

# Such A Time As This: The Book of Esther



# Where Esther Fits in the Timeline

- 586 BC – Jerusalem destroyed,  
people taken to Babylon
- 537 BC – First wave returning home
- 516 BC – Temple rebuild completed
- \*-484-473 BC – Book of Esther events\*
- 458 BC – Ezra and second wave
- 445 BC – Nehemiah to Jerusalem

# Romans 8:28

<sup>28</sup> And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

*\*All Scriptures from 1995 New American Standard*

# Such A Time As This: God's Perfect Timing



# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



- From last time: both Esther and Haman have decided to make requests to the king.



# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



➤ The king's sleepless night.

# Esther 6:1-3

<sup>1</sup> During that night the king could not sleep so he gave an order to bring the book of records, the chronicles, and they were read before the king.

# Esther 6:1-3

<sup>2</sup> It was found written what Mordecai had reported concerning Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs who were doorkeepers, that they had sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.

<sup>3</sup> The king said, "What honor or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?" Then the king's servants who attended him said, "Nothing has been done for him."



# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



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➤ The king's question for Haman.

# Esther 6:4-9

<sup>4</sup> So the king said, “Who is in the court?” Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king’s palace in order to speak to the king about hanging Mordecai on the gallows which he had prepared for him.

# Esther 6:4-9

<sup>5</sup> The king's servants said to him, "Behold, Haman is standing in the court." And the king said, "Let him come in."

# Esther 6:4-9

<sup>6</sup> So Haman came in and the king said to him, “What is to be done for the man whom the king desires to honor?” And Haman said to himself, “Whom would the king desire to honor more than me?”

# Esther 6:4-9

<sup>7</sup> Then Haman said to the king, “For the man whom the king desires to honor,  
<sup>8</sup> let them bring a royal robe which the king has worn, and the horse on which the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown has been placed;

# Esther 6:4-9

<sup>9</sup> and let the robe and the horse be handed over to one of the king's most noble princes and let them array the man whom the king desires to honor and lead him on horseback through the city square, and proclaim before him, 'Thus it shall be done to the man whom the king desires to honor.'"



# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



➤ Haman has to honor Mordecai.

# Esther 6:10-11

<sup>10</sup> Then the king said to Haman, “Take quickly the robes and the horse as you have said, and do so for Mordecai the Jew, who is sitting at the king’s gate; do not fall short in anything of all that you have said.”

# Esther 6:10-11

<sup>11</sup> So Haman took the robe and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and led him *on horseback* through the city square, and proclaimed before him, “Thus it shall be done to the man whom the king desires to honor.”

# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



➤ Haman mourns with his wife and friends.

# Esther 6:12-13

<sup>12</sup> Then Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman hurried home, mourning, with *his* head covered.

# Esther 6:12-13

<sup>13</sup> Haman recounted to Zeresh his wife and all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and Zeresh his wife said to him, “If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish origin, you will not overcome him, but will surely fall before him.”



# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



➤ Esther's second banquet  
and request.

# Esther 6:14

<sup>14</sup> While they were still talking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived and hastily brought Haman to the banquet which Esther had prepared.

# Esther 7:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Now the king and Haman came to drink *wine* with Esther the queen.

<sup>2</sup> And the king said to Esther on the second day also as they drank their wine at the banquet, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of the kingdom it shall be done.”

# Esther 7:1-6

<sup>3</sup> Then Queen Esther replied, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me as my petition, and my people as my request;

# Esther 7:1-6

<sup>4</sup> for we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed and to be annihilated. Now if we had only been sold as slaves, men and women, I would have remained silent, for the trouble would not be commensurate with the annoyance to the king.”

# Esther 7:1-6

<sup>5</sup> Then King Ahasuerus asked Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who would presume to do thus?”

<sup>6</sup> Esther said, “A foe and an enemy is this wicked Haman!” Then Haman became terrified before the king and queen.



# Esther Chapters 6 and 7



➤ Haman's evil plans  
returned to him.

# Esther 7:7-10

<sup>7</sup> The king arose in his anger from drinking wine *and went* into the palace garden; but Haman stayed to beg for his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that harm had been determined against him by the king.

