



# For Such a Time as This (Esther)

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## 1. Esther becomes queen

- She was one of many candidates
- She exercises wisdom
- She conceals her heritage

<sup>1</sup> King Xerxes promoted Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite over all the other nobles, making him the most powerful official in the empire. <sup>2</sup> All the king’s officials would bow down before Haman to show him respect whenever he passed by, for so the king had commanded. But Mordecai refused to bow down or show him respect. **Esther 3:1-2 NLT**

## 2. Haman plots against the Jews

- He plans to kill them all
- Esther asked to use her influence
- Esther faces a tough choice

<sup>8</sup> Then Haman approached King Xerxes and said, “There is a certain race of people scattered through all the provinces of your empire who keep themselves separate from everyone else. Their laws are different from those of any other people, and they refuse to obey the laws of the king. So it is not in the king’s interest to let them live. <sup>9</sup> If it please the king, issue a decree that they be destroyed, and I will give 10,000 large sacks of silver to the government administrators to be deposited in the royal treasury.” **Esther 3:8-9 NLT**

<sup>13</sup> Dispatches were sent by swift messengers into all the provinces of the empire, giving the order that all Jews— young and old, including women and children—must be killed, slaughtered, and annihilated on a single day. This was scheduled to happen on March 7 of the next year. The property of the Jews would be given to those who killed them. **Esther 3:13 NLT**

<sup>6</sup> So Hathach went out to Mordecai in the square in front of the palace gate. <sup>7</sup> Mordecai told him the whole story, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews. <sup>8</sup> Mordecai gave Hathach a copy of the decree issued in Susa that called for the death of all Jews. He asked Hathach to show it to Esther and explain the situation to her. He also asked Hathach to direct her to go to the king to beg for mercy and plead for her people. **Esther 4:6-8 NLT**

<sup>13</sup> Mordecai sent this reply to Esther: “Don’t think for a moment that because you’re in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. <sup>14</sup> If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?” **Esther 4:13-14 NLT**

### Next Steps:

- Read the book of Esther this week (10 chapters)
- Pray every day this week asking God to show me where he wants me to act
- Say yes to God: \_\_\_\_\_
- Ask God to help me have wisdom in my dealings with people: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_