Esther: For Such a Time as This! Unusual Suspects, Pt. 2 Esther 4:14

Sunday, June 8, 2025

Esther 4:14, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

The Story of Esther:

Esther 1:10, ... when King Xerxes was in high spirits from wine, he commanded the seven eunuchs who served him... 11 to bring before him Queen Vashti, wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the people and nobles, for she was lovely to look at. 12 But when the attendants delivered the king's command, Queen Vashti refused to come. Then the king became furious and burned with anger.

Esther 2:8, When the king's order and edict had been proclaimed, many young women were brought to the citadel of Susa and put under the care of Hegai. Esther also was taken to the king's palace and entrusted to Hegai, who had charge of the harem.

Esther 2:17, Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favor... So he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esther 2:21, During the time Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate... two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, became angry and conspired to assassinate King Xerxes. **22** But Mordecai found out about the plot and told Queen Esther, who in turn reported it to the king, giving credit to Mordecai.

Esther 3:1, ... King Xerxes honored Haman... the Agagite, elevating him and giving him a seat of honor higher than

that of all the other nobles. **2** All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor.

1 Samuel 15:1, Samuel said to Saul... 2 "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt. 3 Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys."

Esther 3:8, Then Haman said to King Xerxes, "There is a certain people dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom who keep themselves separate. Their customs are different from those of all other people, and they do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them. **9** If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will give ten thousand talents of silver to the king's administrators for the royal treasury."

Esther's Story — Lessons for Living With Purpose:

• Your History Doesn't Determine Your <u>DESTINY</u>

Esther 2:5, Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named <u>Mordecai</u>... **6** who had been carried into exile from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon... **7** Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as <u>Esther</u>...

Expect Pushback When You Don't <u>BOW DOWN</u>

Esther 3:5, When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged. **6** Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.

• God Has a Purpose for You Right Where YOU ARE

Esther 4:14, "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

• Faithfulness to God Always Requires COURAGE

Esther 4:15, Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: **16** "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

God Wants to Use You to BLESS OTHERS

Esther 10:3, Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Xerxes, preeminent among the Jews, and held in high esteem by his many fellow Jews, because he

worked for the good of his people and spoke up for the welfare of all the Jews.