

**THE STORY OF ESTHER:**  
*THE GOD WHO KEEPS HIS PROMISES*

Central Idea: *God always demonstrates His faithful, loyal love to His covenant people, and the story of Esther is yet another example. God does what He promises, even when we are unfaithful.*

I. The Uniqueness of the Book of Esther

II. Historical Background

III. Purpose of the Book

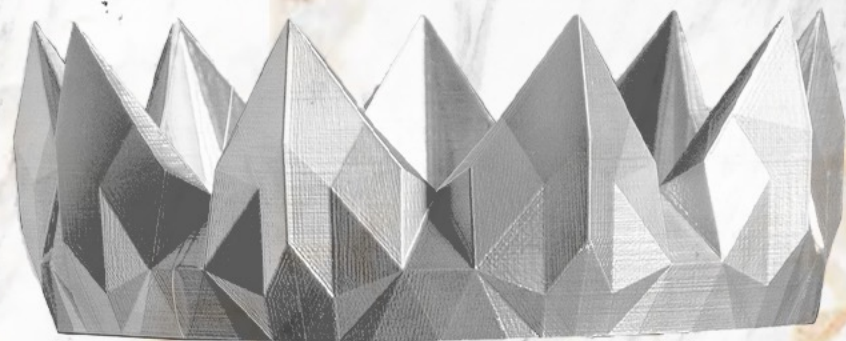
IV. A Lesson for Our Lives

**Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion**

1. Read through the entire book of Esther in one sitting. It's only ten chapters long but it will take a good portion of your group time this week. Suggestion: Use a Bible translation that is very readable (NIV or NLT).
2. What stands out to you as you read about these events from Esther's life?
3. While God isn't directly referenced in the book, how do you see the hand of God working?
4. Describe a time in your life when you didn't understand how God was working, but later events came together in such a way that you could see His hand at work.
5. Why is it that we don't always recognize God's work in our own lives? Is it a lack of faith or something else?

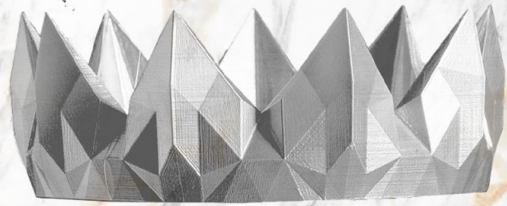
Community Bible Church  
Rev. Charles Tschetter, Lead Pastor

This outline is provided to assist you in understanding and applying today's message. *Esther: The God Who Keeps His Promises* is the first 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

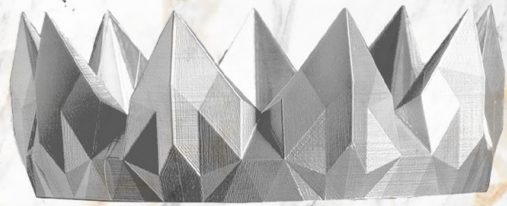
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ESTHER

