

*For such  
a time as this.*



Esther 1v1 - 2v18

**TWO QUEENS**

**TWO QUEENS**

**Where is God in all this?**



# Context...

- Date – 483BC
- Place – Exile in Persia
- Question – Has God left us?
- Key Characters
  - Mordecai
  - Esther



# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

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# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

**V5:** When these days were over, the king gave a banquet, lasting seven days, in the enclosed garden of the king's palace, for all the people from the least to the greatest who were in the citadel of Susa.

# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

V8: By the king's command each guest was allowed to drink without restriction, for the king instructed all the wine stewards to serve each man what he wished.

FREEDOM?



# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

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*“Be what you want, do what you want,  
consume what you want”*

# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

**V9-10: Queen Vashti** also gave a banquet for the women in the royal palace of King Xerxes.<sup>10</sup> On the seventh day, when King Xerxes was in high spirits from wine, he commanded the seven eunuchs who served him...

# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

**V11:** ...to bring before him Queen Vashti, wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the people and nobles, for she was lovely to look at.

# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

V12: But when the attendants delivered the king's command, Queen Vashti refused to come...



# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

**V12: But when the attendants delivered the king's command, Queen Vashti refused to come...**

... Then the king became furiously and burned with anger.

# 1) The Fall of Queen Vashti

**V19:** Therefore, if it pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media, which cannot be repealed, that Vashti is never again to enter the presence of King Xerxes.

## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

**V1-2:** Later when King Xerxes' fury had subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what he had decreed about her. <sup>2</sup> Then the king's personal attendants proposed, 'Let a search be made for beautiful young virgins for the king.'

## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

**V2:** 'Let a search be made for beautiful young virgins for the king.'



## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

**V5-7:** Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai...

...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.

## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

**V10:** Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so



## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

**V16:** Esther was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence in the tenth month, the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

**V17:** Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favour and approval more than any of the other virgins. So, he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

## 2) The Rise of Queen Esther

4v14: Who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?

# Two Queens or two Kings?

**King Xerxes** – Loud and Lavish but ultimately powerless

**True King** – Quietly at work yet with infinite power at his disposal

# Two Queens or two Kings?

**King Xerxes** – Loud and Lavish but ultimately powerless

**True King** – Quietly at work yet with infinite power at his disposal

*Whose rule would you rather be under?*

