

Esther (486-464 BC the reign of Ahaseurus – i.e., Xerxes)

ESTHER

God's providence among His people during . . .

	Hard Times				Happy Times		
	King's Banquet	Haman's Edict	Queen's Courage	God's Deliverance	Mordecai's Edict	Jews' Rejoicing	Shalom!
	Honoring the kingdom		Urging of Mordecai	Mordecai honored		Enemies destroyed	
	Honoring the new queen		Approaching the king	Haman hanged		Feast established	
	CHAPTERS 1-2	CHAPTER 3	CHAPTERS 4-5	CHAPTERS 6-7	CHAPTER 8	CHAPTER 9	CHAPTER 10
Circumstances	Threat and trust				Deliverance and praise		
Feasts	of the king	of the queen			of the nation		
Dates	483 BC				473 BC		
Theme	The sovereign accomplishment of God's purposes through ordinary people and apparent coincidences						
Key Verses	4:12-16; 10:3						
Christ in Esther	Pictured in Esther, who was an advocate for her people, even willing to die for them						

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Quick Outline	
Esther 1-2	Ahasuerus' Feasts
Esther 3-7	Esther's Banquets
Esther 8-10	Purim Feasts

Esther in a Week		
Thursday	Esther 1-2	Esther Becomes Queen
Friday	Esther 3	Haman Plots to Kill Jews
Saturday	Esther 4	Esther Agrees to Help Her People
Sunday	Esther 5-7	Haman's Hate for Mordecai
Monday	Esther 8	Esther Saves the Jews
Tuesday	Esther 9:1-17	Jews Conquer their Enemies
Wednesday	Esther 9:18-10:3	Purim Inaugurated

Key Verses

Esther 3:14, 4:14-16 (John 15:13)

Theme: "God's plan for Israel cannot be thwarted by those who hate the Jews." - Keith Mathison

"The absence of God's name serves the purpose of illustrating the hidden but providential care of God in spite of outward appearances (Deuteronomy 31:18, cf. v 8)."

Christ in Esther

"The annihilation of the Israelites, especially of the tribe of Judah, would remove all possibility of God's fulfilling his promises (Gen 49:10, 2 Sam 7:12-16, 1 Kings 11:36). Haman acted as the agent of the devil in seeking the extermination of the Jews....Whereas Haman illustrates the forces of evil, Esther exemplifies the powers of good. Like the Savior, Esther put herself in danger of death for her people, but whereas she was wonderfully delivered, He was not. His death was necessary to 'save his people from their sins' (Matt. 1:21)." - Garreth Crossley

Also, see Esther intercede for her people & Rom 8:34, Heb 7:25.