

Making the Grace of God a Family Affair

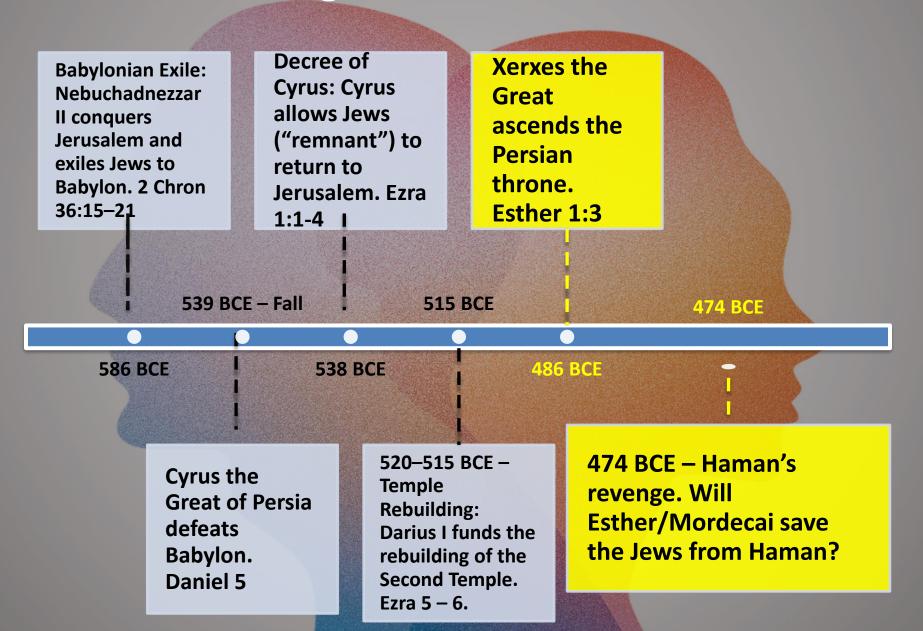
Esther 5 & 6





Xerxes the Great (485-465 BC) "Toxic Masculinity"

# Chronological Historical Timeline



#### Storyline:

- A. Mordecai refuses to kneel to Haman. V3:2
- B. Haman exacts revenge by a plan to kill all Jews in Persia. V3:10; 3/7/473BC
- C. Mordecai involves
  Queen Esther
  ("silent" Jew) as the
  means to rescue the
  Jews. V 4:14.
- D. Queen Esther fast for me for 3 days; and I will go to King Xerxes. V4:15-17



1. The crisis was made a "family thing," and an appointed time was chosen for Esther to put her faith into action! V4:14-5:1-8

### A. Family thing:

- 1. Mordecai.
- 2. Esther, her maids.
- B. They knew whose they were.
  - 1. V4:14
  - 2. Gal 3:27-29
- C. They were desperate for a movement of God's Spirit at the appointed hour.

## The "Esther Plan":

- A. Mordecai/Esther people were told.
- B. Spiritual first.
- C. Had a plan.
- D. Agreed on the "hour of decision."
- E. Esther surrendered her life in obedience to the hands of Almighty God.

- 2. What we believe about God and ourselves is essential to receiving God's grace for our moment of need.
  - A. Esther drew on God's grace when she believed in herself and her beauty: 4:14
    - V2:7, "This man (Mordecai) had a very beautiful and lovely young cousin...
    - V5:1, "... She put on her royal robes and entered ..."
  - B. God gave His favor.
    - V2:9, "Hegai was very impressed w Esther ... he ordered a special menu for her and provided her w beauty treatments. He assigned her 7 maidens..."
    - V5:2, "... he held out the gold scepter to her...."
  - C. Esther's trust was in God, not in herself.

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 16 "Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then, though it is against the law, *I will go in* to see the king. If I must die, I must die." (Est. 4:15-16 NLT)

 How will Esther lead through the crisis for all the Jews of Persia?



**Queen Esther** 

- 3. We ask ... we receive. We seek... we find. We knock.... doors are opened.
- A. Luke 11:9-13. Keep on...
- B. Remember the Feast of Purim celebrates God's saving of the Jews in Persia. Esther 9:20 (March 13-14, 2025)
- C. It is not a time to be silent.
  - Every time someone comes to Jesus by faith, we are reminded that just like God saved the Jews:
  - Jesus Christ saves us from death for the wages of our sin is death!

## Call to Action.

- A. Memorize Esther 4:14. As you do, allow the passage to be a question the Holy Spirit asks you in your life.
- B. Do you see yourself "drawing on the grace of God" as you pray? How can you "reframe" the way you think?
- C. Is your family/friend-group praying and fasting together? Why not put the "Esther Plan" into effect today?



Mordecai (Esther's "adoptive father")