

Eternal PERSPECTIVE *Esther*

BIBLE TEXT | ESTHER 10:1-3

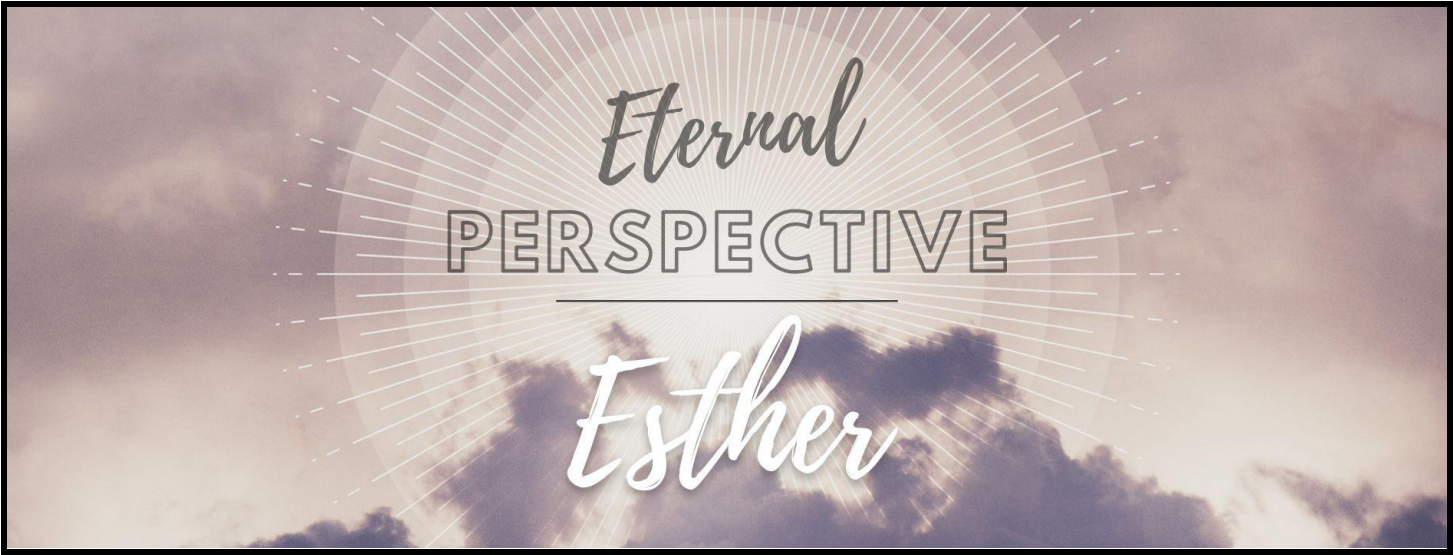
1 King Ahasuerus imposed tax on the land and on the coastlands of the sea. **2** And all the acts of his power and might, and the full account of the high honor of Mordecai, to which the king advanced him, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia? **3** For Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Ahasuerus, and he was great among the Jews and popular with the multitude of his brothers, for he sought the welfare of his people and spoke peace to all his people.

DEVOTIONAL FOR ESTHER 10:1-3

AUTHOR: BILLY VENABLE

Becoming a parent and raising children has been both one of the greatest joys and challenges in my life. As parents, we want the best for our children. However, we must also learn to allow them to develop the ability to make decisions for themselves. As they grow into their teen or early adult years, they will often feel they are ready for many things, but as wiser, more experienced adults we know they are not always ready, and they need to wait before they are given the things they want to have or want to do. In these situations, we encourage them to be patient and trust that we want them to have the best possible future life.

As we wrap up the book of Esther, we find Mordecai receiving high honors and being elevated to second in rank only to the king himself. Working through King Ahasuerus, God blesses Mordecai after showing faithfulness through great adversity. As we read through the events unfolding in Esther, I was reminded of the events that occurred to Joseph in Genesis 37. Just as the actions of Joseph's brother were meant for evil, Haman the Agagite had an evil plan to kill his rival Mordecai and all the Jewish people. What Haman meant for evil, God was able to use for His purpose and His good (Genesis 50:20). In both of these cases, Mordecai and Joseph had no understanding of God's master plan for their lives, but their faithfulness to God through adversity allowed them to fulfill God's purpose.



Eternal PERSPECTIVE --- *Esther*

As the children of God, He wishes to bless us in many ways in our lives. However, our Christian walk does not deliver us from adversity, but God is faithful to see us through our struggles and challenges. Like our own children, we must learn to be patient and faithful to God through adversity.

Questions:

1. Do you struggle to trust God through adversity? God is faithful to deliver you through all troubles. Remember that your trouble and trials are temporary (Psalm 34:19).
2. Do you take your problems to God in prayer? (Philippians 4:6-7)
3. Do you trust that God has plans for your future? (Jeremiah 29:11)