

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

ESTHER 3

Esther 3

Esther has been granted favor by the God of heaven and over and over again, He gives Esther and Mordecai wisdom and grace. Esther and all the young virgins had to go through one year of training in various beauty regimens to prepare them to be taken into the king's harem with all other concubines, in hope that they may be chosen. If they were chosen to be presented before the king and gain his approval, they would become Queen of Persia. This would mean that not only their lives would be changed forever, but also that of their family. The day finally came for Esther to be presented to King Ahasuerus. Each woman could dress or take whatever clothing she chose to enhance their beauty in appearing before the king. Esther left the choice up to Hegai, the chief eunuch over the women; this was a true sign of wisdom. Hegai would know better than anyone else what pleased the king in fashion and presentation. ***"Esther obtained favor in sight of all who saw her...So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace. The King loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so, he set the royal crown***

upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti."
(Esther 2:16-17)

The King set aside a special day to honor Queen Esther and proclaimed a great feast to celebrate her. Mordecai watched all of this from outside the palace. While staying close to the palace gates, Mordecai became aware of a plot to kill King Ahasuerus, by two of his palace guards, eunuchs. He got word to Esther and Esther told the king what Mordecai had said. The King immediately checked it out, found it to be true, and hung the two eunuchs. This deed that Mordecai had done was written in the Chronicles of the Kings of Persia.

In the meantime, a wicked man who was close to the King whose name was Haman, was elevated to a place of great prominence and everyone was to bow down to him. Everyone did, except Esther's uncle, Mordecai. This infuriated Haman, who wanted complete allegiance. Mordecai had revealed that he was a "Jew" so Haman decided to destroy not only Mordecai, but every Jew.

Prayer and Action Steps

Dear God, give me the courage to not bow down before other men, but only before you, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. 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? _____
