

This week we will study about Queen Esther and Mordecai and how God used them to save His people from destruction.



# Torchlight

*“The decree that will finally go forth against the remnant people of God will be very similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews. Today the enemies of the true church see in the little company keeping the Sabbath commandment, a Mordecai at the gate... legislators will yield to the demand for Sunday laws.”*

*– Prophets and Kings p. 605*

# Brave Queen Esther



# SUNDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Father in heaven, I want to be a shining light for Jesus.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“But the LORD your God you shall fear;  
and He will deliver you from the hand of all  
your enemies.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

**LET'S READ:**

Esther 1:1–22

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 1:19

“If it pleases the king, let a royal decree go out from him, and let it be recorded in the laws of the Persians and the Medes, so that it will not be altered, that Vashti shall come no more before King Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she.”

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Although Haman was now dead, the decree to kill all the Jews on a certain day was still in force. King Ahasuerus couldn't reverse the decree written by Haman. Once a decree was written in the king's name, and sealed with his special ring, it could never be reversed. Instead, he allowed Esther and Mordecai to write a new decree that allowed the Jews to defend themselves and fight for their lives against their enemies.

So, a new decree was written and sent across the empire. On the day decreed, those who were ready to destroy the Jews were themselves overpowered by the Jews and killed. The ten sons of Haman were slain too.

Also, King Ahasuerus made Mordecai the second most powerful man in all the empire. Everyone now honoured him. When they saw that God had blessed Mordecai, and what had happened to Haman and his family, they were afraid to do anything against him. God faithfully kept the promise He had made in this week's memory verse.

## HOW IS YOUR MEMORY?

Answer the following by writing the number of the correct answer in front of the question.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Who was the king of Persia?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Who disobeyed the king by not coming when commanded?
- \_\_\_\_\_ What was Mordecai's relationship to Esther?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Who wanted to destroy all the Jews in the kingdom?
- \_\_\_\_\_ What did Esther do before going before the king?
- \_\_\_\_\_ What did the king do when Esther came before him uninvited?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Who did Queen Esther invite to her banquets?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Did the king stop the destruction of the Jews?
- \_\_\_\_\_ What position of power was given to Mordecai?

- |                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Cousin               | 6. Queen Vashti       |
| 2. Second most powerful | 7. King Ahasuerus     |
| 3. Haman                | 8. Fasted             |
| 4. Yes                  | 9. The king and Haman |
| 5. Held out his sceptre |                       |



# SABBATH

**LET'S PRAY** Almighty Father in heaven, we praise and worship You, because You are our awesome Creator. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“ \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ your \_\_\_ you \_\_\_  
\_\_\_; and \_\_\_ you  
from the \_\_\_ of all your \_\_\_.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Esther 8:1–9:2

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 8:8

“You yourselves write a decree concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; for whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke.”

## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

After the appointed time in Babylonian captivity, God wanted the Israelites to return to their homeland. He made it possible by working behind the scenes through miraculous decrees made by pagan kings. While some Jews returned to rebuild Jerusalem, most chose to remain in Medo-Persia.

Today's story begins with a proud king who held a lavish seven-day party for all the people of Shushan, the capital of Medo-Persia. The king's name was Xerxes the Great, known as King Ahasuerus in the Bible. After much wine, the king summoned his wife, Queen Vashti, to show off her sparkling crown and outward beauty to his important guests. But, she refused to enter his drunken party. The king was angry and she was dethroned and banished from the castle.

Unfortunately, the king's pride meant that, once sober, he could not change his mind. In contrast, God is slow to anger, compassionate and long suffering. He only ever wants the very best for us and will never take away that which is good for us to have.

## THE PROUD KING'S FEAST THAT WENT WRONG

Use the words in the list below to complete the sentences.

1. Queen \_\_\_\_\_ to come when the king commanded. v12
2. The feast lasted \_\_\_\_\_. V5
3. The king was \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_. v10
4. The king's \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_. V2
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Vashti was \_\_\_\_\_ to behold. V11
6. \_\_\_\_\_ was the \_\_\_\_\_ (capital city). V2
7. When Vashti would not come the \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_. V12

Ahazuerus Queen wine Shushan merry furious seven refused  
Vashti citadel name days beautiful king





# MONDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, I want to be a shining light for You so that I can influence my friends and family for Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“\_\_\_\_\_ the LORD your God you shall fear; and He will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Esther 2:1–23

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 2:17

“The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.”

## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

After another banquet, the king asked Esther to tell him her request. She now knew the time was right to tell the king exactly what Haman was plotting to do against her and her people. The king was furious and Haman was terrified.

Esther used the word “annihilated” when she reported Haman's intentions to the king. “Annihilate” means to destroy utterly, to leave no trace, to completely wipe out. That has been Satan's intention all through the ages. He wants to remove all trace of God's loyal followers from the earth. Before Jesus came he was trying to utterly destroy all Jewish people so Jesus could not be born. This was the bigger story behind Haman's plans. Satan was using him to destroy all Jews to stop the Saviour from coming.

