

Chuck Smith:

"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"

I. GOD HAS A PLAN AND A PURPOSE FOR EACH LIFE.

- A. All of the events of the past preparation.
 - 1. Vashtis' rebellion against kings order.
 - 2. The edict to replace her.
 - 3. God had a purpose in creating Esther an especially beautiful child.
 - 4. Her being chosen as one to appear before the king.
 - 5. Her being chosen by the king.
 - a. She could have said "Oh Providence."
 - b. She would have been absolutely correct.
 - c. All a part of the divine plan.
 - 6. God seeks- to prepare us for the work or purpose He has in mind for us.
 - a. "All things work together for good...."
 - b. That is not true for those who do not love God, not committed to His purpose.
 - c. Some of the moves I made in the past that I thought were disasters, later turned out to be necessary to bring me where I am today.

II. THE PURPOSES OF GOD IN THE EARTH SHALL STAND.

- A. He is sovrein and none can resist His will.
 - 1. "Their enlargement and deliverance shall arise."
 - 2. Even if you fail the purposes of God, shall not fail.
 - a. Your life will become empty, void, and meaningless.
 - b. You will find yourself in despair.
 - 3. God will not exercise His sovereignty against your free-will.
 - a. Having given to man the power of choice He respects your choice.
 - 4. What God then does is to allow us the honor of being an instrument to fulfill His divine purpose.
 - a. If we are obedient we receive that glorious sense of meaning and fulfillment.

III. WHO KNOWS BUT THAT YOUR WHOLE PAST WASN'T BUT PREPARATION FOR THIS TIME.

- A. With Esther, her mission in life was fulfilled ina few days.
 - 1. But she could live the rest of her life with the satisfaction that she had fulfilled the divine purpose for her life.
 - 2. Many years of preparation, three days in fulfillment.
- B. How can we know what God has purposed for us?
 - 1. By committing our life to Him.
 - 2. Roman 12:1, 2.
- C. What if my time already has come and gone and I failed.
 - 1. If you submit your life to Him you will probably discover that He allowed you to fail and experience to subsequent emptiness, so thatin the big moment.
- D. What have you got to lose?
 - 1. "My reputation, I'm known as the biggest drunk, if they hear that I have become a Jesus freak, they will avoid me like the plague."
 - a. Are they then real friends interested.in what is best for you?

Esther 4:13

2. "It mightbring an end to my career."
 - a. It will be the beginning of His career.