

Esther, Part 2

Hitler banned the reading of Esther in the WWII concentration camps ... today, Satan has his own version of “death camps” for God’s people!

Vashti (“beautiful”)

- pictures Israel’s rejection of God’s will for them

The King didn’t invite an elite bloodline, but invited “whosoever will”
“If you love the King, You can get to know Him!”

1 Peter 2:9-10 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Ephesians 2:12-13 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

The King wants a bride that can show the world a different response to His commands!

The King brought them to His palace to “test” them – they experienced the King’s goodness, but they were not the Bride yet!

Matthew 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

You are chosen by the King for potential, but kept because of passion!
AND PASSION CANNOT BE PROGRAMMED!

The King didn’t want another woman who just wanted Him for what He could give – He refused to marry another rebellious woman! Why? Because it is not the world’s rebellion that is so powerful, it is the rebellion of God’s people (since He has chosen to work through us).

Esther’s love had the power to cancel out the memory of Vashti’s rebellion (2:18 – second feast – Pentecost).

A year of preparation (2:12) for one night with the King!

“I didn’t put on this perfume for YOU, but for the KING!”

The King does not alter the robes of righteousness to fit the person; He alters the person to fit the robes of righteousness!

Mordecai – preacher – brings Esther to the King, saw her destiny
Hegai – the Word – had insight into the King, Esther submitted

Esther 2:15 Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, **she required nothing but what Hegai the king’s chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed.** And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

What do you give someone who has everything? ONLY YOURSELF!

Hadassah (“myrtle tree”)

- can only grow so tall, can’t move from where life has planted you
- She was an orphan and a victim – but for Mordecai and the King!

Esther (“star”)

- even the night can’t put out your light!

John 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless (*orphans*): I will come to you.

You’re not an orphan anymore – He is the King, but you are His Queen!
I AM (already) what God says I am!

IF YOU MOVE THE HEART OF GOD, YOU MOVE THE HAND OF GOD! Esther’s relationship with the King affected the destiny of a nation.

RESPONSIBILITY ALWAYS FOLLOWS PROMOTION.

Whenever God gets ready to elevate you, He introduces an enemy!
And you do not win a battle with your enemy based on your own strength – you win it based on your relationship with the King. The size of your enemy is a measure of the size of God’s confidence in you!

Esther 4:13-14 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king’s house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father’s house shall be destroyed: **and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**

The battle is not over POWER, the battle is over KNOWLEDGE – because the church doesn’t know who she is!

The number two power is NOT the devil, it is the Queen (the church!). Why? Because the Queen is in a position of influence with the King!

Haman doesn't just have to listen to the KING, he has to listen to the QUEEN too!

Most of Esther's battle was fought outside of the court, because once you are in the King's presence the battle is over!

It's one thing for the devil to mess with the King, but it's all over with a jealous God when he tries to mess with the church!

Esther had no control over Haman, but she had influence with the King! Sometimes we try to exert influence in the wrong arena!

Learn to worship with the enemy at your table – focus on the King.

Psalm 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Luke 10:17-21 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven. In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.

Matthew 16:18-19 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

IF YOUR ENEMY IS THE KING'S ENEMY, THEN YOUR BATTLE IS THE KING'S BATTLE!