

**AN ARROGANT KING, A DEFIANT QUEEN  
AND GOD'S PROVIDENCE**

(Esther 1.1-2.18)

Central Idea: *Even those with great power and influence cannot frustrate or hinder the plan and purpose of God.*

I. Putting Our Story in Its Proper Setting

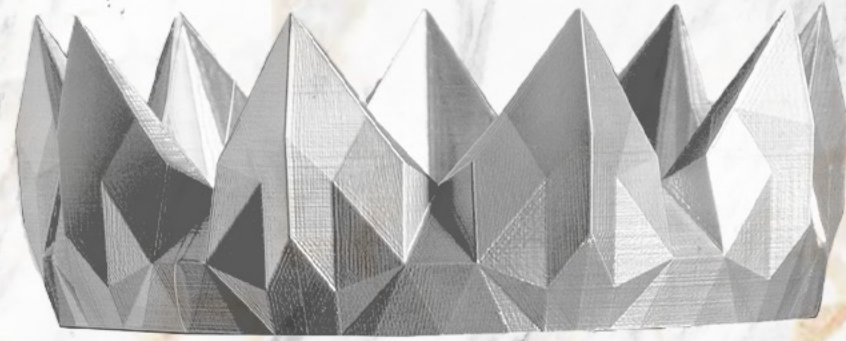
II. An Arrogant King and a Defiant Queen (1.1-22)

**Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion**

1. What stood out to you from today's study in Esther 1-2?
2. How can the book of Esther be an encouragement to us when we consider the ungodly and powerful rulers in our world today? Can you think of rulers in the Bible who ruled for their own good rather than the good of others?
3. What do you think were Xerxes' priorities? What did he value? (See also 6.1-3 and 8.8.) What lessons are we reminded of from his example?
4. Queen Vashti faced a difficult dilemma. Do you think she made the right choice in defying the king? Why or why not?
5. God used the choices of the king and queen to open the door for Esther. What does that tell us about His sovereignty and providence? How can that encourage us, for like Esther, we may not understand how God is working in our lives?

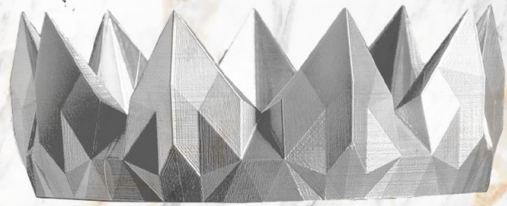
Community Bible Church  
Rev. Charles Tschetter, Lead Pastor

This outline is provided to assist you in understanding and applying today's message. *An Arrogant King, a Defiant Queen and God's Providence* is the second message in a series on the OT book of Esther. This message can be listened to or downloaded at [cbcomaha.org](http://cbcomaha.org). You may also stream and download CBC podcasts from itunes or google play.



