

Story 7: Queen Esther

Main Bible verse
[Esther 4:16b]

Then I'll go to the king. I'll do it even though it's against the law.
And if I have to die, I'll die."



The whole country was excited at the news that the king was choosing a new queen.

Many beautifully dressed young women came to the palace.

There was an Israeli official named Mordecai at the palace who had a cousin named Esther.

Esther was a beautiful young woman who Mordecai had taken care of as his own daughter ever since her parents had passed away.

Esther took part in the process of selecting the queen.

Young beautifully dressed women stood before the king. Suddenly the king's eyes lit up.

Esther pleased the king and won his favor.

And so, the king placed a crown of jewels on her head. Esther was now the new queen.

The king appointed a man named Haman to be his Prime Minister.

Everyone bowed down to Haman, the new prime minister.

But there was one person who did not bow down to Haman.

That person was Mordecai who had taken care of Queen Esther when she was young.

Mordecai only bowed down to God. Haman was extremely angry.

Haman learned that Mordecai was a man of God from Israel. And so he made a plan.

Haman advised the king that people who do not obey the law of the king should be killed.

Haman made an announcement in the name of the king to the whole country.

"Israelites may be killed at will and their property may be taken."

The Israelites were so shocked that they did not eat. Instead they tore their clothes and wailed bitterly. Mordecai also sat before the palace doors and cried loudly.



Queen Esther was shocked to hear this news.

But Esther was too afraid to try to change the king's order. Worried, she sent her maid out to Mordecai.

Mordecai said to the maid, "Tell her that she was called to be queen for difficult times like this."

The maid told Queen Esther everything Mordecai had said.

Esther answered Mordecai through the maid, "Tell the people of Israel to fast and pray for me for three days.

I will also fast and pray. When this is done, I will go to the king even though it is against the law. If I die, then I die."

Three days later, Queen Esther stood before the king. The King was very pleased to see her.

The king said he'd give Esther half the country if she wanted.

Esther had prepared a feast and asked the king to attend with Haman.

At the Queen's invitation, Haman became even more proud.

The king enjoyed Esther's feast and asked the Queen her wish.

Esther answered the king, "Your majesty, please save me and my people."

In the end Haman was hung on the gallows which he had set up for Mordecai.

When the king learned that Mordecai had saved his life a long time ago, the king appointed Mordecai to be the new prime minister. Queen Esther made another request of the king.

"Let an order be written overruling the order to kill all the people of Israel."

The king did everything Esther wanted. And so not a single Israelite died.

In this way, Esther, who became queen, prayed to God and saved all the people of Israel.



Activity 1.

Answer the following questions.

a. Who is Mordecai's cousin who becomes the new queen?

b. Why did Mordecai refuse to get down on his knees?

c. Read Esther 4:4-17 and answer: What did Mordecai say to Esther after she told him that it would be difficult to see the king without his permission?

● Read and memorize the Bible verse. (Esther 4:16b)

... Then I'll go to the king. I'll do it even though it's against the law. And if I have to die, I'll die."

Activity 2.**Word search: Find these words in the word search:**

Xerxes, Esther, Haman, Mordecai, pole, grace, female attendant, feast, king, Jews, God, bow down, fasting, cousin, Purim

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