

Esther 4:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

Analysis

And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai. Hatach faithfully delivered Mordecai's message to Esther, completing his assigned role. This brief verse's simplicity belies its importance—the message delivery initiated Esther's awareness of the crisis and her deliberation about response. The narrative's structure emphasizes the back-and-forth communication process: concern, inquiry, information, response, challenge, decision. Providence works through such ordinary processes of communication and deliberation. Hatach's faithful service demonstrates that God's grand redemptive purposes depend on many people faithfully performing their specific roles.

Historical Context

The messenger system's reliability depended on servants like Hatach accurately conveying messages without distortion or self-interested manipulation. Ancient communication's challenges—no recording technology, dependence on human memory and integrity—made trustworthy messengers invaluable. Palace protocols governing access to royalty meant direct conversation was often impossible, making intermediaries essential. Hatach's faithful service throughout the exchange (v. 5-17) demonstrates the character required for such positions. Archaeological evidence shows ancient administrative systems relied heavily on trusted messengers and scribes for communication, making their integrity crucial for effective governance.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does Hatach's reliable message delivery demonstrate that faithful service in seemingly small roles enables achievement of larger purposes?
2. What does this teach about the importance of integrity and faithfulness in communication and information-sharing?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹא	וְהָתָךְ	וַיֹּד	אֶת	לְאֶסְתֵּר ר	דְּבָרֵי	מִרְדֵּכָי:
came	And Hatach	and told	Esther	H853	the words	of Mordecai
H935	H2047	H5046	H635		H1697	H4782

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