



When Life Feels Out of Control

Esther 1-4

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Realities of life on planet Earth:

- Uncertainty is not an unusual **SEASON** of life. Uncertainty is just **PART** of life.
- There are things I can **INFLUENCE** that I cannot **CONTROL**

BIG IDEA: Certainty is not knowing **WHAT** will happen next. Certainty is knowing **WHO** you can trust when you don't.

CERTAINTY #1: I can be certain that **GOD** is in control, even when I am **NOT**
Proverbs 19:21; James 4:13-15; Matthew 6:27, 34; Luke 12:25-26; 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

- Human **PLANS** do not overthrow God's **PURPOSES**
- I am responsible for my **OBEDIENCE**. God is responsible for the **OUTCOME**
- Peace begins when I **STOP** trying to do God's job
- **Reflection Question:** *What am I trying to control right now that God never gave me the power to control?*

CERTAINTY #2: I can be certain that **GOD** is working, even when I cannot **SEE IT**
Romans 8:28-29; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, 5:7; Philippians 1:6

- God may be doing a **GREAT WORK** where I can see the least
- God may be using today's ordinary **CIRCUMSTANCES** to prepare me for tomorrow's extraordinary **ASSIGNMENT**
- **Reflection Question:** *Where am I currently judging the whole story, based on the current chapter?*



Online Notes

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KEEP READING →

CERTAINTY #3: I can be certain that **GOD** has a purpose, even when I do not

UNDERSTAND it *Esther 4:13-14; Ephesians 2:10; Philippians 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:9; Acts 17:26-27*

- God may have given me **INFLUENCE** not simply to improve my life, but to impact someone else's
- **Reflection Question:** *Where have I been more concerned with personal comfort than the bigger picture?*

WARNING: The message of Esther is **NOT** "If I trust God, I will always get the **OUTCOME** I want!" *Esther 4:16*

The answer to an uncertain world is not a principle; it's a **PERSON**

Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9

- The greatest **EVIDENCE** that God can be trusted is not that He gives us everything we want. It's that He gave us His **SON**
- The **CROSS** proves God loves you
- The resurrection proves Jesus can **SAVE** you

Memory Verse:

Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.
1 John 5:12 ESV

My next step today is to...

- Memorize 1 John 5:12
- Repent and accept Jesus as my Savior and submit to His Lordship for the first time!
- Go public as a follower of Jesus and get **baptized**
- Watch or listen to ***The 3C Podcast*** to go deeper this week
- Invite a friend to join me next week
- Sign up for a Group this Fall!
- Read Esther chapters 1-4 this week
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