

# Esther: God's silent sovereignty

## Esther 1

### Introduction

- ▶ Historical Setting
- ▶ Genre
- ▶ The Message of Esther

### The story

Today's story is all about a great king who threw a great party and ended up looking like a great big jerk.

A great king

A great party

A great big jerk

### Lessons from our story

#### 1. Ahasuerus' kingdom pales in comparison to the Lord's

- ❖ Genesis 22:17—*I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.*
- ❖ Revelation 7:9—*After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"*

#### 2. Ahasuerus is a tyrant ruler, the Lord is a benevolent ruler

- ❖ Esther 1:4—he showed the riches of his royal glory and the splendor and pomp of his greatness for many days
- ❖ Numbers 14:18-19—*'The Lord is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, forgiving iniquity and transgression, but he will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, to the third and the fourth generation. ' 19 Please pardon the iniquity of this people, according to the greatness of your steadfast love, just as you have forgiven this people, from Egypt until now.*
- ❖ Romans 5:8—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

#### 3. Ahasuerus is a chauvinists husband, the Lord is a loving husband

- ❖ **Isaiah 54:5-8**
- ❖ Ephesians 5:22-24—*Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands*
- ❖ Ephesians 5:25-27—*Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish*



## Esther: *God's silent sovereignty*

### Esther 1

#### 4. Ahasuerus throws a six month feast, the marriage supper of the Lamb will last forever

- ♣ Revelation 19:9—*“Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb”*

### A closing application

- ♣ 1 John 2:15-16—*Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world— the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life —is not from the Father but is from the world*
- ♣ Matthew 6:19-21—*“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also*