

THE Story

Lesson 30 Chapter 20

The Queen of Beauty & Courage p.275-289

1. What may we learn from the characters of King Xerxes, Queen Vashti and Memucan from their story as recorded on pages 275-277?

2. By what steps did Esther become queen? (p.277-279)

Esther's cousin Mordecai made no secret of his Jewish faith, yet advised Esther to remain silent. Why do you think he did so?

What impresses you about Esther's obedience to the counsel of Mordecai even after she became queen?

How did Mordecai affirm his allegiance to the King?

3. On pages 279-280 we are introduced to a man named Haman. What do we learn of Haman's character?

To what was he blind in the schemes that he made?

4. Mordecai and his people mourned Haman's decree, but for Esther the situation required her personal action. (p.281-282)

What is significant about Mordecai's words to Esther..."and who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

What is significant about Esther's words to Mordecai...

"Gather together all the Jews...and fast for me."?

"And if I perish, I perish."?

5. The night after the King received Esther and agreed to her idea to have a banquet for Haman the King **just so happened** to have a sleepless night and his attendants **just so happened** to read the story of how Mordecai saved his life. Who is obviously working "behind the scenes" even though His name is not found in the book of Esther?

6. How do the developments in the story of Haman provide us with a perfect illustration of Psalm 34:15-16 and Proverbs 16:18?

7. After the fall of Haman what did Esther and the Jews still have to do to obtain the deliverance promised by the King? (p.286-288)

8. Why was the Feast of Purim instituted? (p.288-289)

How do you try to encourage and challenge yourself to keep remembering God's mercies to you and your family?

9. As you review this portion of God's inspired Word, what truths do you learn about our humanity....sins to avoid & examples to follow

about our God... His promises to claim & His character to embrace