

“Through the Bible: Esther 1-3”

Larry R. Ping II

I. A Great King & Great Parties; A King’s Order Defied (Esther 1)

- A. At the time of king _____, he reigned from _____ to _____, which was comprised of _____ provinces (Est. 1:1).
- B. Est. 1:2-4 explains a great feast hosted by the king. For what purpose was this feast held, who was invited, and how many days long did it last?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- C. Est. 1:5-8 describes another feast hosted by the king. Who was invited this time, and for how many days did it last? _____
- _____
- _____
- D. “Also _____ the queen made a _____ for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus” (Est. 1:9).
- E. What request did the king make of the queen on the seventh day of the feast? Did she comply? How did the king respond to this situation (Est. 1:10-12)?
- _____
- _____
- _____
- F. The king consulted the _____ men about this circumstance (Est. 1:13). The answer was, “Vashti the queen hath not done _____ to the king _____, but also to all the princes, and to all the people that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus” (Est. 1:16). What further allegation was made in Est. 1:17-18? _____
- _____
- _____
- G. It was determined a royal commandment be sent to every resident of the empire. Answer these questions based upon the reading of Est. 1:19-22.
1. Vashti was to come no more before the _____. Her estate was to be given to one _____ then _____.
 2. All _____ shall give _____ to their husbands.
 3. Every man shall bear _____ in his own _____.

II. Search for a New Queen; An Assassination Attempt Averted (Esther 2)

- A. What plan was hatched in Est. 2:1-4 to find a replacement for Vashti?
- _____
- _____
- _____

- B. In Est. 2:5-7, we meet _____, the son of Jair, and _____, his uncle's daughter. The Bible describes her as _____ and _____. Her parents had died, so _____ took her for his own _____.
- C. Esther became part of the group of women from whom a new queen would be selected. She quickly became a favorite of Hegai, "_____ of the _____" (Est. 2:8-9). "He _____ her and her maids unto the _____ place of the house of the women" (Est. 2:9).
- D. What family fact had Esther not shared, at the charge of Mordecai (Est. 2:10)?

- E. Once Esther took her turn to go and meet the king, how did he react (Est. 2:17)?

- F. What plot did Mordecai uncover in Est. 2:21-23? How was this handled?

III. A Refusal to Bow Down; A Plan to Destroy the Jewish People (Esther 3)

- A. "After these things did king Ahasuerus promote _____ the son of Hammedatha the _____, and _____ him, and set his seat above _____ the princes that were with him" (Est. 3:1).
- B. All the king's servants bowed to Haman, except _____. He was asked, "Why transgresses thou the king's _____" (Est. 3:2-3)? How did Haman react to Mordecai's refusal to bow (Est. 3:5)?

- C. Once it was found Mordecai was a Jew, Haman "sought to _____ all the _____ that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of _____" (Est. 3:6).
- D. In the king's presence, what charge did Haman make against the Jews (Est. 3:8)?

- E. "If it please the king, let it be written that they may be _____: and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the _____, to bring it into the king's treasuries" (Est. 3:9).
- F. Postmen sent this message throughout the empire: "to _____, to _____, and to cause to _____, all Jews, both _____ and old, little _____ and _____, in _____ day" (Est. 3:13).
- G. This chapter ends by saying, "the king and Haman sat down to _____; but the city Shushan was _____" (Est. 3:15).

