

FINDING JESUS IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER

SIN, HARDSHIP & GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY: Esther 2:1-18

Esther 2:1-4

But after Xerxes' anger had subsided, he began thinking about Vashti and what she had done and the decree he had made. ² So his personal attendants suggested, "Let us search the empire to find beautiful young virgins for the king. ³ Let the king appoint agents in each province to bring these beautiful young women into the royal harem at the fortress of Susa. Hegai, the king's eunuch in charge of the harem, will see that they are all given beauty treatments. ⁴ After that, the young woman who most pleases the king will be made queen instead of Vashti." This advice was very appealing to the king, so he put the plan into effect.

I. In Regret, Seek Counsel that Promotes _____, Not _____ (2:1-4)

- A. _____ decisions, leads to destruction.
- B. Find counsel that promotes _____, not _____.

Esther 2:5-7

⁵ At that time there was a Jewish man in the fortress of Susa whose name was Mordecai son of Jair. He was from the tribe of Benjamin and was a descendant of Kish and Shimei. ⁶ His family^[a] had been among those who, with King Jehoiachin^[b] of Judah, had been exiled from Jerusalem to Babylon by King Nebuchadnezzar. ⁷ This man had a very beautiful and lovely young cousin, Hadassah, who was also called Esther. When her father and mother died, Mordecai adopted her into his family and raised her as his own daughter.

II. In Overwhelming Consequences, Live to Bring _____ not _____ (2:5-7)

- A. _____ of others, lands us in strange places.
- B. _____ does not cut short God's _____ & _____ of His people.
- "You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised (Jer. 29:10)
 - In those days when you pray, I will listen (Jer. 29:12)

- Think about some of our disobedience. How is that going to affect those who come after us?
- How does this story of Esther and Mordecai relate to you? Are you affected by some other people's disobedience?
- How are you living above the effect of their disobedience? or are you defeated by it?