

Esther 1:4-5

For a full 180 days he displayed the vast wealth of his kingdom and the splendor and glory of his majesty. When these days were over, the king gave a banquet, lasting seven days, in the enclosed garden of the king's palace, for all the people from the least to the greatest, who were in the citadel of Susa.



Esther 1:10

On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine...he commanded...the seven eunuchs who served in the presence of King Ahasuerus, to bring Queen Vashti before the king with her royal crown in order to display her beauty to the people and the princes, for she was beautiful.



Esther 1:17-18

For the queen's conduct will become known to all the women causing them to look with contempt on their husbands by saying, 'King Ahasuerus commanded Queen Vashti to be brought in to his presence, but she did not come.' "And this day the ladies of Persia and Media who have heard of the queen's conduct will speak in the same way to all the king's princes, and there will be plenty of contempt and anger.



Esther 2:2-3

"Let beautiful young virgins be sought for the king. And let the king appoint overseers in all the provinces of his kingdom that they may gather every beautiful young virgin to Susa the capital, to the harem, into the custody of Hegai,

Esther 2:4

Then let the young lady who pleases the king be queen in place of Vashti." And the matter pleased the king, and he did accordingly.



Esther 3:1

After these events King Ahasuerus promoted Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him and established his authority over all the princes who were with him.



Esther 4:13-14

Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not imagine that you in the king's palace can escape any more than all the Jews. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?"



Esther 4:15-16

Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, "Go, assemble all the Jews who are found in Susa, and fast for me; do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maidens also will fast in the same way. And thus I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish



1. God wants to use Mordecais' and 'Esthers'



It doesn't matter about your history or your ability What matters is your availability



2. God is always at work around you whether you recognize it or not



We are the 'activities' of God in our world



3. You can't hold on to life... so risk it for the kingdom



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"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose"

Jim Elliott



4. The stakes are critical

