



Matthew Zamudio, Pastor, Windsor Park Baptist Church, Desoto Tx. April 19, 2020. All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

Part 1: God Is Working

Esther 2:14 (ESV)-“...relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews...”

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Author is Unknown

Story is set around 480 B.C.

Takes place during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah

Story takes place Susa (in modern day Iran)

Never mentions God in the entire text (10 Chapters)

Jews have been in Exile, though some have returned to Israel

Ahasuerus-(אהשוורוש)-Hebrew, [Arta] Xerxes-(Αρταξέρξης)-Greek

Notes: _____

God’s Providence At Work...

1. IN BAD PEOPLE

Esther 1:1-4 (ESV)-Now in the days of Ahasuerus, the Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia over 127 provinces, in those days when King Ahasuerus sat on his royal throne in Susa,...he gave a feast for all his officials and servants...while he showed the riches of his royal glory and the splendor and pomp of his greatness for many days,

The “Great King” is being used by the “King of Kings.”

2. IN BAD SITUATIONS

Esther 1:7-8 (ESV)- Drinks were served in golden vessels, vessels of different kinds, and the royal wine was lavished according to the bounty of the king. And drinking was according to this edict: “There is no compulsion.” For the king had given orders to all the staff of his palace to do as each man desired.

God does not condone bad situations, but He does use them.

3. IN BAD DECISIONS

Esther 1:10-12 (ESV)-Oh n the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded... the seven eunuchs who served in the presence of King Ahasuerus, to bring Queen Vashti before the king with her royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the princes her beauty, for she was lovely to look at. But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command delivered by the eunuchs. At this the king became enraged, and his anger burned within him.

God sows the freedom of men together to accomplish His will.

4. IN BAD SOLUTIONS

Esther 1:19 (ESV)- If it please the king, let a royal order go out from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes so that it may not be repealed, that Vashti is never again to come before King Ahasuerus. And let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she.

God will turn this mess into a miracle!

Here Is The Point: God’s providence is always at work even when we don’t see it!