Meanwhile, Haman pleaded with Esther for his own life. But, the king was very angry and ordered Haman to be hung on the gallows he had built for Mordecai. God certainly gave Esther wisdom and turned the situation around.

## “WHO DONE IT!” YOU BE THE DETECTIVE.

Find the listed words in the grid and circle them. Write the remaining letters down to reveal who the enemy was. Then find out which verse the answer comes from in Esther 7.

T	T	H	E	Y	I	A	C	E	D	R	O	M	A	D	ADVERSARY
E	V	E	R	O	N	A	N	O	I	T	I	T	E	P	GALLOWS
R	S	R	A	R	E	D	H	A	M	A	N	R	Y	A	PALACE
R	N	E	B	T	E	V	E	C	A	L	A	P	D	E	AHASUERUS
I	A	H	A	S	U	E	R	U	S	N	K	I	N	G	GARDEN
F	E	T	N	E	Q	R	H	A	R	B	O	N	A	H	PETITION
I	M	S	Q	D	Y	S	T	S	E	U	Q	E	R	I	BANQUET
E	S	E	U	T	H	A	I	W	R	A	T	H	S	W	HAMAN
D	J	S	E	I	C	R	K	N	E	D	R	A	G	E	QUEEN
D	H	A	T	M	A	Y	S	W	O	L	L	A	G	N	DESTROY
															HARBONAH
															REQUEST
															DINE
															KING
															TERRIFIED
															ESTHER
															MORDECAI
															WRATH

Who done it" answer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Esther 7:\_\_\_\_\_





# FRIDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, I want to be amongst Your faithful followers, who inherit the new earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“ \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ your \_\_\_ you \_\_\_  
 \_\_\_; and \_\_\_ you  
 from the hand of all your enemies.”

## THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Esther 7:1–10

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 7:4,6

“For we have been sold, my people and I, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated... And Esther said, ‘The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman!’ So Haman was terrified before the king and queen.”

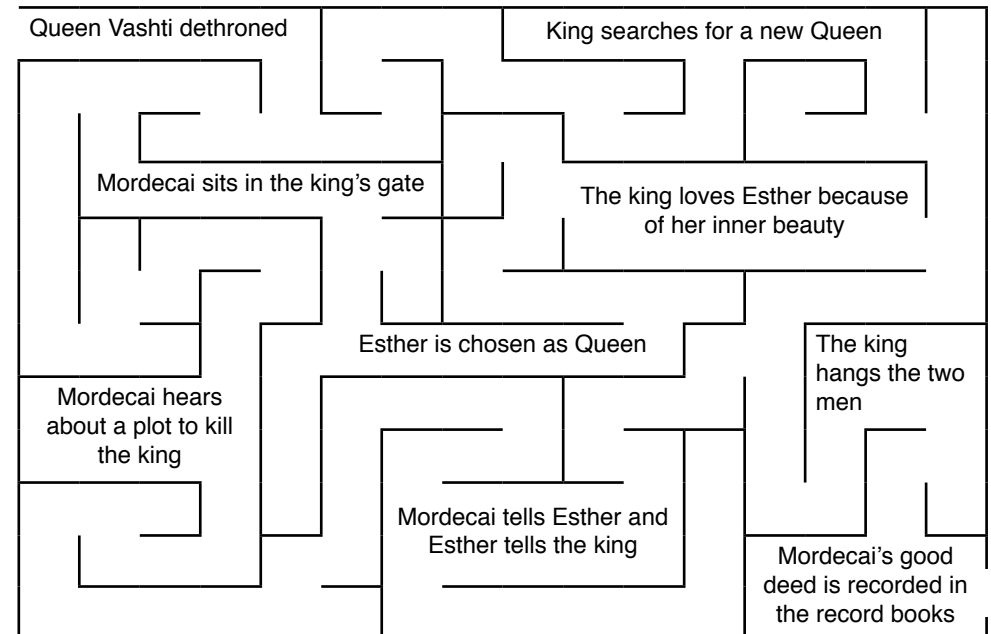
## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

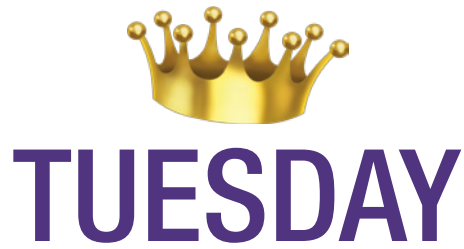
When King Ahasuerus got over his drunken anger at Vashti, he realised he needed to select a new queen. So, he called for all the most beautiful young ladies in the land to come before him. One of them was Esther, or Hadassah, a Jewish orphan who was raised by her cousin, Mordecai, who worked at the palace. Esther did not reveal that she was a Jew and, although she was very beautiful, she won the hearts of the servants of the king because of her inner beauty. Esther also won the favour of the king and was chosen as the new queen.

After Esther was crowned queen, Mordecai found out about a plot to kill the king. So, he told Esther. She told the king who made enquiry and found the report was true. He hanged the two men who plotted against his life and Mordecai's good deed was written in the king's record books, just like our unselfish, good deeds are written in God's Book of Remembrance in Heaven.