# Esther 7:7-10

<sup>8</sup> Now when the king returned from the palace garden into the place where they were drinking wine, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was. Then the king said, “Will he even assault the queen with me in the house?” As the word went out of the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face.

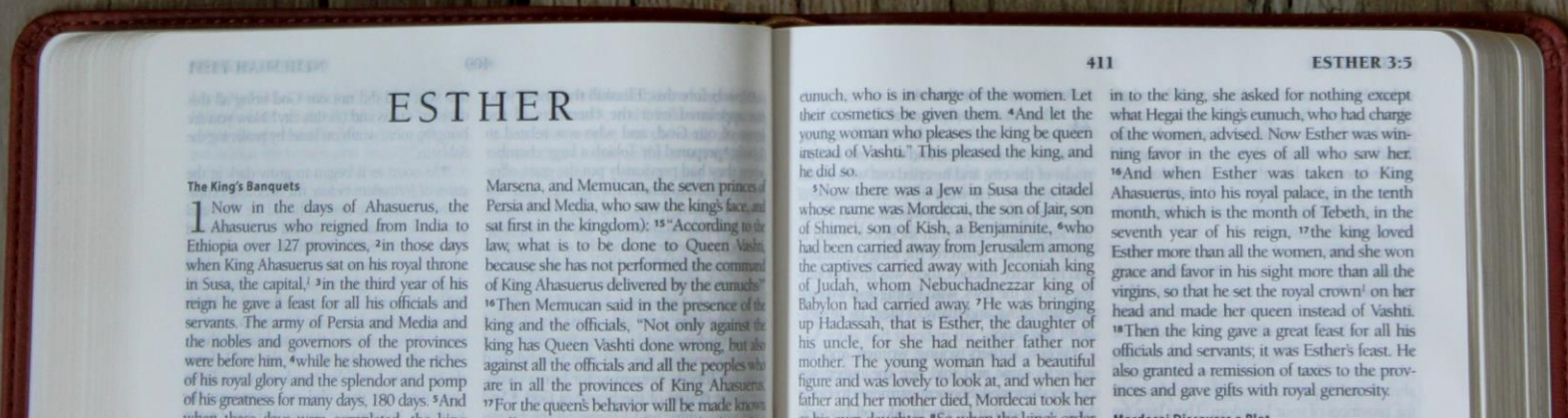
# Esther 7:7-10

<sup>9</sup> Then Harbonah, one of the eunuchs who *were* before the king said, “Behold indeed, the gallows standing at Haman’s house fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai who spoke good on behalf of the king!” And the king said, “Hang him on it.”

# Esther 7:7-10

<sup>10</sup> So they hanged Haman on the gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai, and the king's anger subsided.

# Some Things We Notice



1) God is always on time.

## Acts 1:6-7

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”

