

CHOICES

WHY EVERY DECISION YOU MAKE MATTERS

Pastor Rich Wilkerson, Sr. / October 25, 2020

Decisiveness: Yes or No! The Story of Esther Part 4

Esther 2:7-11 - Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

⁸ When the king's order and edict had been proclaimed, many young women were brought to the citadel of Susa and put under the care of Hegai. Esther also was taken to the king's palace and entrusted to Hegai, who had charge of the harem.

⁹ She pleased him and won his favor. Immediately he provided her with her beauty treatments and special food. He assigned to her seven female attendants selected from the king's palace and moved her and her attendants into the best place in the harem.

¹⁰ Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so. ¹¹ Every day he walked back and forth near the courtyard of the harem to find out how Esther was and what was happening to her.

THE LAST 4 BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT TIMELINE:

ESTHER → **EZRA** → **NEHEMIAH** → **MALACHI**
478-472 BC 458 BC 445 BC 430 BC

Many theologians believe that Malachi is Ezra

Esther WILLFULLY joined the team of young women who would make up The King's Harem.

Esther 2:8,9a - When the king's order and edict had been proclaimed, many young women were brought to the Citadel of Susa and put under the care of Hegai. Esther also was taken to the King's Palace and entrusted to Hegai, who had charge of the harem. She pleased him and won his favor.

Philippians 2:3 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

1 Peter 2:17 - Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

ESTHER said "YES, I will help my Jewish people, after being persuaded by her Uncle Mordecai."

In **Esther 4:14** Mordecai said... "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?"

Esther 4:15,16 - Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. — I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the King, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

Acts 26:28 - Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"

Esther said ... "YES, I will use WISDOM to bring the wicked Haman down"