HEROES OF

# FAITH

FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT



"Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses."

1 Timothy 6:12

## Esther & Mordecai

- Godly Counsel
- Position Doesn't Equal Purpose
- Your Haters Have Purpose
- God's Providence In Your Purpose
- Purpose Doesn't Mean Elevation
- Timing Is Everything

#### Esther 2:1-7 NIV

Later when King Xerxes' fury had subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what he had decreed about her. <sup>2</sup> Then the king's personal attendants proposed, "Let a search be made for beautiful young virgins for the king. <sup>3</sup> Let the king appoint commissioners in every province of his realm to bring all these beautiful young women into the harem at the citadel of Susa. Let them be placed under the care of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women; and let beauty treatments be given to them. <sup>4</sup> Then let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This advice appealed to the king, and he followed it.

#### Esther 2:1-7 NIV

<sup>5</sup> Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, <sup>6</sup> who had been carried into exile from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, among those taken captive with Jehoiachin king of Judah. <sup>7</sup> 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 Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

- Godly Counsel
  - Xerxes gets relationship advice from a Eunuch (Es 1:16-21)
  - Haman took counsel from his wife (Es 5:10-14)
  - Esther receives counsel from Mordecai (Es 4:12-14)

#### Whoever has your EAR has your LIFE!

- Alignment vs. Assignment

- Position DOES NOT Equal Purpose
  - Esther was made queen but that was not her purpose
  - Haman was 2nd in command that was not his purpose

- Your HATERS have a purpose
  - No one could have done things like Haman
    - Put the money to have the Jews erase
    - Built the gallon that eventually all his sons would die on
    - All his wealth was transferred to Esther

A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous. - Proverbs 13:22

God's Providence In Your Purpose

<u>Providence</u> - God's faithful activity throughout history to provide for His creation and accomplish His will.

- Vashti to say no
- Xerxes to get angry
- Haman to be prideful
- Xerxes to not sleep
- Esther to pause her request

- Purpose DOES NOT mean elevation
  - Mordecai had done MORE for Xerxes than Esther but she still held a higher position
  - Mordecai saved the King's life and went unrecognized for 5 years (Es 2:19-23)

- Timing Is Everything In Purpose
  "An opportunity of a lifetime must be taken in the lifetime of the opportunity" Leonard Ravenhill
  - Esther was set in place for this TIME
  - Esther delayed her request for the right time

#### The Moral of the Story:

God has a plan and purpose for you that may not line up with what you see now or where you are. His will can and will be accomplished with you in His timing, but improper alignment can derail your life and cause immense pain.

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