

Melbourne Community Church (MCC)

Sunday Service — May 8, 2022

Sermon Notes: “Esther’s Rise per God’s Plan” [Esther 2](#), by Rick Krebs .

Old Testament Reading: [Proverbs 3:1-4](#).

New Testament Reading: [Matthew 10:32-33](#).

What we will learned last week: ([Esther 1](#))

- The story before the story.
- Reading through a Christian world view lens.
- The state is set, the lines are drawn.
- The application for us—today.

What we will learn this week:

- The King’s plan and approach
- Esther’s metamorphosis
- Mordecai’s rise in prominence
- Reflection and application.

In Cinderella, the prince invited women to a ball. In this real-to-life story what did king Xerxes agree to do to replace his prior Queen Vashti who displeased him by rejecting his command to show herself to his drunken friends? ([Esther 2:1-4](#))

We are next introduced to the other main characters in this example of God’s sovereignty, two Jews exiled from Jerusalem. What were there Jewish names? ([Esther 2:5-7](#))

What was Esther’s relationship to Mordecai? ([Esther 2:7](#))

What was one of the characteristics that Esther possessed? ([Esther 2:7](#))

(Over)

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What other character did Esther exhibit while in the harem of Xerxes?
([Esther 2:8-9](#))

Did Mordecai abandon Esther to her fate when she was taken into the king's harem? ([Esther 2:10](#))

What was king Xerxes' opinion of Esther and how did he respond?
([Esther 2:17-18](#))

What other of Esther's character do we see in [Esther 2:10](#) and [Esther 2:19-20](#)?

What is the Hebrew and Babylonian meaning of the name Mordecai?
(see e.g., [Mordecai](#))

What is the meaning of the name Hadassah or Esther? (see e.g., [Hadasah](#); [Esther](#))

The Bible is not just stories, but history. This verse provides a specific time, place, and a relationship to a well attested historical figure in history, [Xerxes](#), ruler of Persia.

Since Mordecai was in close proximity to Esther, he was in a position to overhear a conspiracy. What happened when Mordecai passed this information to Queen Esther. ([Esther 2:21-22](#))

Additional Note

Internet Resources: [The Bible Project: Esther Overview](#);
[Esther Overview Poster](#)

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