

Esther

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Ezra and Nehemiah deal with the remnant of Jews that returned to Jerusalem. The book of Esther however deals with the Jews who did not return but rather chose to stay in the land of Persia.

The story of Esther fits between chapters 6 and 7 of the book of Ezra, between the first return led by Zerubbabel and the second return led by Ezra. Esther provides the only biblical account of the Jews who chose to remain in Persia rather than return to Palestine.

I. Name

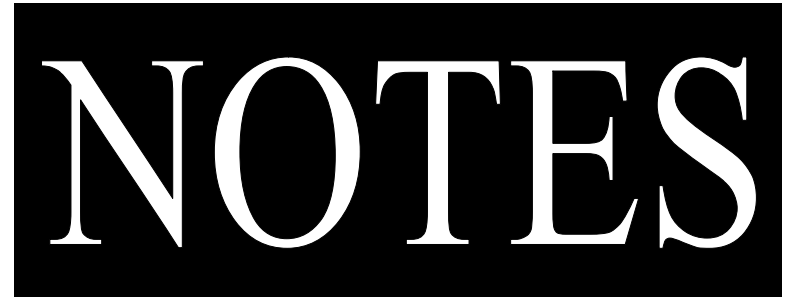
Esther's Hebrew name was "Hadassah" which means _____. Her Persian name was "Ishtar" derived from the word _____. The Greek title for the book is Ester which means _____ and _____.

II. When was the Book of Esther Written

Some have suggested that Mordecai is the author of Esther since he is said to have kept records (9:20). In view of the lack of evidence, however it is probably best to leave the author unnamed.

III. When was the Book of Esther Written

Esther was written around 464 to 435 B.C. some time after the death of Xerxes in 464 B.C. as his reign is said to have ended during this time period. (10:2)



4. In his _____. (3:10, 8:1, 9:10-24)

5. In his _____. (7:9-10)

B. ESTHER PREFIGURES THE _____.

1. In her _____. (2:7)

2. In her _____. (2:17-18)

3. In her _____. (7:1-6)

C. MORDECAI A TYPE OF _____.

1. In his _____. (2:7)

2. In his _____. (2:21-23)

3. In his _____. (3:2-4)

4. In being _____. (3:5)

5. In receiving _____. (6:1-3; 8:1-8)

VII. Seed Thought

Esther 4:16

IV. Why was the Book of Esther Written

A. HISTORICAL PURPOSE

The primary historical purpose of Esther is to give the origin for the celebration of the feast of _____. *Ch 7*

B. DOCTRINAL PURPOSE

1. The primary doctrinal lesson of Esther is the _____ care of God for His own.

2. A second doctrinal truth we learn from Esther is that the proud will be _____ and the humble will be _____.

C. CHRISTOLOGICAL PURPOSE

1. First, Christ is seen in picture and type through _____.

2. Second, Christ is seen in picture and type through _____.

V. What is the Book of Esther About?

A. THE CENTRAL MESSAGE AND STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK OF ESTHER

The main focus of Esther is to teach us the _____ and _____ of God for His people.

Providence means:

Pro “_____”

Video “_____”

*God saw beforehand the situation of His people and they were never outside of His protective care.

B. THE STRUCTURE OF ESTHER

- 1. The _____ to the Jews. *Ch 1-4*
- 2. The _____ of the Jews. *Ch 5-10*

C. THE OUTLINE OF ESTHER

- 1. The _____ of Vashti. *Ch 1*

- 2. The _____ of Esther. *Ch 2*

- 3. The _____ of Haman. *Ch 3*

4. The _____ of Mordecai. *Ch 4*

5. The _____ of Esther. *Ch 5*

6. The _____ of Haman. *Ch 6-7*

7. The _____ of the Jews. *Ch 8*

8. The _____ of the Jews. *Ch 9-10*

VI. Three Important “Types” Taught in Esther

A. HAMAN A PICTURE AND TYPE OF THE _____.

- 1. In his _____. (*7:6*)
- 2. In his _____. (*3:1-3*)
- 3. In his _____. (*5:11*)