<sup>7</sup> He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

# Galatians 4:4

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,



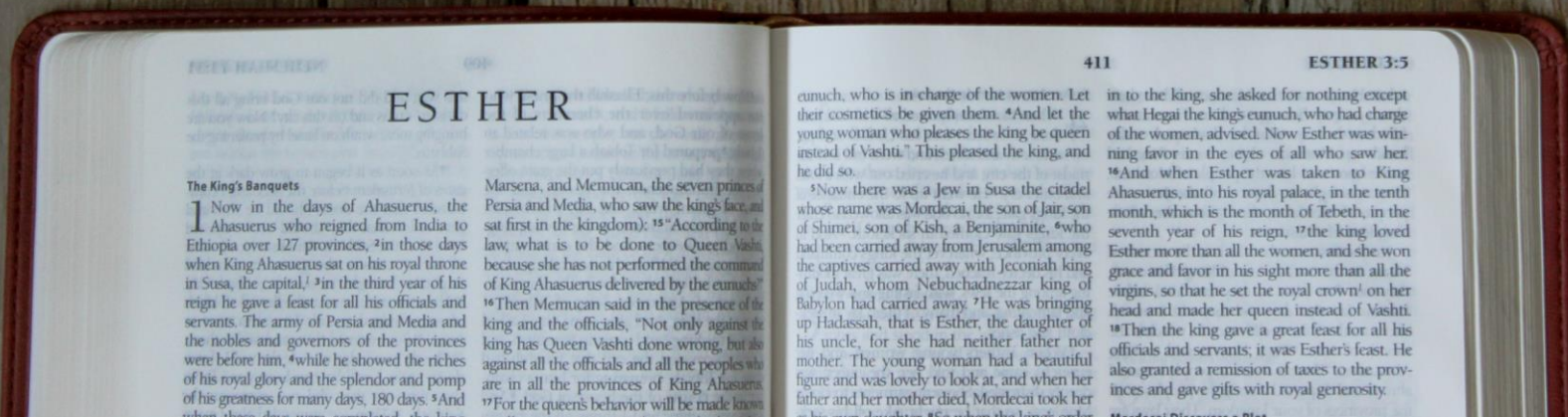
# Romans 5:6

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

# Isaiah 40:31

<sup>31</sup> Yet those who wait for the LORD  
Will gain new strength;  
They will mount up *with* wings like  
eagles,  
They will run and not get tired,  
They will walk and not become weary.

# Some Things We Notice



2) God will reward our good deeds,  
even if no one else recognized  
them.

# Matthew 10:42

<sup>42</sup> And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward.”

# Galatians 6:7-8

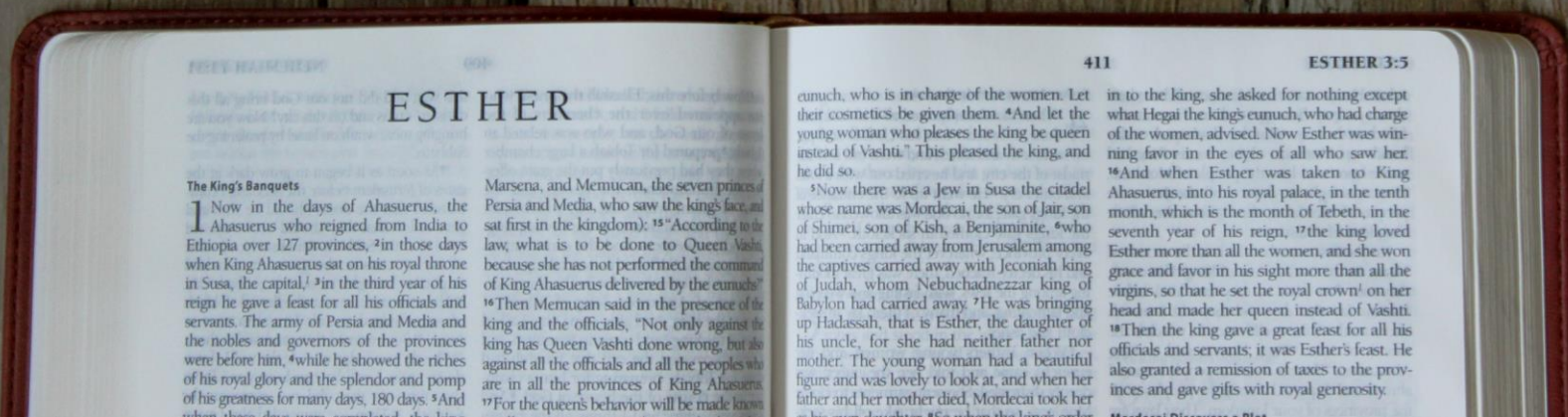
<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

<sup>8</sup> For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

# Hebrews 6:10

<sup>10</sup> For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.

# Some Things We Notice



3) The wicked will be punished.

# Proverbs 16:18

<sup>18</sup> Pride *goes* before destruction,  
And a haughty spirit before stumbling.



# Psalm 37:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Do not fret because of evildoers,  
Be not envious toward wrongdoers.

<sup>2</sup> For they will wither quickly like the  
grass  
And fade like the green herb.

# Psalm 37:7-9

<sup>7</sup> Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him;

Do not fret because of him  
who prospers in his way,

Because of the man who carries out  
wicked schemes.

## Psalm 37:7-9

<sup>8</sup> Cease from anger and forsake wrath;  
Do not fret; *it leads* only to evildoing.

<sup>9</sup> For evildoers will be cut off,  
But those who wait for the LORD, they  
will inherit the land.

May we learn to trust  
God's timing...

