

**BORN FOR SUCH A TIME**  
**ESTHER 4:14 / 7-1-18 / P.M.**

**I. ESTHER'S LIFE.**

- A. Her name is derived from the Persian word “aster” meaning “star”. “Hadassah” is the Hebrew version of this Persian word also meaning “star”.
1. She is from the Southern tribe of Benjamin.
  2. She was an orphan and was raised by a cousin or possibly uncle named Mordecai—2:5-7.
- B. King Xerxes also called Ahasuerus, deposed Queen Vashti because she embarrassed him at a royal banquet—1:19-20.
1. In order to replace the queen a beauty contest was held and Esther was entered in it—2:8-9.
  2. Mordecai advised her not to reveal that she was a Jew—2:10.
  3. Esther was chosen by the King as his next queen—2:16-17.
- C. Mordecai saved the King from an assassination plot—2:21-23.
1. Haman, a Persian official, was honored by the King for some reason. The King ordered that everyone should bow to Haman whenever he passed by—3:1-2a.
  2. For some unknown reason, Mordecai refused to bow to Haman—3:2b.
  3. Haman plotted to not only kill Mordecai for this insult, but all the Jews—3:5-6.
  4. Adding to Haman’s hatred of Mordecai he was forced to parade Mordecai through the city after the King learned it was he who saved him from the assassination plot—6:1-3, 11.
  5. Haman tricked the King into ordering all the Jews should be killed—4:14.
  6. Mordecai urged Esther to use her position as queen to save herself and all the Jews—4:14.
  7. Esther revealed to the King that if his edict to kill the Jews was carried out then she would be killed too. Haman’s plot was spoiled—7:3-6.
  8. Ironically, Haman was hung on the gallows he had built for Mordecai—7:9-10.

9. Because the King's edict once given could never be rescinded, he ordered the Jews be warned about the edict and allowed to defend themselves, which they successfully did—9:1-4.
10. The book of Esther is read every year by Jews at the Feast of Purim, which celebrates the Jews deliverance from Haman's plot.

## II. ESTHER'S LESSONS.

1. God has a plan for our life—4:14.
2. God provides guidance to those who seek it—4:15-16a.
3. It takes courage to follow God's plans—4:16.
4. God uses everything and everyone for His purpose.
5. She asked for the prayers of others—4:16.
6. She did everything she could and left the rest up to God—4:16—**"If I perish, I perish"**.