

YOU WERE BORN FOR THIS

BISHOP SAMUEL R. BLAKES

Esther 4:14 KJV

For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

We like to read the book of Esther like a Sunday school fairy tale. We read it as a sanitized rags-to-riches story about a peasant girl who wins a beauty pageant, catches the king's eye, and moves into a palace. But that is a surface reading of a profoundly heavy text. Esther's story is not a fairy tale. It is a survival manual for a marginalized people living under the heavy boot of an empire that does not love them.

To understand the gravity of chapter four, you have to understand how Esther got to the throne in chapter two. She did not campaign for the crown. Her ascension was born out of the dysfunction of the empire. King Ahasuerus, a man drunk on his own power and his own wine, threw a massive banquet to show off his wealth. In his drunken stupor, he ordered his wife, Queen Vashti, to come and parade her beauty before his intoxicated guests. But Vashti refused. She set a boundary. She decided her dignity was worth more than his display. The empire could not handle a woman who refused to bow to its toxicity, so they stripped Vashti of her crown.

To replace her, the king's men did not hold a voluntary contest. They issued a royal dragnet. They swept through the provinces, taking young, beautiful virgins from their homes and bringing them to the capital of Shushan. This was not a consensual pageant; this was state-sponsored trafficking. Esther, an orphaned Jewish girl raised by her cousin Mordecai, was swept up in this

terrifying system. She was taken to the palace, subjected to twelve months of treatments, and evaluated by an empire that only valued her for her flesh.

Yet, God has a way of moving in the shadows. He has a way of working in the background of corrupt systems to position His people for purpose. Esther finds favor in the sight of the king and is crowned Queen of Persia. But up until this moment in chapter four, she has survived the only way marginalized people know how to survive in hostile environments: she assimilated. She changed her Jewish name, Hadassah, to a Persian name, Esther. She blended in. She learned the customs, kept her head down, and hid her true identity so well that the king himself did not know her bloodline. She achieved proximity to power by remaining silent about her roots.

Then the empire signs a death warrant. Haman, a high-ranking official filled with ego and racial hatred, manipulates the system to draft a legalized decree of genocide against the Jews. The stroke of a pen in the high places made oppression the law of the land.

Suddenly, Esther's silence is no longer a survival tactic. It is a death sentence. Her cousin Mordecai refuses to accept the decree quietly. He sits at the king's gate in sackcloth and ashes, wailing in public, making the empire look at the pain it caused. He sends word to Esther inside the palace, and in their exchange, we find the anatomy of divine destiny. God is looking for a people who understand that when the system is rigged, heaven still has a strategy.

When you hear the Holy Ghost say, "You were born for this," you have to understand the gravity of what is being asked of you.

1. God's Call Will Not Always Promote Your Comfort

Esther's initial reaction to Mordecai's demand is panic. She sends a message back reminding him of the Persian law: anyone who approaches the king uninvited is put to death (Esther 4:11). She is basically saying, "I

understand our people are suffering, but if I do what you are asking, I will lose my security. I could lose my life."

It is a terrifying thing when God asks you to risk the very comfort He allowed you to attain.

Esther had a warm bed. She had royal food. She was insulated from the poverty and the peril of the streets outside. But the call of God is notoriously inconvenient. We have developed a theology in the modern church that equates the favor of God with an easy life. We think if God is in it, there will be no friction. Yet Jesus said in Matthew 16:24 (KJV), "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

A cross is an instrument of execution. It is designed to kill your fleshly desires. God will routinely call you out of your comfort zone because comfort is the breeding ground for complacency. The enemy loves it when the people of God are too comfortable to fight. Esther had to learn that God did not place her in the palace to rest. He placed her there to wrestle.

2. God's Call Is For Your Community

Mordecai responds to Esther's hesitation with a devastating truth in Esther 4:13 (KJV): "Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews."

He checks her privilege. He reminds her that marble floors and silk robes do not change her bloodline. She is a Jew. And when the empire comes for the people at the bottom, eventually they will come for the people in the palace who look like them. Mordecai is teaching her a theology of solidarity. Your individual success means absolutely nothing if your community is being led to the slaughter.

