

THE STORY  
The Queen of Beauty and Courage  
The Book of Esther  
Chapter 20 February 11, 2024  
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Esther is known as the one book of the bible that does not mention the name of God. And yet the presence of God and the plan of His Story are very evident throughout.

### QUEEN VASHTI DEPOSED

*On the seventh day, when King Xerxes was in high spirits from wine, he commanded the seven eunuchs who served him <sup>11</sup> to bring before him Queen Vashti, wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the people and nobles, for she was lovely to look at. <sup>12</sup> But when the attendants delivered the king's command, Queen Vashti refused to come. Then the king became furious and burned with anger.*

Esther 1:10-12 NIV

Mordecai raised his cousin and she was noticed for her beauty. She was given an extreme makeover for 12 months.

*Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so. <sup>11</sup> Every day he walked back and forth near the courtyard of the harem to find out how Esther was and what was happening to her.*

Esther 2:10 NIV

### MORDECAI SAVES THE KING

While Mordecai was watching over Esther close to the palace he overhears a plot to assassinate the king and tells Esther who tells the king in Mordecai's name

### HAMAN BECOMES PRIME MINISTER

Haman was full of himself, addicted to power.

*Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.*

Esther 3:6 NIV

Haman had a plan.

*Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews—young and old, women and children—on a single day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods.*

Esther 3:13 NIV

### MORDECAI RESPONDS

*“Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. <sup>14</sup> For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”*

Esther 4:13-15 NIV

Esther sends back a message to Mordecai.

*“Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”*

Esther 4:16 NIV

### QUEEN ESTHER'S REQUEST

*Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request...<sup>5</sup> King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, “Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?”*

*<sup>6</sup> Esther said, “An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman*

Esther 7:3, 5-6 NIV

1. Look for opportunities
2. Invite God into the process
3. Have the courage to speak up

*“Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. <sup>33</sup> But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.*

Matthew 10:32 NIV

**Is there something you need to trust God with today?**