**Title:** ***'For Such a Time as This' Pt. 4***
***'A dark & disturbing story'***

**Main text:** Esther 2:1-18

**Key verse:** James 1:19

**Introduction:** Today, we will uncover the sad story & outcome of the marriage of Xerxes & Vashti.

1. **Filled with *regrets***
   - ***Four*** years between ***chapters***. ***Silent*** years.
   - A ***humiliating*** defeat.
   - A ***reflective*** moment.
2. **Filled with *fear***
   - Many ***details*** emerge.
   - Descended from King ***Saul's*** father, ***Kish***.
   - Raises her like his ***own daughter***.
   - She possesses physical ***beauty*** & ***form***.
   - No record of his ***desire*** or ***resistance***.
   - Very ***likely*** that she had no ***option***.
3. **Filled with *lust***
   - ***Gratification*** of his flesh rather than the ***good*** of the kingdom.
   - No ***choice*** in her ***inclusion*** in the king's harem.
   - His ***vanity*** is shown in the ***preparation*** of women.
   - An ***imperial protocol***.
   - The most ***disturbing*** verse in Esther.
   - Not by ***preference*** but by ***expectation***.
   - Another ***unfortunate*** contestant each night.

**Sermon notes:**

**Title:** ***'For Such a Time as This' Pt. 4***
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**Introduction:** Today, we will uncover the sad story & outcome of the marriage of Xerxes & Vashti.

1. **Filled with _____**
   - _____ years between _____. _____ years.
   - A _____ defeat.
   - A _____ moment.
2. **Filled with _____**
   - Many _____ emerge.
   - Descended from King _____ father, _____.
   - Raises her like his _____ _____.
   - She possesses physical _____ & _____.
   - No record of his _____ or _____.
   - Very _____ that she had no _____.
3. **Filled with _____**
   - _____ of his flesh rather than the _____ of the kingdom.
   - No _____ in her _____ in the king's harem.
   - His _____ is shown in the _____ of women.
   - An _____ _____.
   - The most _____ verse in Esther.
   - Not by _____ but by _____.
   - Another _____ contestant each night.

**Sermon notes:**