

“On the Way” 365 Bible Reading Plan

ESTHER 2

Esther 2

Esther two, loneliness sets in on King Ahasuerus concerning what Queen Vashti had done and how he had reacted. This was noticed by his advisors who had advised that he treat her in the way that he did and they immediately devised a plan to bring him out of the doldrums. They told the king to make a search throughout the Kingdom of Persian for all the beautiful young virgins and that those be brought to the palace at Shushan. Then allow the women in charge of the women’s quarters get those virgins ready to appear before the king, so that a successor to Queen Vashti might be chosen.

One of the most beloved figures in all of Jewish history is now introduced in the story, his name is Mordecai. The name itself is of Babylonian origin and means “Son of Marduk” one of the primary gods of the Babylonians. Mordecai was of the tribe of Benjamin, his father, Kish, had been taken away captive from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. This is obviously not the same Kish who was King Saul’s father from centuries before, but rather the case of an important figure in history’s name being given across generational lines.

Mordecai is the uncle of a beautiful young Jewish girl named “Hadassah” which means “Myrtle” who was given a Persian name, “Esther” meaning “Star” and that is the name that is attached to the book. Esther grew up in godly Mordecai’s home after her father and mother died. All of the women were put under the authority of Hegai, a eunuch who had charge of caring and seeing that the young women were prepared in all the customs of the Persians and in all the ways to be beautiful. God granted Esther favor with Hegai, and she was moved to the best quarters and was under his care. Verse ten says, **“Esther had not revealed her people of family for Mordecai had charged her not to reveal it. And every day Mordecai paced in front of the court of the women’s quarters, to learn of Esther’s welfare and what was happening to her.”**

Prayer and Action Steps

Throughout the story of God in the Bible, we see time and time again how God shows His favor and blessing to one over another. We need God’s favor. Dear Lord, let me find favor in your sight today. Amen.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
