



# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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## Esther 2

(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 2.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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### Topics.

- The king has officers gather beautiful young virgins to his harem.
- Esther was taken to the king's palace.
- The king loved Esther and she won grace and favour in his sight.
- The king sets the royal crown on Esthers head and made her queen.
- Bigthan and Teresh sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.
- Mordecai told Queen Esther of Bigthan and Teresh evil plot.
- Esther told the king of Bigthan and Teresh evil plot, they are hanged.

**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 2

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- **Esther 2:1-23:** After these things, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her.<sup>2</sup> Then the king's young men who attended him said, "Let beautiful young virgins be sought out for the king."<sup>3</sup> And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in Susa the citadel, under custody of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women. Let their cosmetics be given them.<sup>4</sup> And let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This pleased the king, and he did so.<sup>5</sup> Now there was a Jew in Susa the citadel whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, son of Shimei, son of Kish, a Benjaminite,<sup>6</sup> who had been carried away from Jerusalem among the captives carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had carried away.<sup>7</sup> He was bringing up Hadassah, that is Esther, the daughter of his uncle, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at, and when her father and her mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter.<sup>8</sup> So when the king's order and his edict were proclaimed, and when many young women were gathered in Susa the citadel in custody of Hegai, Esther also was taken into the king's palace and put in custody of Hegai, who had charge of the women.<sup>9</sup> And the young woman pleased him and won his favor. And he quickly provided her with her cosmetics and her portion of food, and with seven chosen young women from the king's palace, and advanced her and her young women to the best place in the harem.<sup>10</sup> Esther had not made known her people or kindred, for Mordecai had commanded her not to make it known.<sup>11</sup> And every day Mordecai walked in front of the court of the harem to learn how Esther was and what was happening to her.<sup>12</sup> Now when the turn came for each young woman to go in to King Ahasuerus, after being twelve months under the regulations for the women, since this was the regular period of their beautifying, six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices and ointments for women—<sup>13</sup> when the young woman went in to the king in this way, she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the harem to the king's palace.<sup>14</sup> In the evening she would go in, and in the morning she would return to the second harem in custody of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch, who was in charge of the

concubines. She would not go in to the king again, unless the king delighted in her and she was summoned by name. <sup>15</sup> When the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now Esther was winning favor in the eyes of all who saw her. <sup>16</sup> And when Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign, <sup>17</sup> the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she won grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. <sup>18</sup> Then the king gave a great feast for all his officials and servants; it was Esther's feast. He also granted a remission of taxes to the provinces and gave gifts with royal generosity. <sup>19</sup> Now when the virgins were gathered together the second time, Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate. <sup>20</sup> Esther had not made known her kindred or her people, as Mordecai had commanded her, for Esther obeyed Mordecai just as when she was brought up by him. <sup>21</sup> In those days, as Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. <sup>22</sup> And this came to the knowledge of Mordecai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai. <sup>23</sup> When the affair was investigated and found to be so, the men were both hanged on the gallows. And it was recorded in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.

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## THE STORY CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS CHAPTER

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King Ahasuerus wise men told him to have beautiful young virgins brought to him and let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This idea pleased the king, and he did so. At this time there was a Jew named Mordecai who was raising Esther. Esther had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at so Mordecai took her to the king's harem and she was brought before the king. Esther did not make known that she was a Jew because Mordecai had commanded her not to. Esther won favour in the eyes of all who saw her and when she was taken into the royal palace before the King he loved Esther more than all the women, and she won grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins, so the king set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. Esther still did not make known that her kindred and her people were Jews. A day came when Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate and it was made known to him that two of the king's eunuchs named Bigthan and Teresh sought to lay hands on the king. Mordecai told this to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai and both men were hanged and it was recorded in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.

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**Mordecai:** (a Benjaminite) had been carried away from Jerusalem among the captives Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had carried away. He was raising Esther as his own daughter because her mother and father had died and she was the daughter of his uncle.

**Vashti:** was the Queen who denied the King's command.

**Hegai:** was the king's eunuch who had charge of the young virgins being presented to the king.

**Shaashgaz:** was the king's eunuch, who was in charge of the concubines.

**Bigthan and Teresh:** were two of the king's eunuchs who sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.

**Susa:** is the capitol of the King Ahasuerus Empire, it is in Iran between Ur and Babylon.

**Ethiopia:** is in Africa.

**India:** is on the east boundary of the Persian Empire.

**Ahasuerus:** is also spelt Xerxes and have their setting around 473 BC.

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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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