



International Baptist Church Eindhoven

Your Christian Family Away From Home

GOD'S PROVISION THROUGH IMPERFECT PEOPLE

Esther 4

THE BOOK OF ESTHER

- It's not about good people saving Jews from certain genocide
- But about a good God accomplishing His saving work through imperfect people in a broken world



SO FAR IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER...

- **A foolish king:**
 - Consumed with his own glory
 - Loosing his wife and queen
 - Getting another one in a perverse way
- **An old enmity between Haman and Mordecai**
- **A decree has been sent out to destroy all the Jews**



SATAN'S ATTACK ON GODS PEOPLE IS CONTINUOUS

Ever since the fall satan is attempting to compromise Gods plan

- In Garden
- In Egypt
- In Susa
- King Herod in Bethlehem
- Satan tempting Jesus
- Satan entering into Judas
- The Holocaust
- Christian persecution today
- Abortion
- Etc.



GODS PEOPLE MOURN (VS 1-3)

- **Mordecai's faith is being activated in mourning and weeping**
 - **Hardship is often an element through which people come to faith or experience spiritual growth**
 - **We don't do mourning well in western world. But it is very important:**
 - **It's honest**
 - **God himself weeps**
 - **If you don't grieve you'll break**
 - **It invites others to know and love you**
- **How are you doing in your mourning?**



ESTHER'S PREDICAMENT (VS 4-11)

- Mordecai makes Esther aware of the situation
- Mordecai asks Esther to make known her kindred and to plead for the Jews with the King
- But:
 - To come before the king without being summoned ends in most cases in execution
 - She hasn't been summoned by the king for 30 days

In other words: Esther finds herself in a predicament...



ESTHER'S PREDICAMENT (VS 4-11)

- **What are your predicaments?**
- **There was hope for Esther so there is hope for you!**



ESTHER'S DECISION/PURPOSE DETERMINED (VS 12-17)

- **Mordecai responds with three points to Esther's reply/excuses:**
 - **Your safety is also not guaranteed**
 - **If you don't speak up, someone else will (and you'll live to regret it) >> God doesn't depend on Esther!**
 - **Haven't you become Queen just for a time like this? >> Gods providence**



ESTHER'S DECISION/PURPOSE DETERMINED (VS 12-17)

- Esther decides to intercede!
 - She decides to go from passive to active
 - She decides to start making progress, she starts moving
 - She calls for a fasting to increase her chance of success while realizing that God can't be manipulated 'if I perish, I perish'



ESTHER'S DECISION/PURPOSE DETERMINED (VS 12-17)

- **What is our decision? Purpose?**
 - **Rom. 10:14-15?**
 - **2 Cor. 5:18-21?**
 - **1 Peter 2:9-10?**
 - **Matt. 28:18-20**



ESTHER IS A TYPE OF MEDIATOR

- Esther was the only one to mediate because she was both a Jew and royal, Jesus is our mediator between man and God because He was both human and Divine
- The people were under the judgement of Haman, we are under the judgement of God
- Esther saves about 15 mln from Xerxes, Jesus saved billions from satan, sin and death
- Esther said: 'if I perish, I perish'. In other words 'if I have to die to save my people, I die'. Sound familiar?

JESUS IS A BETTER MEDIATOR!



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