

I. ESTHER TAKES UP HER CROSS (5:1f; see 4:8f; Lk.9:23,24)

- A. THE OPPRESSION OF THE WORLD** (c.1-3; see 1Jn.3:13; Acts 14:22)
- B. THE AUDACITY OF HOPE** (4:1f,16; see Ps.146:3f; Rom.4:18; Heb.11:1f)
- C. WHILE PRAYING...** (5:1f; see Dan.9:20f,23; Lk.3:21f)
- D. HUMBLE PETITION: ROBES, STANDING, PROTOCOL** (5:1; 4,8 /Mt6:9; Phil.4:6,7; Jn16:23; Heb10:19f)
- E. FAVOR: SCEPTER EXTENDED AND TOUCHED** (5:2; see 2:17; 9,15)
- F. ABUNDANCE: TO HALF OF THE KINGDOM** (5:3,6; 7:2; see Mk.6:23)
- G. URGENCY: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE** (5:5; see 6:14; 2Kngs.19:35; Lk.18:8; 2Th.2:8; Rev.20:9)

II. THE GOLDEN SCEPTER (5:2)

- A. AN IMPORTANT DETAIL** (5:2; 4:11; 8:4; see Dt.19:15; Mt.18:16)
- B. SCEPTER: KINETIC POWER & AUTHORITY** (5:1,2; see Gen.49:10(Ps.60:7); Num.24:17; Ps.46:6(Heb.1:8); 110:2; see Mt.26:64; 28:18; Acts 2:33f)
- C. GOLDEN: SUPREME POWER & AUTHORITY** (5:2; 4:11; 8:4; see 1:1f; see Ex.25:3f; Rev.21:18f; e.g., Olympic medals; see EzR.7:12; Dan.2:37f,44; Eph.1:20f; Col.1:15; Rev.19:16)
- D. VICTORY: ALL ENEMIES ON EVERY SIDE** (1:1f; 2Sam7:1; Ps2:8; 110:2 /Mt4:1f; 1Pt2:24; Acts2:24)
- E. CROSS: IRONIC ICONIC VICTORY** (1:1f; see Phil.2:5-11 with 1Cor.1:18f,24; Gal.6:14; Eph.2:16)

III. TOUCH THE GOLDEN SCEPTER! (5:2)

- A. UNBELIEVER: NO ACCESS TO THE KING** (4:11a; see Eph.2:1f,11f)
- B. BELIEVER: NOT SUMMONED IN A LONG TIME** (4:11b; see Ps.13:1f; 89:46f; Habb.1:2f; Rev.6:10)
- C. NOTHING TO LOSE; EVERYTHING TO GAIN** (4:13/11; see Lk.9:24)
- D. PREPARE WITH FASTING & PRAYER** (4:16; see Acts 9:9f; 22:16; see Neh.1:4f; Dan.9:3f; Acts 13:3; 14:23)
- E. WHILE YOU ARE PRAYING...** (5:1f; see Dan.9:20f,23; Lk.3:21f; Acts 9:9f)
- F. PUT ON YOUR ROYAL ROBES: CLOTHE YOURSELF WITH CHRIST** (5:1; see Gal.3:27; see Rom.13:14; Col.3:10f)
- G. STAND: WAIT FOR THE KING TO TAKE INITIATIVE** (5:1; see Ps.39:7; 62:5; 130:5; Rom.8:23f)
- H. BY GRACE ALONE: HE WILL EXTEND TO YOU THE GOLDEN SCEPTER!** (5:2; see Mt.11:28; Jn.6:37; Rom.10:8f; see Est.2:17; 5:2; Lk.11:1f; Eph.5:25f; Rom.8:32)
- I. DRAW NEAR AND TOUCH THE GOLDEN SCEPTER!** (5:2b; see Mk.1:15; 5:28f; 6:56; see 1Cor.11:23f)
- J. MAKE YOUR REQUESTS KNOWN TO HIM!** (5:3,etc; see Phil.4:6; Eph3:20f; Rom8:32; also Est5:6; Jn.6:53f)