers, obstacles, and challenges of life with a sense of fearlessness, calmness and firmness.***

If Esther would have let fear grip her she would never have made the decision to go before the king unannounced. There have been many times that I have gone into places where I was not invited or I invited myself. Don't get me wrong I listen and ask for godly council on a regular basis. But yet there are times when the LORD wants us to forge out into the deep, where others dare not tread… unannounced (hidden in Christ).

Esther had the hidden life of God within which shined forth like a star and delivered her people from destruction. She had inner strength and beauty that emanated like a

star from within to all who met her and she received favor. The king pointed His scepter (symbolizing his authority) toward her and granted her favor.

> *"All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, he has but one law: put all to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live. Yet I myself have not been called to go in to the king these thirty days."*
>
> *—Esther 4:11*

Esther showed favor to the king as well when they married. (Proverbs 18:22) He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the LORD.

Revealed! — Timing

Esther's Jewish identity was revealed at the proper time.

> *On that day King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her.*
>
> *—Esther 8:1*

The enemy had to be destroyed before her identity could be revealed. If the enemy had known that she was related to Mordecai, Haman would have plotted to kill her as well. There are some things that we need to keep hidden in our hearts. God will show us when it's the right time to release them, we just need to fully trust Him that He has what best for us in mind, at all times. It may not seem right or that we are holding back something. If that is what is happening seek the Holy Spirit and His council on the matter, He will direct your path. Don't give the enemy a foot hold, give it to God and let wisdom be your guide.

As we seek the LORD and heed the Holy Spirit's voice we will be protected by the unseen God like Esther was and fulfill our destiny.

One Last Request

Esther had to undo the diabolical plan of the enemy, once and for all.

> *And the king held out the golden scepter toward Esther. So Esther arose and stood before the king, and said, "If it pleases the king, and if I have found favor in his sight and the thing seems right to the king and I am pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman, the son of*

> *Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to annihilate the Jews who are in all the king's provinces.*
>
> *—Esther 8:4-5*

A New Beginning

> *"You yourselves write a decree concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; for whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke."*
>
> *—Esther 8:8*

The Result

Revival broke out and many were converted!

> *And in every province and city, wherever the king's command and decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a holiday. Then many of the people of the land became Jews, because fear of the Jews fell upon them.*
>
> *—Esther 8:17*

What is the prophetic application?

Prophetic

The story of Esther has that prophetic edge to it; God's unseen hand is at every corner and may even seem like coincidence at times yet, as believers we do not believe in coincidence and realize that throughout the book of Esther if the reader is enlightened with those hidden revealed truths, revival comes! Our hearts rejoice because of something once concealed is now revealed to our spirit. God wants to reveal to those who can see with spiritual eyes the plan for redemption which is offered to everyone through the story of Queen Esther a woman destined for greatness.

God's sovereign rule and reign in our lives is cause for celebration and feasting, which is why Purim is still celebrated today by the Jewish people. They know the victory is theirs, Haman was defeated!

—Lora

Further Reading

Pressing on to the High Call — The Eye of the Needle
https://worshipwarriors.net/teachings/WORSHIP-WARRIORS-Pressing-On-to-the-High-Call.pdf

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Resources

- Daily Inspiration with Sigi. Sigi Publications 2001
- The Exhaustive dictionary of Biblical Names. Bridge-Logos Publishers 1998
- For Such A Time As This. Dr. Fuchsia Pickett, Charisma House 1997
- Josephus: The Complete Works of Josephus. Kregel Publications 1991