

P.M. OUTLINE  
9/10/2017

## THE BOOK OF ESTHER: GOD'S PROVIDENCE

**Chapter 1** - (v1) "in the days of **Ahasuerus**" - king of Persia-Media, 485 – 464 BC, aka Xerxes. Ahasuerus hosts a party (7 day feasting and drinking) for all the nobles and princes of the land. (v10-12) He requests **Queen Vashti** be brought in to display her beauty. She refuses. A decree goes out that she will never be brought before his presence, banished. (v19)

**Chapter 2** - (v2-4) A beauty pageant is held to find the next queen. (v5-8) **Mordecai**, Esther's cousin, brought her up in his household, enters **Esther** in the contest. (v17) Esther wins! (v19-23) Mordecai discovers a plot, tells Esther, who tells the king, and the two would-be assassins were hanged, and it was written in the chronicles of the king.

**Chapter 3** - (v1-2) **Haman** is promoted and all are to bow and pay homage to him. Mordecai doesn't. (v6) Haman conspires to destroy Mordecai and all the Jews. (v9) Haman persuades the king to issue a decree to destroy "a certain people" for not keeping the king's law: 13<sup>th</sup> of Adar.

**Chapter 4** - (v1) Mordecai hears about the decree and is sad. Esther hears about Mordecai's sadness. They meet to decide who will go before the king (v11). (v14) "who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" The congregation fasts and prays for her.

**Chapter 5** - Esther is welcomed by the king. She requests the king and Haman come to a banquet. She requests they come to a second banquet tomorrow. (v12) Haman is happy and sad. His wife says to build a gallows to hang Mordecai on and get the king's permission to do so.

**Chapter 6** - the king can't sleep and reads the chronicles (the story in 2:19 – 23). The king asks Haman to suggest what is to be done to a man the king wants to honor. (It's not Haman). Hearing Haman's suggestions, the king says to do that to Mordecai. Now, the 2<sup>nd</sup> banquet.

**Chapter 7** - Esther is asked to make her petition and reveals that someone is trying to kill her and her people. (v5) In anger, the king says, "Who is he?" "It's Haman." The king leaves the room, and Haman remains to beg Esther for his life. The king returns, seeing and thinking that Haman is assaulting Esther, he has Haman hanged on the gallows built for Mordecai.

**Chapter 8** - (v2) Mordecai is promoted. The decree for destroying the Jews on Adar 13<sup>th</sup> cannot be reversed; so, (v11) the king issues a decree for the Jews to defend themselves.

**Chapter 9** - 13th of Adar arrived, (v5) "Jews defeated all their enemies," and (v18 – 32) they celebrated with a feast of Purim (v26). Haman's 10 sons are hanged, too.

**Chapter 10** - it's all written in the chronicles of the king.

**PROVIDENCE:** (Romans 8:28; 1 Corinthians 10:13)