

## BIBLE WOMEN - ESTHER - QUEEN IN TIME

### ESTHER 4:1-16

God used a Jewish maiden to become the queen of Persia and rescue His people from a murderous plot. He had a plan.

#### I. THE BANQUET

- A. King Ahasuerus (Xerxes) - son of Darius I
  - 1. (EZRA 4:24) and (DAN. 6:1) speak of Darius
  - 2. The Book of Esther occurs around 483 B.C.
  - 3. Feast of Purim commemorates God's deliverance
- B. The largest empire the world has ever known.
  - 1. Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Sudan, Libya, and Saudi Arabia
  - 2. Ahasuerus loved to show off - riches (wife)
  - 3. Vashti deposed and suggestions ESTHER 1:10-2:4

#### II. THE BEAUTY

- A. Josephus (Jewish historian) records 400 virgins
  - 1. Each district (added 7 from Darius) to provide
  - 2. Esther lived with her cousin Mordecai in Shushan
- B. Mordecai some form of government official ESTHER 2:19
  - 1. He instructed her to keep her secret ESTHER 2:10
  - 2. The King selected ESTHER 2:17-18 (announced)

#### III. THE BADGUY

- A. Haman descends from Agag (sworn enemy) (EXO. 17:14-16)
  - 1. His hubris demanded that all bowed to him
  - 2. Even OTHER royal officials ESTHER 3:1-4
  - 3. Mordecai wouldn't bow to Agag / Haman hated Jews
- B. Remember King Saul and Samuel (1 SAM. 15:32-33)
- C. Haman hatches a plot to kill ALL the Jews ESTHER 3:6

#### IV. THE BRAVERY

- A. Esther risked her life more than once! ESTHER 5:2, 7:8
  - 1. She placed herself in God's hands ESTHER 4:16
  - 2. That is complete (TRUST) i.e., Airline Pilot
- B. Safety is only found in the Lord (PROV. 29:25)
  - 1. Those who TRUST are also found TRUSTWORTHY
  - 2. Trust in God removes the human from the equation
- C. God places His people where He wants them (ROM. 8:28)

EZRA 4:24 - "Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia."

DAN. 6:1 - "It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;"

EXO. 17:14-16 - "And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. (15) And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi: (16) For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

1 SAM. 15:32-33 - "Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past. (33) And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal."

TRUST (WEBSTERS) - "Confidence; a reliance or resting of the mind on the integrity, veracity, justice, friendship or other sound principle of another person."

PROV. 29:25 - "The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe."

ROM. 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."