



Esther ... The Rest of the Story

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

October 25, 2020

Mordecai sent this reply to Esther: "Don't think for a moment that because you're in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" – Esther 4:13-14

Esther ... The Big Movements in the Story

- Xerxes ... Time for a New _____ ... (Esther 1)
- Esther ... _____ with the King ... (Esther 2)
- Haman ... A _____ to end the Jews ... (Esther 3)
- Mordecai/Esther ... _____ to save the Jews ... (Esther 4-8)
- Haman ... _____ for Mordecai ... (Esther 8)
- Mordecai ... _____ to 2nd in Kingdom ... (Esther 10)
- Purim ... A Jewish celebration of _____ ... (Esther 9)

Life Lessons ... To Live in the Moment

1. Despite the Babylonian Exile, God's seeming Absence, and Israel's Moral Compromise, God has not _____.
2. God uses the Faithfulness of Morally Compromised People to _____.
3. Will you be willing to Trust God's Promises even when we cannot see it working, and to Hope that no matter how bad things get, God is committed to _____.

Truth for Life

For the week of October 25, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Read Genesis 3:1-6. While we know the story and its consequences, attempt to put yourself in Adam and Eve's shoes. What were they wanting that they did not have? What did the serpent prod them with? Read vs. 5 and 6 from several translations, including the New Living Translation.
2. How have you felt like God was against you? Or, that He was keeping from you something that would have made the situation better? What was it? Was that the truth? Why or why not? How did God prove faithful in your circumstance?
3. Read the following verses about the first principle regarding the Sovereignty of God.

Job 42:2	Psalm 115:3	Psalm 135:6-9
Romans 11:33-36	Ephesians 1:11	Revelation 19:6-7

 What stands out to you from these verses? Anything bother you or cause you to struggle?
4. Read Daniel 4:34-35, 37. Prior to these verses, King Nebuchadnezzar had taken credit for the greatness of his kingdom. As a result, God struck him with a kind of insanity that made him think he was a beast of the field. For seven years he lived among the wild animals. When he finally turned his heart to the Lord, his sanity was restored. These verses are how he responded to the Lord after he was turned his heart to the Lord. What stands out to you from these verses? How did he speak of the Lord? What caused Nebuchadnezzar to praise the Lord after 7 years of living like a wild animal?
5. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
 - a. Is it wrong to take pride in our own or our children's accomplishments? What does biblical humility mean practically?
 - b. Where is the biblical balance between drawing near to God as our loving Father and yet fearing Him as the Holy One?
 - c. Since God uses trials to conform us to Christ, should we pray to get out of our trials? How should we pray about trials?
 - d. Some accuse those who affirm God's sovereignty over all of making Him the author of evil. How would you respond biblically to this charge?



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Esther ... The Big Movements in the Story

- Xerxes ... Time for a New **Queen** ... (Esther 1)
- Esther ... **Favor** with the King ... (Esther 2)
- Haman ... A **Decision** to end the Jews ... (Esther 3)
- Mordecai/Esther ... **Banquets** to save the Jews ... (Esther 4-8)
- Haman ... **Impaled on a Pole** for Mordecai ... (Esther 8)
- Mordecai ... **Elevated** to 2nd in Kingdom ... (Esther 10)
- Purim ... A Jewish celebration of **God's Sovereignty** ... (Esther 9)

Life Lessons ... To Live in the Moment

1. Despite the Babylonian Exile, God's seeming Absence, and Israel's Moral Compromise, God has not **Abandoned His Promises**.
2. God uses the Faithfulness of Morally Compromised People to **Accomplish His Purposes**
3. Will you be willing to Trust God's Promises even when we cannot see it working, and to Hope that no matter how bad things get, God is committed to **Redeeming His World**.

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