ESTHER

# AN ARROGANT KING, A DEFIANT QUEEN AND GOD'S PROVIDENCE



ESTHER

Putting Our Story in  
Its Proper Setting





Mesha Stele



**HEAD OF GOLD**

KINGDOM OF BABYLON

**CHEST & ARMS  
OF SILVER**

KINGDOM OF MEDES  
& PERSIANS

**BELLY & THIGHS  
OF BRONZE**

KINGDOM OF  
ANCIENT GREECE

**LEGS OF IRON**

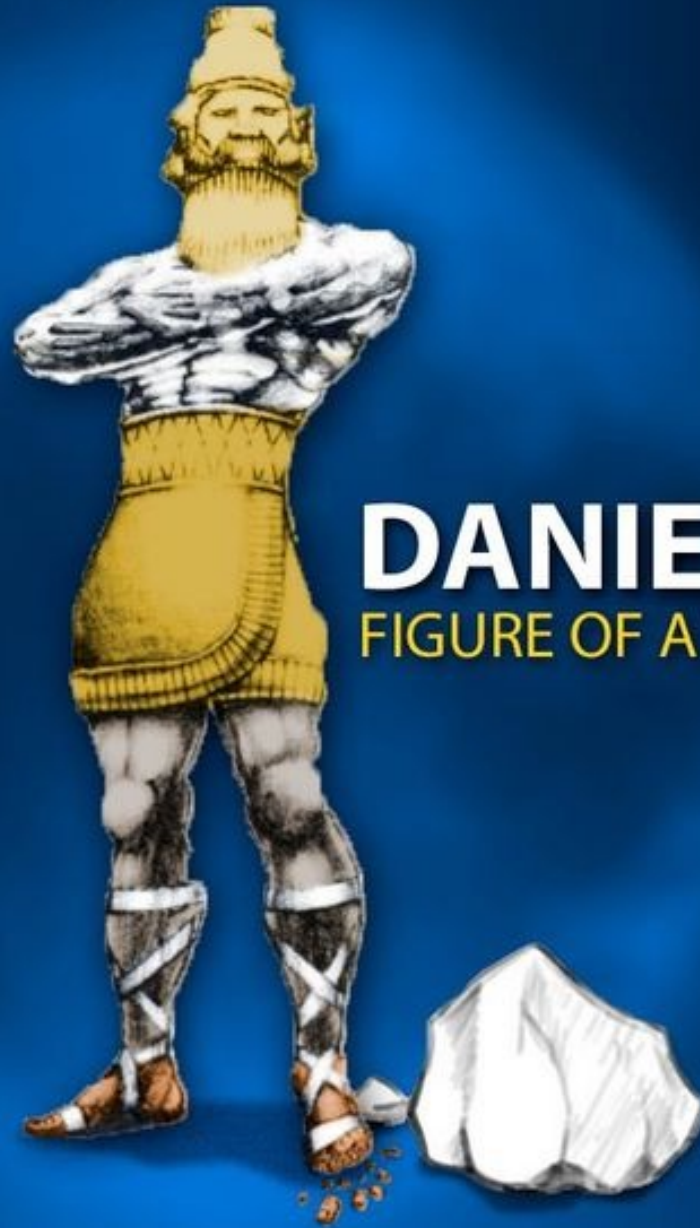
KINGDOM OF  
ANCIENT ROME

**FEET OF IRON  
& CLAY**

KINGDOM OF  
RESTORED ROME

**CRUSHING ROCK**

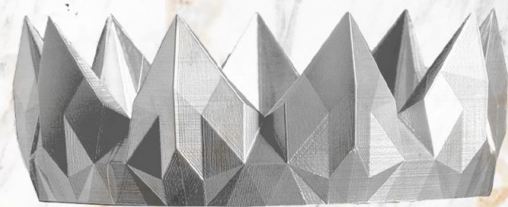
KINGDOM OF GOD



**DANIEL 2**

FIGURE OF A MAN

# AN ARROGANT KING, A DEFIANT QUEEN AND GOD'S PROVIDENCE



ESTHER

Putting Our Story in  
Its Proper Setting

An Arrogant King  
and a Defiant Queen  
(1.1-22)







Persian Empire  
~500 B.C.





Tarsus

Caspian Sea

Haran

**MESOPOTAMIA**

Nineveh

Nimrud

Ugarit

Hamath

Tigris River

Mari

Euphrates River

Damascus

Ecbatana

Mediterranean Sea  
(Great Sea)

**CANAAN**

Jericho

Jerusalem

Amman

Gaza

Bethlehem

Babylon

Tower of Babel?

Nippur

Susa

Ur

SINAI PENINSULA

Ezion-geber

Gulf of Suez

Gulf of Aqaba

Persepolis

Nile



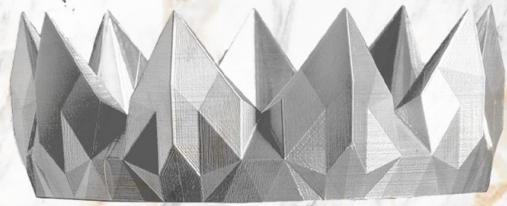
# Susa







# AN ARROGANT KING, A DEFIANT QUEEN AND GOD'S PROVIDENCE



ESTHER

Putting Our Story in  
Its Proper Setting

An Arrogant King  
and a Defiant Queen  
(1.1-22)

God's Providence on  
Display (2.1-18)



□ Esther is in a position of prominence because of God's Providence.

- ❑ Esther is in a position of prominence because of God's Providence.
- ❑ Esther's life reminds us that as sure as God had disciplined His people, He was committed to preserving them.