

Women of the Bible-Esther

Orlando Bible Students Special Study

Sunday September 21, 2014

General References: Book of Esther; Meggison Notes p. 192; Expanded Biblical Comments; R.4900

1. The story of Esther begins with the events surrounding the reign of King Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia. What circumstances led to Vashti being removed as his queen? Esther 1:1-22
2. What does the name Esther mean? What was her Hebrew name? Describe the type of character she had? R4900; Esther 2:10,20
3. Who was Mordecai, and what role did he play in the life of Esther, and her becoming the queen? Esther 2:5-17 How did Mordecai prevent the king from falling by the hands of Bigthan and Teresh? Esther 2:21-23
4. Following the incident at the gate of the palace, the king promoted Haman to a high position over all of the other princes. Mordecai refuse to bow down to him as the others did. The king was then persuaded by Haman to make a decree, what was this decree? Esther 3:5-15
5. Mordecai's reaction to King Ahasuerus decree was to rent his clothes and to go to the palace gate. What was Esther's reaction to this decree that was made by her king? Esther 4:16 What was she willing to risk to approach the king? Esther 4:11-17;
6. When Esther went to visit the king, what was his reaction to her coming unannounced? Esther 5:1-8; Compare this with Haman's reaction. Esther 5:11-14;
7. Following the two banquets given by Queen Esther, how did she answer the king's request, "What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee, even to half of the kingdom" Esther 5:7,8;
8. What was the actual intent or content of the petition that Esther made to her king? Esther 7:3,4. What then transpired concerning Haman, Mordecai, and Esther? Esther 6:1-14; 7:9,10; (the king's ring, golden scepter, king's new decree, the vengeance) When and why was the feast of Purim executed? Esther 9:20-22,29
9. What lesson can we learn from the experiences of Esther? Hint: His providential care. Psalm 145:20; Prov. 31:9; I Sam. 15:1, 22; Rom. 11:25-32; R.3656
10. Is there any significance in the names Ahasuerus, Vashti, Esther, Mordecai, and Haman? See Meggison's notes p. 192; Expanded Bible Comments/Bible Students Manual; R.4018