



# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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## Esther 4

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Esther 4.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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### Topics.

- Mordecai tears his clothes and cries out with a loud and bitter cry.
- There is great mourning and lamenting among the Jews in every province.
- When Esther's young women and her eunuchs came and told her.
- Esther is told of the decree to annihilate the Jews and is deeply distressed.
- Mordecai commands Esther to go before the king and beg for her people.
- Esther tells Mordecai to gather all the Jews and hold a fast on her behalf.
- Queen Esther says she will go to the king and if she perishes, she perishes.
- Mordecai does everything as Esther had ordered him.

**INTRODUCTION:** this is a brilliant story of the great faith of a young humble Jewish woman who became Queen of the Persian Empire that has a beautiful twist at the end and that clearly shows that God's sovereign hand is not only upon the Jewish nation, but also upon the secular nations to bring about his eternal plans and purposes. The primary focus of this study is upon the core beauty of the story and not upon the detail of the places or the history of it (see also the introduction to chapter one).

**NOTE:** for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

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## ESTHER 4

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- **Esther 4:1-17:** When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and he cried out with a loud and bitter cry. <sup>2</sup> He went up to the entrance of the king's gate, for no one was allowed to enter the king's gate clothed in sackcloth. <sup>3</sup> And in every province, wherever the king's command and his decree reached, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and many of them lay in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>4</sup> When Esther's young women and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed. She sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth, but he would not accept them. <sup>5</sup> Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what this was and why it was. <sup>6</sup> Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, <sup>7</sup> and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. <sup>8</sup> Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther and explain it to her and command her to go to the king to beg his favor and plead with him on behalf of her people. <sup>9</sup> And Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. <sup>10</sup> Then Esther spoke to Hathach and commanded him to go to Mordecai and say, <sup>11</sup> "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—to be put to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter so that he may live. But as for me, I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days." <sup>12</sup> And they told Mordecai what Esther had said. <sup>13</sup> Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think to yourself that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. <sup>14</sup> For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" <sup>15</sup> Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, <sup>16</sup> "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast

on my behalf, and do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”<sup>17</sup> Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

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## THE STORY CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS CHAPTERS

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Mordecai learned all that had been done (Haman had issued a decree to annihilate the Jews) and he cried with a loud and bitter cry and in every province, wherever the king's command reached there was great mourning and weeping among the Jews. When Queen Esther found out Mordecai and all the Jews were in deep sorrow she was deeply distressed and sent Hathach one of the king's eunuchs to go to Mordecai to learn why it was. Mordecai told Hathach all that had happened concerning the decree to annihilate the Jews and gave him a copy of the written decree issued for their destruction to show to Esther and to command her to beg the king's favour on behalf of her people. Hathach told Esther all that Mordecai had said. Queen Esther again sends Hathach to tell Mordecai that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—to be put to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter so that he may live. Hathach told Mordecai what Esther said. Then Mordecai told him to tell Esther: -

- Do not think to yourself that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. <sup>14</sup>For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this? (Esther 4:13-15).

After hearing these words of Mordecai Esther told Mordecai to gather all the Jews and hold a fast on her behalf, for three days and her young women will fast as they do. Then even though it is against the law, she will go to the king, and if she perishes, she perishes and Mordecai went and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

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**Here is great faith:** Esther is Queen of the kingdom of Persia, the King loves her, she has all the wealth, riches, glory and power of Persia, but she is willing to throw it all away and even her own life to save her people.

Jesus when he was on earth said:

- The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel (John 5:20).
- Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father (John 14:12).

Many think the greater works in these verses refer to greater miracles, but what greater miracles can we do than what Jesus did, he calmed the sea and the storm by speaking to it, he walked on water and created enough food to feed thousands from a handful of bread and fish and raised the dead. The greater works Jesus had in mind are acts of courage and self-sacrifice. The reason they are greater is because there will be multitudes of faithful followers willing to lay their life down for Christ and for their brothers and sisters in Christ.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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