

April 12, 2026



Esther – When God Seems Silent

Esther at a glance:

- God's name is never mentioned.
- No evidence of the miraculous.
- God uses ordinary people's bold steps of faith to accomplish His extraordinary purposes.
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Book of Esther – Character Cheat Sheet

- **King Xerxes** - The Persian ruler whose decisions shape the story. Often portrayed as powerful but easily manipulated.
- **Queen Vashti** - She stands up to Xerxes and refuses his request. She is removed as queen. Xerxes needs a new queen.
- **Esther** - A Jewish orphan raised by Mordecai (cousin) who becomes queen of Persia. God uses her bold step of faith to save His people.
- **Mordecai** - Esther's cousin and guardian. He refuses to bow to Haman, which triggers the conflict.
- **Haman** - (villain) A high-ranking Persian official who plots to destroy the Jews.

Esther 1:1-4 NIV - *This is what happened during the time of Xerxes, the Xerxes who ruled over 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush: ² At that time King Xerxes reigned from his royal throne in the citadel of Susa, ³ and in the third year of his reign he gave a banquet for all his nobles and officials. The military leaders of Persia and Media, the princes, and the nobles of the provinces were present.*

⁴ For a full 180 days he displayed the vast wealth of his kingdom and the splendor and glory of his majesty.

- Even when it seems like God is silent, He is ALWAYS working.

Esther 3:1-2 NIV

Esther 3:5-6 NIV

Esther 4:14-16 NIV - *For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?*

¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

- God can use one bold step of faith to advance His Kingdom.
- You must be willing to step out of the shadows and put your, "Yes" on the table.
- God can use one bold step of faith to impact generations.

Psalm 102:18 NIV - *Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord...*

Romans 16:20 NIV - *The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.*

Who is called to be baptized? If you have trusted in Christ and:

- have never been baptized.
- were sprinkled or christened.
- your "baptism" did not follow your personal decision to follow Christ.