

The Star

A star does not shine without cost.

In order to radiate light, it must undergo immense pressure and, in the process, consume itself. It burns, sacrificing its own essence, so that others may behold its light. Its brilliance is born through surrender. To be a star is to give of oneself completely.

So it was with Esther, whose very name means “star.”

Her Hebrew name was Hadassah, meaning “myrtle,” a tree that remains close to the earth. Yet, she did not remain rooted in comfort or fear. She rose. She embraced the call to sacrifice. Her courage lit the way for her people, and she became the star she was destined to be.

“And Mordecai had brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle’s daughter, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman was lovely and beautiful. When her father and mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter.” Esther 2:7

Esther could have chosen to remain hidden, to preserve her life. But the star within her was called to shine. And so she chose the way of surrender.

“Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!” Esther 4:16

She gave up her life in order to save others, and in doing so, found it.

“Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.” Daniel 12:3

“He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.”
Matthew 10:39

“Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.” Philippians 2:14-15

Esther became a light in the darkness, a living star in the testimony of faith.