

**Esther 8:1-8, 11-17** (HCSB)

*<sup>11</sup> The king's edict gave the Jews in each and every city the right to assemble and defend themselves, to destroy, kill, and annihilate every ethnic and provincial army hostile to them, including women and children, and to take their possessions as spoils of war. <sup>12</sup> This would take place on a single day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month Adar.*

*<sup>13</sup> A copy of the text, issued as law throughout every province, was distributed to all the peoples so the Jews could be ready to avenge themselves against their enemies on that day.*

*<sup>14</sup> The couriers rode out in haste on their royal horses at the king's urgent command. The law was also issued in the fortress of Susa.*

*<sup>15</sup> Mordecai went from the king's presence clothed in royal purple and white, with a great gold crown and a purple robe of fine linen. The city of Susa shouted and rejoiced, <sup>16</sup> and the Jews celebrated with gladness, joy, and honor. <sup>17</sup> In every province and every city, wherever the king's command and his law reached, joy and rejoicing took place among the Jews. There was a celebration and a holiday. And many of the ethnic groups of the land professed themselves to be Jews because fear of the Jews had overcome them.*

**GOD WAS THERE**

**Part 2: The Triumph of the Jews – Esther 5-10**

The Book of Esther is unique because God’s name is never mentioned. However, God’s presence is abundantly evident as we see Him working behind the scenes.

**GOD WAS THERE:**

**WHEN A QUEEN WAS DEPOSED – 1:1-22**

-- Vashti’s refusal to display her beauty before assembled guests amounted to a triple offense: a **woman** challenging the authority of a **man**, a **wife** disobeying the orders of her **husband**, and a **subject** defying the command of the **king**.

**WHEN A QUEEN WAS CHOSEN – 2:1-18**

-- Esther’s choice as Queen later helped to thwart the efforts of Haman to **destroy** the **Jews**.

**WHEN AN \_\_\_\_\_ WAS PLANNED – 2:19-23**

-- Mordecai would later be \_\_\_\_\_ for his heroics when it really counted.

**WHEN A \_\_\_\_\_ WAS HATCHED – 3:1-15**

-- God \_\_\_\_\_ what was going on and how to thwart it.

**WHEN A STEP OF \_\_\_\_\_ WAS TAKEN – 4:1-5:8**

-- Nobody was allowed to just walk in on the \_\_\_\_\_. After \_\_\_\_\_ and praying, Esther did just that. In God’s \_\_\_\_\_, the king was pleased.

***Esther’s “Mission Impossible”***

(1) To speak to the king, Esther would have to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ for which the \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_.

(2) To make her appeal to the king, Esther would have to \_\_\_\_\_ she had \_\_\_\_\_ the king.

(3) Esther was attempting to convince the king to \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ law.

(4) Esther was setting out to \_\_\_\_\_ Haman, one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ persons on earth at that moment in time.

(5) Esther was pursuing a plan which would strike a serious \_\_\_\_\_ to the king’s \_\_\_\_\_.

**WHEN A \_\_\_\_\_ WAS BUILT – 5:9-6:14**

-- Haman had a gallows built to hang \_\_\_\_\_. God gave the king \_\_\_\_\_. He guided the reading of the courts records to the heroic act of Mordecai, which never had been rewarded. Haman ended up honoring his \_\_\_\_\_ in a way he would have never planned.

**WHEN AN \_\_\_\_\_ WAS MADE – 7:1-8:17**

-- Esther made her appeal for her people. \_\_\_\_\_ was exposed and hung on his own gallows. \_\_\_\_\_ became Prime Minister, and devised a plan to help the \_\_\_\_\_.

**WHEN A WICKED LAW WAS \_\_\_\_\_ – 9:1-16**

-- The Jews were enabled by God to have \_\_\_\_\_ over their enemies.

**WHEN A NEW \_\_\_\_\_ WAS CELEBRATED – 9:20-32**

**WHEN A \_\_\_\_\_ WAS \_\_\_\_\_ – 10:1-3**

**TWO POWERFUL TRUTHS TO TAKE WITH US:**

(1) God is at \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives...even when we can't \_\_\_\_\_ Him at work.

(2) The story of Esther teaches us the power, the potential impact, of \_\_\_\_\_. God used Esther to \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_!

*"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him" (2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 16:9). The world has yet to see what God can do with ONE person who's totally committed to Him. Have I come to a position for such a time as this?*

## **GOD WAS THERE**

### **Part 2: The Triumph of the Jews – Esther 5-10**

The Book of Esther is unique because God's name is never mentioned. However, God's presence is abundantly evident as we see Him working behind the scenes.

#### **GOD WAS THERE:**

#### **WHEN A QUEEN WAS DEPOSED – 1:1-22**

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#### **WHEN A QUEEN WAS CHOSEN – 2:1-18**

-- Esther's choice as Queen later helped to thwart the efforts of Haman to **destroy** the **Jews**.

#### **WHEN AN ASSASSINATION WAS PLANNED – 2:19-23**

-- Mordecai would later be **honored** for his heroics when it really counted.

#### **WHEN A PLOT WAS HATCHED – 3:1-15**

-- God **knew** what was going on and how to thwart it.

#### **WHEN A STEP OF FAITH WAS TAKEN – 4:1-5:8**

-- Nobody was allowed to just walk in on the **king**. After **fasting** and praying, Esther did just that. In God's **providence**, the king was pleased.

#### ***Esther's "Mission Impossible"***

(1) To speak to the king, Esther would have to **break** the **law** for which the **penalty** was **death**.

(2) To make her appeal to the king, Esther would have to **confess** she had **deceived** the king.

(3) Esther was attempting to convince the king to **reverse** an **irreversible** law.

(4) Esther was setting out to **oppose** Haman, one of the most **powerful** persons on earth at that moment in time.

(5) Esther was pursuing a plan which would strike a serious **blow** to the king's **pride**.

#### **WHEN A GALLOWS WAS BUILT – 5:9-6:14**

-- Haman had a gallows built to hang **Mordecai**. God gave the king **insomnia**. He guided the reading of the courts records to the heroic act of Mordecai, which never had been rewarded. Haman ended up honoring his **enemy** in a way he would have never planned.

#### **WHEN AN APPEAL WAS MADE – 7:1-8:17**

-- Esther made her appeal for her people. **Haman** was exposed and hung on his own gallows. **Mordecai** became Prime Minister, and devised a plan to help the **Jews**.

#### **WHEN A WICKED LAW WAS REVERSED – 9:1-16**

-- The Jews were enabled by God to have **victory** over their enemies.

#### **WHEN A NEW FEAST WAS CELEBRATED – 9:20-32**

#### **WHEN A JEW WAS PROMOTED – 10:1-3**

#### **TWO POWERFUL TRUTHS TO TAKE WITH US:**

(1) God is at **work** in our lives...even when we can't **see** Him at work.

(2) The story of Esther teaches us the power, the potential impact, of **one person**. God used Esther to **save** an **entire race**!

*"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him" (2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 16:9). The world has yet to see what God can do with ONE person who's totally committed to Him. Have I come to a position for such a time as this?*