

# Esther – Root Work

Week 1 - Aug 2, 2025

## Esther 1:1-22 “God’s Providence in Esther: Unseen Yet Sovereign”

### Verses Quoted or Used:

Jeremiah 21  
Jeremiah 29:6-10  
Psalm 103:19  
Hebrews 1:1-2  
Psalm 145:14-21  
Ezra 4:7  
1 Corinthians 7:31  
John 14:15  
Revelation 19:7-9

Ezra 1  
Genesis 12:1-3, 17:1-8  
Psalm 66:7  
John 1:3  
John 8:32  
Proverbs 16:32  
1 John 2:17  
Ephesians 5:25  
Romans 8:28

### Thought Provoking Questions:

1. How does the absence of explicit mentions of God in the book of Esther challenge or strengthen your faith in God's continuous work behind the scenes?
2. How does the concept of divine providence, as discussed in relation to the book of Esther, challenge or affirm your understanding of God's involvement in human affairs?
3. In what ways might Queen Vashti's refusal to obey the king's command be seen as an act of courage, and how does this relate to standing up for one's principles in today's world?
4. What lessons can we learn from King Ahasuerus's loss of control and anger, and how might these apply to leadership roles in our lives today?
5. How does the contrast between King Ahasuerus and Jesus as leaders inspire you to reflect on the nature of true authority and love?
6. In what ways might we be building our own 'empires' that are ultimately unimpressive to God, and how can we shift our focus to the imperishable kingdom?
7. How does the concept of God's sovereignty, as seen in the events of Esther chapter 1, challenge or comfort you in your current life circumstances?

### Discussion Questions:

1. We see that God's name is never explicitly stated in Esther. How do you see God's hand at work in this chapter despite not being named?
2. How does King Ahasuerus's behavior contrast with how we understand God's character? What does this teach us about earthly versus heavenly authority?
3. Thinking about Queen Vashti's refusal to obey the king's command. Do you think she was right to disobey? How do we balance submission to authority with personal convictions?
4. How does understanding God's providence impact how you view challenging situations in your own life?
5. In seeing the parallels between earthly marriages and our relationship with Christ as the church. How does this perspective influence your understanding of both human relationships and your relationship with God?

### Key Takeaways:

1. God's providence is always at work, even when we don't see it explicitly mentioned.
2. The book of Esther shows God preserving His people according to His covenant promises.
3. Divine providence means God is actively involved in governing the universe and guiding events.
4. Worldly power and extravagance are fleeting; only God's kingdom is eternal.

### Practical Applications:

1. This week, try to identify moments where you see God's providence at work in your daily life. Keep a journal of these observations.
2. Reflect on any "empires" you might be building in your own life that are separate from God's kingdom. How can you redirect your efforts towards eternal purposes?
3. Consider areas in your life where you might be relying on your own control rather than trusting in God's providence. Take steps to surrender these areas to God.
4. Practice being "ready" for Christ's return this week by setting aside time each day for prayer and Bible study.