

Esther

Women of Faith and Courage · Women of the Bible

A Jewish orphan who became queen of Persia, Esther risked her life to save her people from genocide. Her courage, guided by Mordecai's wisdom and undergirded by fasting, thwarted Haman's plot and secured Israel's preservation.

Note: Though God's name never appears in Esther, His providence permeates the narrative. Mordecai's words—"who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"—express the doctrine of divine sovereignty working through human agency.

Key Verses

Esther 2:7

And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

Esther 2:17

And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esther 4:14

For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Esther 4:16

Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast

likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

Esther 7:3

Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:

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