

The Kingdom

Your Voice In The Kings Court

The Goodness of the King

Ester 1:1-6 NLT

1 These events happened in the days of King Xerxes, who reigned over 127 provinces stretching from India to Ethiopia. 2 At that time Xerxes ruled his empire from his royal throne at the fortress of Susa. 3 In the third year of his reign, he gave a banquet for all his nobles and officials. He invited all the military officers of Persia and Media as well as the princes and nobles of the provinces. 4 The celebration lasted 180 days—a tremendous display of the opulent wealth of his empire and the pomp and splendor of his majesty. 5 When it was all over, the king gave a banquet for all the people, from the greatest to the least, who were in the fortress of Susa. It lasted for seven days and was held in the courtyard of the palace garden. 6 The courtyard was beautifully decorated with white cotton curtains and blue hangings, which were fastened with white linen cords and purple ribbons to silver rings embedded in marble pillars. Gold and silver couches stood on a mosaic pavement of porphyry, marble, mother-of-pearl, and other costly stones.

Division In The Kingdom

Ester 3:5-6 CEV

5 **Haman was furious to learn that Mordecai refused to kneel down and honor him.**
 6 And when he found out that Mordecai was a Jew, he knew that killing only Mordecai was not enough. Every Jew in the whole kingdom had to be killed.

When your voice can't be heard in the Kings Court

- ✓ **Refuse your responsibility to the authority of the King. (Rebellion)**

Esters 1:12 CEV

The king's servants told Queen Vashti what he had said, but **she refused** to go to him

- ✓ **Influence people in the wrong way. (Division)**

Ester 1:17 NLT

Women everywhere will begin to despise their husbands **when they learn** that Queen Vashti has refused to appear before the king.

- ✓ **Allow fear to keep you from the & mercy of the King. (Ignorance)**

Ester 4:11 TLB

All the world knows that anyone, whether man or woman, who goes into the king's inner court without his summons is **doomed to die unless the king holds out his gold scepter;**

Notes: _____

How to have the Ear & Heart of the King.

1. **Pray from a heart of preparation.**

Ester 2:12 NIV

Each virgin had to complete 12 months of beauty care. They used oil of myrrh for six months. And they used perfume and make-up for the other six months. A virgin's turn to go into King Xerxes could come only after a full 12 months had passed.

2. **Pray in the power of a Personal relationship with the King.**

Ester 2:16-17 NLT

16 Esther was taken to King Xerxes at the royal palace in early winter of the seventh year of his reign. 17 And **the king loved Esther more than any of the other young women.**

He was so delighted with her that he set the royal crown on her head

and declared her queen instead of Vashti.

3. **Pray with Purpose & Passion.**

Ester 4:13-16 TLB

14 **If you keep quiet at a time like this,** God will deliver the Jews from some other source, but you and your relatives will die; what's more, **who can say but that God has brought you into the palace for just such a time as this?"**

15 Then Esther said to tell Mordecai:

16 "Go and gather together all the Jews of Shushan and fast for me; **do not eat or drink for three days, night or day;** and I and my maids will do the same; and then, though it is strictly forbidden, **I will go in to see the king; and if I perish, I perish.**

4. **Pray with Persistence.**

Ester 6:1 TLB

That night the king had trouble sleeping and decided to read awhile. **He ordered the historical records of his kingdom from the library,** and in them he came across the item telling how Mordecai had exposed the plot of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, watchmen at the palace gates, who had plotted to assassinate him.

5. **Pray the Promises of the King.**

Ester 9:1 NLT

So on March 7 the **two decrees of the king were put into effect.** On that day, the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but quite the opposite happened.

It was the Jews who **overpowered their enemies.**