## AN A-MAZING STORY!

Follow the maze get to each event mentioned in the story thus far. Be sure to get to each event in order as they happen in the story!





# TUESDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Loving Father in heaven, I want to choose Your word as my standard of faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ your God you shall fear;  
and He will deliver you from the hand of all  
your enemies.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Esther 3:1–15

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 3:13

“And the letters were sent by couriers into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions.”

## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Phew! The king was happy to see Esther in the court. She invited him and Haman to a banquet. Haman was so proud. But, when he was going home Mordecai didn't show him honour. He was so angry he built a gallows on which to hang Mordecai.

That night the king couldn't sleep so he spent time reading through the empire's record books. There he read how Mordecai had warned him of the plot against his life. But, nothing had been done to honour Mordecai. Haman was called in to suggest what should be done to the one the king wished to honour. Haman thought he must be the one so came up with a lavish idea. Then, the king told Haman to go and honour Mordecai, his enemy. How do you think he felt?

After this humiliating event was over, Haman returned home in tears. He was so upset. His wife and friends knew this was the beginning of Haman's fall. Right at this time he was summoned to Queen Esther's second banquet.

## THE PATH OF PRIDE

Find the underlined words in the word find below, then search Proverbs chapter 16 to find the correct verse.

R K Q B D X R F E J  
Y J N G E K A A R M  
B T L C S B T L O Q  
G W H T T I E L F V  
G O H G R Z I C E V  
E O E I U J N U B N  
X N P S C A D X A W  
M S A Y T U H W N B  
G N P P I P R I D E  
D B E F O R E D Y W  
Z D G O N L H Q R I  
K S B R E V O R P L

“Pride goes before  
destruction, And  
a haughty spirit  
before a fall”  
Proverbs 16:\_\_\_\_\_



# THURSDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Lord, I am thankful that I need not fear, because You will deliver me from my enemies. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“ \_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ; and He will deliver you from the  
hand of all your enemies.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Esther 5:1–6:14

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 6:3

“Then the king said, ‘What honour or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?’ And the king’s servants who attended him said, ‘Nothing has been done for him.’”

## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

There was a man at the palace, named Haman, who was promoted by the king. The king had commanded all his servants to bow before Haman. But Mordecai refused to do so. He would not bow to anyone but God. This made Haman very angry so he plotted revenge.

Haman was not content with having Mordecai killed. He wanted to destroy ALL the Jews in the whole empire. He told lies about the Jews to King Ahasuerus and said they all needed to be wiped out. He proposed a decree that would say that on a certain day the Jews were to be killed. The king agreed to Haman’s plan. Haman wrote the message, sealing it with the king’s ring, and had it sent across the whole Medo–Persian Empire.

We know from history that this has happened to Christians throughout the centuries. The Bible also tells us that this would happen to God’s people again one day, just before Jesus returns. But, God has promised to take care of His people if they remain faithful to Him.

## UNSCAMBLE THE TILES!

Unscramble the tiles to reveal a hidden message from God telling you what to do in trouble. Hint: the verse is found in Psalms chapter 50. The first two are done for you

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IN	PON	I W	CAL	OF	ER	TH	DE
AY	LIV						

CAL	L U						





# WEDNESDAY

**LET'S PRAY** Lord, I want to be willing to be used by You. Help me to listen when you call on me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## MEMORY VERSE - 2 KINGS 17:39

“\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ you shall fear; and He will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies.”

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Esther 4:1–17

**KEY TEXT:** Esther 4:14

“For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

## LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

The reaction of all the Jews, including Mordecai, to Haman’s decree is totally understandable, isn’t it? They were going to be killed! When Queen Esther found out why Mordecai was so upset she realised she had to do something. Her life was also in peril. Maybe God made Esther the queen so she would be able to help against Haman’s hatred.

When faced with this life threatening situation Esther did the only thing she could – she turned to God. She asked all the Jews in Shushan, as well as her servants, to fast and pray with her for three days while she asked God for help and guidance. She could not go before the king without being invited, even as the queen. He had not asked to see Esther for a whole month. If he was not pleased with her, he could order her to be killed!

We must learn to turn to God in every situation too. God knows the answers and can guide us in what to do, just like He did for Esther.

## ACTIVITY TITLE

P	Z	E	I	R	O	I	K	S	R	H	U	M	D	Y	F	M	H	A	G	I	T	D
X																					Z	
I																					S	
A																					K	
H																					A	
H																					W	
S																					N	
V																					J	
I																					D	
J																					U	
R																					I	
T																					E	
E																					W	
W																					P	
P																					I	
D																					Q	
I	E	F	N	I	M	D	S	N	B	A	N	T	L	S	G	A	H	F	E	L	S	L

We've hidden a message of surrender in this puzzle.

To find it, you will have to start at the correct letter (which one is it?) and then read every second letter, going in a clockwise direction.

Next, go to Esther chapter 4 and find in which verse this life or death decision is found.

How long will it take you to discover what it is?

“\_\_\_\_\_” Esther 4:\_\_\_\_\_