

PROGRESS OF REDEMPTION: ACT ONE, SCENE THREE, STEP 3.

A FEW KEY QUESTIONS

1. What is the first part of the promise in Genesis 12?
2. What is the channel of redemption in the OT?
3. What is the purpose of this channel?
4. How does this channel set the table for the second part of the promise in Genesis 12?

SETTING THE TABLE FOR STEP 3

- The MAJORITY of Jews lived OUTSIDE the land.
- The PERSIAN Empire is DOMINATING much of the world.
- GENOCIDE is scheduled to WIPE-OUT all the JEWS.

ACT ONE, SCENE THREE, STEP 3: PRESERVATION (THE STORY OF ESTHER)

<i>Passage</i>	<i>Summary</i>
<i>Esther 1:4</i>	
<i>Esther 1:12</i>	
<i>Esther 1:19</i>	
<i>Esther 2:17</i>	
<i>Esther 2:22</i>	
<i>Esther 3:2</i>	
<i>Esther 3:4-6</i>	

<i>Esther 3:8-9</i>	
<i>Esther 3:13</i>	
<i>Esther 4:8-14</i>	
<i>Esther 5:1-4</i>	
<i>Esther 5:14</i>	
<i>Esther 6:1-3</i>	
<i>Esther 6:6, 10-11</i>	
<i>Esther 7:3-4</i>	
<i>Esther 7:5-10</i>	
<i>Esther 8:5-6</i>	
<i>Esther 8:11-13</i>	
<i>Esther 9:1</i>	

A COUPLE MORE KEY QUESTIONS

1. Where is God in Esther?

2. How is God working in Persia?

3. What is God doing in Scene Three (Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther)?

A BIG PICTURE ANSWER

1. JEWS from every NATION under HEAVEN! (Acts 2:5)
2. The CHANNEL is PRESERVED for the COMPLETION of the PROMISE!
3. God raises up and ORPHANED QUEEN to PERSERVE the JEWS!

It were a one-sided view to regard the Babylonian exile as only a punishment for Israel's sin...there is always a positive element also of actual progress; a step forward, even though in the taking of it something should have to be crushed. And this step forward was...the idea of the Kingdom of God in its relationship to the whole world!