

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS Pt. 2
(Esther 4:13-17)

- Can 1 person make a difference in life? Do you have a sense of purpose and destiny for your life?

A. Act I - Let's Understand the PRIMARY FACTORS that LED to the DETHRONING of QUEEN VASHTI. (1:1-22)

B. Act II - Let's Understand the PROVIDENTIAL PROCESS that LED to the DECIDING on QUEEN ESTHER. (2:1-18)

C. Act III – Let's Understand the PERSONAL PLOT by HAMAN to DESTROY TOTALLY the JEWS. (2:19-3:15)

D. Act IV – Let's Understand the PERSONAL CONVICTION of ESTHER to DECISIVELY INTERCEDE for the JEWS. (4:1-17)

1. Act IV begins with underscoring Mordecai's public demonstration of grief. (4:1-3)

2. Act IV continues with Esther's initial hesitation to Mordecai's public display of grief. (4:4-9)

3. Act IV then highlights Mordecai's confrontation of Esther's reluctance. (4:10-14)

- What obstacles did Esther face in fulfilling Mordecai's command? (4:10-12)
 - a) Legally? (4:11a)
 - b) Personally? (4:11b)
 - c) Functionally? (4:11)
- What was Mordecai's conviction and counsel regarding Esther's hesitations? Esther had 3 options:
And Mordecai told *them* to answer Esther:
 - 1) "Do not think in your heart that ___ will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews.
 - 2) "For if you remain completely _____ at this time, relief and deliverance _____ for the Jews from another _____, but you and your father's house _____ perish.
 - 3) Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for _____" (4:13-14)

4. Act IV concludes with Esther's decisive resolution to trust the Lord and to do what she could do. (4:15-17)

- Who did Esther solicit for support in this?

- What did Esther determine would be the course of action she would take? (4:15-16a)
- Did she understand clearly the decision she was making & potential outcome in doing this? (4:16b)
- How did Mordecai then respond? How was this a reversal of the past (4:17)
- What can we learn from this?
 - 1) That God has divine _____ that He is providentially accomplishing in this world.
 - 2) That God usually uses _____, such as people, to accomplish His purposes.
 - 4) That if you are _____ to be _____ or be useable, God will seek to use _____ to fulfill His plans, though you will lose the present opportunity and future potential reward.

- Ephesians 5:15-18

15 (You) See then that you walk circumspectly,

- not as fools
but

- as wise,
16

- redeeming the time,
-- because the days are evil.

17 Therefore

(you) do not be unwise,

but

(you) understand what the will of the Lord is.

18 And

(you) do not be drunk with wine,

- in which is dissipation;
but

(you) be filled with the Spirit.