



International Fellowship  
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BLESSING ISRAEL®

## You are Called for Such a Time as This!

***Esther 4:14: “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”***

The unknown author of the book of Esther was most likely a Jew very familiar with the royal Persian court. The detailed descriptions of court life and traditions, as well as the events that occurred in the book, point to an eyewitness author. Because the perspective was pro-Jewish, scholars believe that he was a Jew writing for the remnant that had returned to Judah under Zerubbabel. Some have suggested Mordecai himself was the author.

The book is named for the “star” of the story, a young Jewish girl named Hadassah who was taken from her guardian, Mordecai, and forced to compete for the affection of the king. This unlikely contestant for a beauty pageant was crowned queen of Persia and renamed Esther, meaning “star.”



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Esther is the only book in the Bible that does not mention the name of God. But that is not to say that God was absent. His presence permeates much of the story, as though He were behind the scenes **coordinating** “**coincidences**” and **circumstances** to make His will happen. Haman, the king’s evil second-in-command, was a descendant of Agag, king of the Amalekites, who were ancient enemies of God's people. He cast the lot, called *pur*, in order to determine the day that the Jews would be exterminated. The feast of *Purim*, still celebrated by Jews today, commemorates the Jews’ deliverance from Haman’s plot.

A great theme shines through the story. The sovereignty and faithfulness of God permeate each scene. The book of Esther tells us that nothing is truly coincidental. God’s sovereignty is best summarized in Mordecai’s exhortation to Esther: **“And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”** (Esther 4:14).

When events seemed out of control to Esther and Mordecai, when the king dictated ruin for their people, when evil was poised to triumph . . . God was at work.

- He worked through their dark days (Esther was taken to the harem [2:1–16]),



- their faithful obedience (Esther risked her life before the king [5:1–3]), and
- their victories (Esther revealed Haman’s plot and the Jews’ destruction of their enemies [7–9]).

This message is clear: God is sovereign even when life doesn’t make sense. Our God is always on the scene and up to something good . . .

- Joseph
- David
- Rahab
- Gideon
- Moses

God is also the great Promise Keeper. Mordecai said to Esther:

***"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish."*** Mordecai’s words reflected his faith that God would honor His eternal covenant with Abraham and David.

Currently, there are reports of the rise in anti-Semitism in our nation.

**Psalm 122:6 tells us, “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ‘May those who love you be secure.’”** We as believers have a biblical responsibility to pray for the peace of Israel, give to bless Israel, and speak up for Israel,



by spreading the word to those in your sphere of influence about the current plight of Jewish people across the globe. **Isaiah 62:1,6–7 tells us, “For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem’s sake I will not remain quiet.”**

Rabbi Joachim Prinz once stated **“...the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence.”**

**The call of Abram in Genesis 12:1–3 says, “<sup>1</sup>The Lord had said to Abram, ‘Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup>“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”**

According to Isaiah 58, we are called to provide clothing for the naked, shelter for the homeless and food for the hungry. So, it is my heart cry that from within the consciousness of the churches in America and the world, we will hear the clarion sound that declares: **“For such a time as this, we are called to impact the world and build bridges between our two great faith communities and be a beacon of light that is . . . BLESSING ISRAEL!”**

