

LOSING HOPE – NEEDING GRACE

2/2/2020

4<sup>th</sup> message: **When God is not Seen**

Text: Various

Theme: God orchestrates grace to deliver the sinner.

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Before we go deeper into the book of Esther I would like us to consider the events beforehand. We often think ungodly men like Ahasuerus are winning

### I. The fall of the sinner

#### A. The fall of the Northern Kingdom (Israel in 2 Kings 17:7-23)

Because of sin the Northern Kingdom is taken captive by Assyria in 722 BC

#### B. The fall of the Southern Kingdom (Judah in 2 Kings 25)

Because of sin the Southern Kingdom is taken captive by Babylon in 586 BC

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**Jer 26:4-9** “Then will I make this house like Shiloh”

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### II. The rise of the fallen sinner (grace in Isaiah 44:23-28)

✠ So, why would God ever raise up Zerubbabel, Ezra, Nehemiah, & ESTHER to deliver these people from extinction?

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**1 Timothy 1:15** This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

**16** Howbeit **for this cause I obtained mercy**, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

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