



DMV QUEENS MINISTRY NEWS LETTER



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The Making of a Queen:

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Lessons drawn from Queen Esther: **Episode 2**

In our first Episode of Esther's rising to queenship, we looked at the background of Esther. Her names and their meaning. We also looked at the **preparation** aspect that she had to undergo before presenting to the King.

In this second episode we will look at Esther's **FAVOR** and **COURANGE**.** It is important at this point to note that Esther was not coming in to a vacant queenship, she was coming to *displace disobedience*.** “*After Queen Vashti's disobedience, King Ahasuerus sought a new queen among the young women of the kingdom. Esther was not of Persian kingdom she had hidden her identity, a Jewish orphan, was chosen for her beauty and charm.*” From this text we clearly see the disobedience of Queen Vashti opened the door for young Esther to become the Queen. May the Lord open your eyes to see the doors that he has opened for you to rise to prominence. You have what it takes to become what God created you to be. Never look on your circumstances and see *limitations* or *stabling blocks* instead see *stepping stones* to your advancement.



Royal Favor on every turn

Favor doesn't know gender, age, nationality or geographical location it will locate you anyhow anywhere. Esther, a young Jewish woman who had concealed her identity in a foreign land obtained favor with key figures in the Persian Empire.

When the favor of the Lord is upon you, it doesn't matter who knows you and who doesn't, it doesn't matter your age, gender or nationality or where they put you, you will enter

doors you never thought were possible. Understand God has a great plan for you, for he knew you before you were formed in your mothers' womb according to Jeremiah 1:5

Psalm 5:12 says “**Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous, you surround them with your favor as with a shield.** “(NIV)

Favor with Hegai

Esther's journey began when she was taken to the palace and placed under the care of Hegai, the king's eunuch. Hegai, responsible for the king's harem, was *immediately impressed* by Esther's beauty and charm. *He favored* her and provided her with *special* treatment, including luxurious cosmetics and clothing (Esther 2:9). This favor played a significant role in Esther's preparation for meeting the king. *Notice what favor can do for you suddenly.*

(i) Esther pleased Hegai and won his favor.

(ii) Immediately he provided her with her beauty treatments and special food.

(iii) He assigned to her seven female attendants selected from the king's palace.

(iv) He moved her and her attendants into the best place in the harem.

(v) When Esther's turn came to go to the king, she asked for nothing other than what Hegai, suggested.

Favor with King Ahasuerus.

Esther's *beauty* and *charm*, and *intelligence* captivated King Ahasuerus, who *favored* her above all other women in the harem. ***She won his heart***, and he crowned her queen in place of Vashti (Esther 2:17)(NIV). This favor not only elevated Esther's status but also positioned her to make a difference in the lives of her people.

(i) Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, She won his favor and approval more than any of the other virgins. (Proverbs 19:12 “The king’s anger is like a lion's roar, but his favor is like dew on the grass.”)

(ii) So the King set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

1st Samuel 2:8 NIV says "***He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap;he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor.***"....

Though Esther's identity was concealed, God's favor located her and placed her in a position of influence. Circumstances surrounding your life may have shadowed you with shame and have retreated into the hiding, know that God will always locate you and bring you back to a place of honor.

Favor with MORDECAI

Throughout her journey, Esther received guidance and support from her cousin Mordecai, who had taken her in as his own daughter. Mordecai's wisdom and caution helped



Esther navigate the complexities of palace life. His advice to keep her Jewish heritage hidden initially proved crucial in her rise to prominence (Esther 2:10, 20).

Esther's loyalty and actions also gained her Mordecai's favor, as he trusted her and encouraged her to use her position to help their people.



Favor with Others.

Esther's *kindness* and *humility*, *intelligence* and *strategic thinking*, *inner beauty* and *character*, *courage* and *bravery* earned her favor with others in the palace, including the king's attendants and officials. Her ability to build strong relationships, being gracious, and using one's gifts and talents wisely, proved invaluable in her later efforts to save the Jewish people. Esther's rise to prominence teaches us the importance of:

1. ***Humility and kindness***: Esther's gentle nature and willingness to listen earned her favor with those around her.
2. ***Wisdom and guidance***: Mordecai's counsel played a significant role in Esther's success.
3. ***Courage and determination***: Esther's bravery in the face of adversity ultimately saved her people.

Conclusion

Esther's story is a testament to the power of favor and the impact one person can have when given the opportunity. We can learn valuable lessons from her experiences, applying them to our own lives as we seek to build strong relationships and make a difference in the world around us.

COURAGE.

Esther's Courageous Acts.

We can not conclude this episode without exploring Esther's remarkable courage and bravery in approaching King Ahasuerus *uninvited*, risking her life to save her people.

The Crisis.

A decree had been issued by King Ahasuerus, instigated by Haman, to destroy all Jews in the empire (Esther 3:12-15).

Mordecai urged Esther to intervene with the king, but she knew the **risks**: approaching the king without being summoned could result in **death** (Esther 4:11).

Esther's Courageous Decision.

Esther decided to take the **risk**, trusting in God's providence. She:

1. ***Sought divine intervention***: Esther asked Mordecai to gather the Jews to fast and pray for her (Esther 4:16). “*Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.*”
2. ***Prepared herself***: Esther adorned herself in royal attire, demonstrating her confidence and royal status.
3. ***Approached the king***: With trepidation, Esther stood before the king, hoping for a favorable response.

The King's Response.

To Esther's relief, King Ahasuerus extended his golden scepter, indicating his willingness to hear her plea

(Esther 5:2) *When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter”.*

This act of courage and faith opened the door for Esther to reveal the plot and ultimately saved her people.

Lessons from Esther's Courage.

Esther's bravery teaches us:

1. *Faith in divine providence*: Trusting in God's sovereignty and timing.
2. *Courage in adversity*: Taking risks for a greater purpose.
3. *Confidence in identity*: Embracing her royal position and heritage.

Conclusion

Esther's courageous act inspires us to stand up for what is right, even in the face of uncertainty. Her story reminds us that bravery, faith, and determination can lead to remarkable outcomes.



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