



# ESTHER: *God's silent sovereignty*

## Esther 4

### Introduction

### The story

- ❖ Genesis 50:20—*As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.*

### Lessons from our story

#### 1. God WILL save his people

- ❖ Esther 4:14—*If you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place*
- ❖ Isaiah 46:12-13—*Listen to me, you stubborn of heart, you who are far from righteousness: 13 I bring near my righteousness; it is not far off, and my salvation will not delay; I will put salvation in Zion, for Israel my glory.*
- ❖ John 10:14-16—*I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.*
- ❖ John 10:27-29—*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.*

#### 2. God sovereignly turns our hearts toward him

- ❖ Psalm 115:3—*Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.*
- ❖ Isaiah 45:7—*I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things.*
- ❖ Isaiah 46:9-11—*remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, 10 declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,' 11 calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it*
- ❖ Ezekiel 36:25-26—*I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. 26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

### Typology: A portrait of Jesus

#### 1. Mordecai: A type of our heavenly Father



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- ❖ John 3:16-17—*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

### 2. Esther: A type of our heavenly Savior

#### ▶ Savior of the world

- ❖ Revelation 5:4—*and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it.*
- ❖ 1 Timothy 2:5

#### ▶ Struggling with the cost

- ❖ Luke 22:42a—*Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me*

#### ▶ Willing to die for the people

- ❖ Luke 22:42b—*Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.*