

Devotional Thoughts :: The Book of Esther-For such a Time as This**The Book of Esther-For such a Time as This - posted by DRS, on: 2017/3/2 8:40**

The Book of Esther-For such a Time as This.

If you have never read the story maybe this will whet your appetite to do so. I highly encourage you to.

Esther is the crucial character in the book as everything hinges on her elevation to the throne and her influence as queen. The scene takes place in Persia (Iran today) in Susa the capital and covers a time period of about 12 years. The story begins when the king has a feast for all the chief men of his kingdom and while they are intoxicated he orders his queen Vashti, which means beautiful woman, to come and display her beauty, which would have been in an immodest way I'm sure. She refuses and is removed as queen and a new one is sought from the most beautiful young women of the kingdom. Esther a young Jewish girl is one of the ones selected and is eventually selected to be queen. Mordecai her cousin who raised her after the death of her parents was very concerned for her and did everything he could to protect her. He told her not to make it known that she was Jewish. Evidently Mordecai was employed by the royal court, because it says that he sat at the King's gate, which not just anyone could do. It is also mentioned that he was of the king's servants. He was also in a position where he heard a plot to kill the king and he notified Esther, who notified the king in Mordecai's name. This proved beneficial later. Haman next comes on the scene and he is the son of Hammedatha the Agagite who can be traced to Esau. The king promotes him to a seat over all the princes and all the king's servants are required to bow to him and Mordecai refuses to do so. Thus Haman devises a plan to kill all the Jews in the kingdom and convinces the king of his plan. There is a good comparison here of Mordecai and Daniel who are descendants of Jacob and how they behave when they are promoted to high positions of rulership in the nations of the Gentiles and how Haman a descendant of Esau behaves when he is promoted to a high place of rulership in the nations of the Gentiles. King Herod a descendant of Esau is also a good comparison. The descendants of Esau have such a hatred for the descendants of Jacob that they can't appreciate being lifted up to rulership and end up in failures. I believe we see that same example being played out today. Mordecai learns of Haman's plot and tells Esther that she must go before the king and have this stopped. It is a beautiful story as to how Esther accomplishes this and the perfect timing in how she approaches the king with her petition. I believe the key verse in the book is (Esther 4:14), Mordecai speaking to Esther about going before the king about Haman's plot.

"For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

YET WHO KNOWS WHETHER YOU HAVE COME TO THE KINGDOM FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS.

Is that not a great statement?

"He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep" Psalm 121:4

We all should consider this also. God has us in this world at the time and place He chose. He has a purpose for each one of us in His plan. Think of the world we live in and remember He has raised us up for such a time as this. PRAISE HIM

Feast Of Purim is celebrated this month.

"So they called these days Purim, after the name Pur. Therefore, because of all the words of this letter, what they had seen concerning this matter, and what had happened to them, the Jews established and imposed it upon themselves and their descendants and all who would join them, that without fail they should celebrate these two days every year, according to the written instructions and according to the prescribed time, that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city, that these days of Purim should not fail to be observed among the Jews, and that the memory of them should not perish among their descendants." (Esther 9:26-28)