

Esther 4:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

Analysis

Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai; The exchange continued with Esther sending her response to Mordecai via Hatach. The word "again" emphasizes the ongoing dialogue—not a single message but sustained communication working toward resolution. Esther's "commandment" to Mordecai might seem presumptuous (commanding her guardian), but likely refers to her instructions to Hatach about what to tell Mordecai. The verse introduces her explanation of the risk (v. 11), demonstrating her initial reluctance based on legitimate fear. This honest wrestling with God's call—acknowledging fear while working toward obedience—models authentic faith.

Historical Context

The sustained back-and-forth communication demonstrates both the seriousness of the crisis and the deliberation required for such momentous decisions. Esther needed to understand the situation fully (Mordecai's first message), explain her constraints (this message), receive challenge and encouragement (Mordecai's response, v. 13-14), and then commit to action (her final response, v. 15-16). Ancient decision-making, especially in crises, often involved this kind of extended consultation and deliberation. The time required for multiple message exchanges built into the narrative structure creates pacing that allows both characters and readers to process the gravity of the situation.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the sustained dialogue demonstrate that working toward God's purposes often requires process and deliberation rather than instant clarity?
2. What does Esther's honest expression of fear teach about authentic faith that acknowledges challenges while working toward obedience?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר	וְתִּשְׁבַּח	לְבָתָה	וַיְתִּצְׁרַעַת	אֵל
spake	Again Esther	unto Hatach	and gave him commandment	H413
H559	H635	H2047	H6680	
מְרֹדְכָּי:				
unto Mordecai				
H4782				

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