



Esther ... The Real HERO of YOUR Story

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

October 4, 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 ... God in the Background

The Main Characters ...

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

○ Truth ...

The Plot ...

- Mordecai _____ the King (Esther 2:21-23)
- Haman Anger rages against Mordecai and determines to _____ (Esther 3:5-6)
- Mordecai and Esther _____ (Esther 4:13-17)
 - Truth ...
- Haman makes a _____ (Esther 5:10-14)
- The King _____ (Esther 6:1-10)
 - Truth ...
- Haman's _____ and He is Executed (Est. 7:1-10)
 - Truth ...

Truth for Life

For the week of October 4, 2020

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Think about a time when you were frustrated, confused, or possibly angry at the way God was responding to a situation. What was the occasion? What were you anticipating God to do? Why did it bother you? Think about this last question ... did the frustration come from God acting wrongly or as a result of Him acting outside of your expectation?
2. Read the story of Lazarus again ... John 11:1-44. Listen for cues as to why Mary and Martha were frustrated (vs. 20-21; 32). Why the crowds were confused (vs. 36-37). Why were they troubled? What was the source of their frustration?
3. Read the following verses about the first principle regarding the Sovereignty of God.

1 Chronicles 29:11	Romans 9:11	Proverbs 16:4
Proverbs 19:21	Daniel 4:35	Genesis 50:20

What stands out to you from these verses? Anything bother you or causes you to struggle?
4. Read Judges 13:1-25. Pay careful attention to Manoah's prayers (vs. 8, 12, 15, 17). Do you think Manoah and his wife were excited to hear the news about their new baby? As you examine the prayers of Manoah, what was he most interested in discovering (vs. 8, 12)?
5. Read the Lord's Prayer from Matthew 6:9-13. How does the Lord's instruction on prayer in vs. 10 particularly mesh up with the request of Manoah above? If we were more interested in God's will being done than getting our will done, would there potentially be less frustration and disappointment with God and His response? Would it be appropriate to state that the reason for our disappointment with God often results from our selfishness or our lack of trust of God's character?
6. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your group.
 - a. What are some of the hard truths in the Bible that run counter to our culture? How can we identify and embrace these truths?
 - b. What Scriptures support that God is sovereign over evil and yet not responsible in any way for it? 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 ... God in the Background

The Main Characters ...

- Xerxes
- Vashti
- Haman
- Mordecai
- Esther
 - Truth ... It doesn't matter how corrupt the powers that govern this world can become, God is always sovereign.

The Plot ...

- Mordecai Saves the King (Esther 2:21-23)
- Haman Anger rages against Mordecai and determines to Kill the Jews (Esther 3:5-6)
- Mordecai and Esther Devise a Plan (Esther 4:13-17)
 - Truth ... God always has kingdom people, and you are one of them. He wants to use you to dispel darkness and throw light on your world.
- Haman makes a Gallows for Mordecai (Esther 5:10-14)
- The King Can't Sleep (Esther 6:1-10)
 - Truth ... God will work in mysterious, sometimes silent and spiritual ways to bring about his purposes.
- Haman's Plot is Exposed and He is Executed (Esther 7:1-10)
 - Truth ... God is the real Hero of your story, whether you Recognize Him or not. He's been working in your life the whole time!

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