**The Uniqueness of  
the Book of Esther**

# **The Story of Esther:** *The God Who Keeps His Promises*



ESTHER

**The Uniqueness of  
the Book of Esther**

**Historical  
Background**

**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**

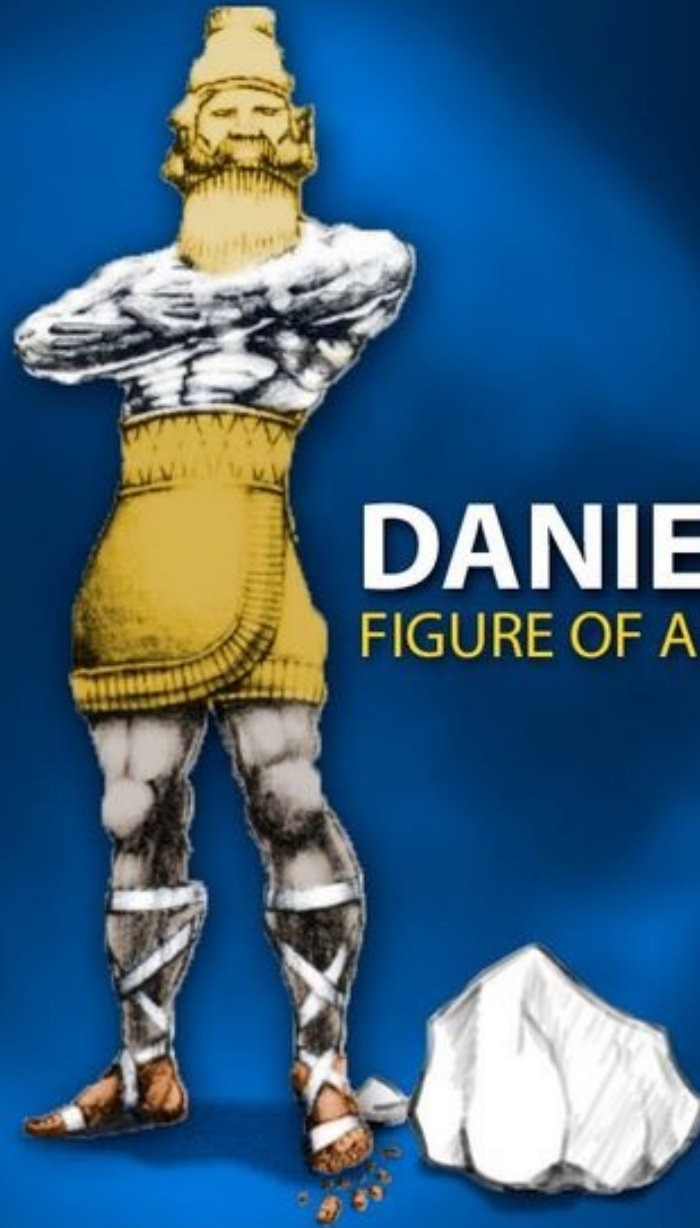
KINGDOM OF  
ANCIENT ROME

**FEET OF IRON  
& CLAY**

KINGDOM OF  
RESTORED ROME

**CRUSHING ROCK**

KINGDOM OF GOD



**DANIEL 2**  
FIGURE OF A MAN

**HEAD OF GOLD**

KINGDOM OF BABYLON

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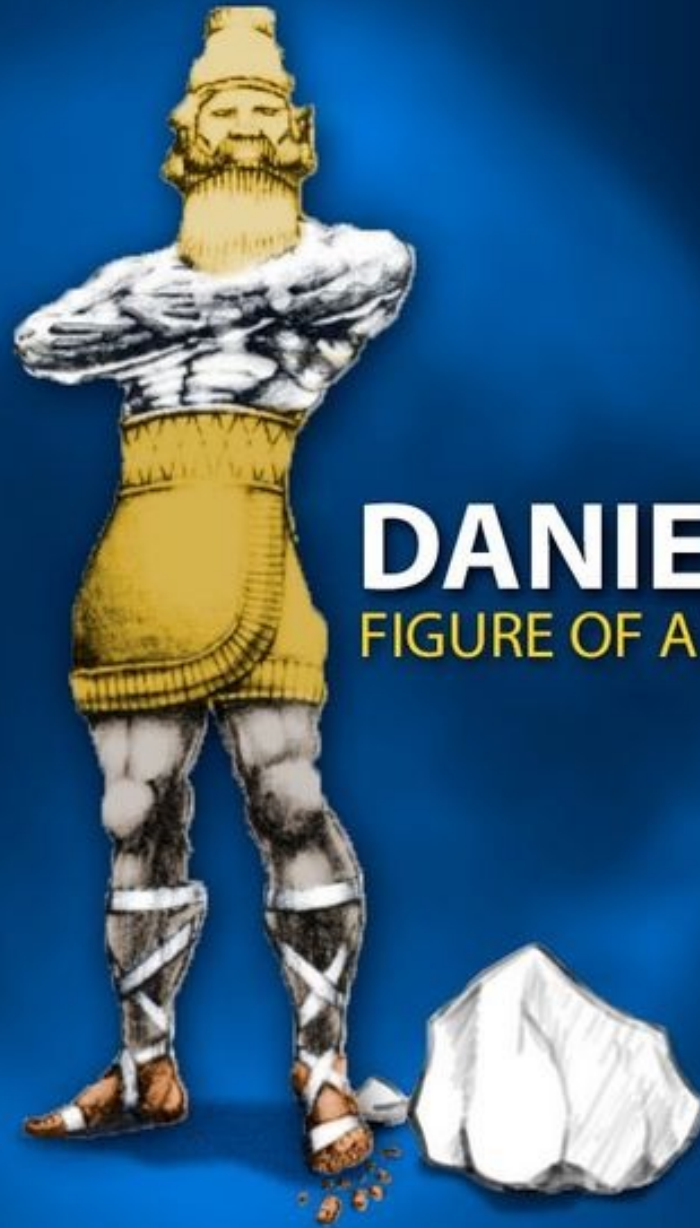
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**DANIEL 2**  
FIGURE OF A MAN

# Significant Dates

- 722 Israel conquered by the Assyrians
- 586 Jerusalem falls to the Babylonians
- 539 Cyrus of Persian conquers Babylon
- 538-520 Jewish exiles begin to return to the land
  
- 458 Ezra leads captives back to Jerusalem
- 444 Nehemiah leads captives back to Jerusalem

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722 Israel conquered by the Assyrians

586 Jerusalem falls to the Babylonians

539 Cyrus of Persian conquers Babylon

538-520 Jewish exiles begin to return to the land

486-465 Esther in Susa (the events of the story play out over 10 years)

458 Ezra leads captives back to Jerusalem

444 Nehemiah leads captives back to Jerusalem





Caspian Sea

Tarsus

Haran

**MESOPOTAMIA**

Ugarit

Nineveh

Nimrud

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

Ezion-geber

**SINAI  
PENIN-  
SULA**

Gulf  
of Suez

Gulf  
of Aqaba

Persepolis

Nile

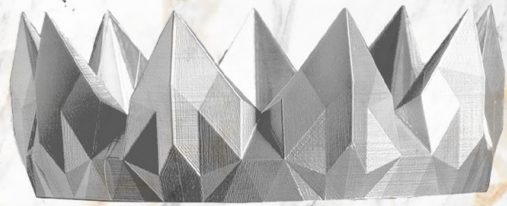
# Significant Observations

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2. Five years would pass after Esther was chosen as queen until Haman would make his attempt to annihilate the Jews.

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ESTHER

**The Uniqueness of  
the Book of Esther**

**Historical  
Background**

**Purpose of the Book**



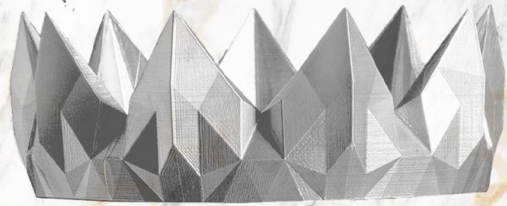








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**Lessons for Our Lives**

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1. Even though God is invisible, He is working out His plan and purpose in our lives.
2. God's timely interventions in our lives are seen with the eye of faith.
3. God does significant work through the ordinary and insignificant events in our lives.