

Series: Influencers

Esther: A Woman in the Right
Place at the Right Time



MEDIA

Susa

PERSIA

Persepolis

Ahasuerus: powerful king

Vashti: beautiful queen

Esther: Jewish captive

Mordecai: Esther's relative

Haman: villain

SCENE I, Queen Vashti Dethroned

1:10-11, On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, Abagtha, Zethar and Carkas, 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 display her beauty to the people and the princes, for she was beautiful.

1:12, But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command delivered by the eunuchs. Then the king became very angry and his wrath burned within him.

1:19, “If it pleases the king, let a royal edict be issued by him and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media so that it cannot be repealed, that Vashti may no longer come into the presence of King Ahasuerus, and let the king give her royal position to another who is more worthy than she.

SCENE II, Esther Enthroned

2:10, Esther did not make known her people or her kindred, for Mordecai had instructed her that she should not make them known.

2:21-23, In those days, while Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's officials from those who guarded the door, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. But the plot became known to Mordecai and he told Queen Esther, and Esther informed the king in Mordecai's name. Now when the plot was investigated and found to be so, they were both hanged on a gallows; and it was written in the Book of the Chronicles in the king's presence.

SCENE III, Genocide plot devised

3:5, When Haman saw that Mordecai neither bowed down nor paid homage to him, Haman was filled with rage.

3:6, He had learned of Mordecai's nationality, so he decided it was not enough to lay hands on Mordecai alone. Instead, he looked for a way to destroy all the Jews throughout the entire empire of Ahasuerus.

3:13, Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces to destroy, to kill and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, women and children, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to seize their possessions as plunder.

SCENE IV, Counter move

4:1-2, When Mordecai learned all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city and wailed loudly and bitterly. He went as far as the king's gate, for no one was to enter the king's gate clothed in sackcloth.

4:8, He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict which had been issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show Esther and inform her, and to order her to go in to the king to implore his favor and to plead with him for her people.

4:11, “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that for any man or woman who comes to the king to the inner court who is not summoned, he has but one law, that he be put to death, unless the king holds out to him the golden scepter so that he may live. And I have not been summoned to come to the king for these thirty days.”

4:13-14, Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther,
“Do not imagine that you in the king’s palace can escape
any more than all the Jews. 14 “For if you remain silent
at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews
from another place and you and your father’s house will
perish. And who knows whether you have not attained
royalty for such a time as this?”

4:16, And thus I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.”

7:3-4, Then Queen Esther replied, “If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me as my petition, and my people as my request; for we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed and to be annihilated.

7:5, Then King Ahasuerus asked Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who would presume to do this?”

7:6, Esther said, “A foe and an enemy is this wicked Haman!” Then Haman became terrified before the king and queen.

4:14, “Who knows whether you have not
come to the kingdom for such a time as
this?”

Abraham

David

Ruth

Hannah

Esther