We suffer from a hyper-individualized faith. We pray for my house, my car, my promotion, and my peace. But biblical salvation has always had a

communal heartbeat. When God delivered Israel from Egypt, He did not pull out one family; He pulled out a whole nation. When Moses grew up in Pharaoh's house, he had to leave the privilege of the palace to suffer with his brothers in the brickyards.

Your blessing is not your private property. God gave you the degree so you could help somebody else navigate the room. He gave you the business so you could employ people who the system locked out. He gave you the breakthrough so you could reach back and pull somebody else out of the pit. Philippians 2:4 (KJV) commands, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." You cannot shout about how good God is in the sanctuary while your neighborhood is bleeding out in the streets. You are the answer to their cry.

3. God's Call Will Demand Your Consecration

When the weight of the assignment finally hits her, Esther shifts from fear to spiritual strategy. She tells Mordecai in Esther 4:16 (KJV), "Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise..."

She does not call a political committee. She does not hire a lobbyist. She calls for a fast.

Esther understood that the decree against her people was signed on earth, but it was authored in hell. You cannot dismantle a spiritual stronghold with carnal weapons. Systemic oppression, generational poverty, and legalized hatred are not just political issues; they are demonic agendas. And if you are going to overthrow a principality, you have to disconnect from the appetites of the flesh.

Consecration is how we prepare for war. Fasting is a physical protest against a spiritual condition. It is starving the flesh to feed the spirit. Esther knew she needed a word from heaven before she spoke a word to the empire.

Jesus told His disciples concerning heavy demonic resistance in Mark 9:29 (KJV), "This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting." You want to break the curse on your family line? Turn the plate over. Turn the television off. You have to consecrate yourself if you want the power to shift the atmosphere.

4. God's Call Will Often Come With Confrontation

After three days of fasting, Esther makes her decision. She sends Mordecai a final word: "...and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish."

Listen to the holy defiance in her voice. She had to break an unjust law to obey a righteous God. There are moments in the believer's life where compliance is a sin. Sometimes the rules of the room are designed to keep you in bondage, and God will anoint you to walk in and disrupt the whole order.

Esther had to confront the system. She had to stand before the king, uninvited, and risk his wrath. Later, she had to look Haman - the architect of her people's destruction - dead in the eye at the banquet table and expose his wickedness.

Do not expect God to give you a calling that never upsets anybody. We want a Christianity that makes everybody smile. We want to be liked by the very people who are actively trying to destroy us. But Ephesians 6:12 (KJV) reminds us, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world..." You were born to confront the darkness. You were anointed to speak truth to power, even when your voice shakes.

5. God's Call Will Come With Consolation

Esther takes the long walk into the inner court. The guards are watching.

The penalty is death. But when the king sees her, the scripture says she obtained favor in his sight, and he extended the golden scepter (Esther 5:2).

Her life is spared. Her people are saved. The king reverses the conditions of the decree.

But watch the justice of God. Haman had constructed a massive gallows, fifty cubits high, specifically designed to hang Mordecai. But by the time Esther was finished confronting the system, the king ordered Haman to be hanged on his own gallows (Esther 7:10). The very weapon the oppressor built to destroy the marginalized became the instrument of his own demise.

That is the consolation of the believer. God will vindicate you. He will fight for the oppressed. He will overturn the tables of the wicked. God will never give you an assignment that heavy without giving you the grace to carry it. Romans 8:31 (KJV) secures our confidence: "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

It does not matter what legislation is passed against you. It does not matter how heavily the deck is stacked or how loud the enemy is roaring. If the God of heaven is fighting on your side, the victory is already decided. The traps they set for you will backfire. The lies they told on you will only accelerate your promotion. Isaiah 54:17 (KJV) declares that no weapon formed against you shall prosper.

You were not born to be a victim of your circumstances. You were not born to suffer in silence. God placed you in the room, gave you the position, and sustained your life through the trauma because you have a divine mandate. Stand flat-footed in the face of the enemy and declare the word of the Lord. You were born for this.

