

Day 21

- So, yesterday, we ended with Queen Vashti being stripped of her crown and banished from the king. I am going to take us through the account of Esther, so I can share how God reveals His laws and ways through the natural. We just have to open our eyes, tune our ears to His frequency, and pay close attention. As I said before, God is a talker, communicating with us all the time.

- After sometime, King Ahasuerus began to regret what he had done in banishing his queen, and he ached for her to be restored to him, but because of the law, the king could not call her back after she was banished. For even kings are held to the law.
 - His advisors and nobles suggested to the king, "Let beautiful young virgins be sought for the king; and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather all the beautiful young virgins to Susah the citadel...And let beauty preparations be given them. Then let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." Esther 2:2-4.
 - In the city, lived a young woman who was lovely and beautiful. She was an orphan who lived with her uncle Mordecai, who was a scribe in the palace of the king. She was Jewish, but because of her beauty, she had been rounded up with the other young virgins.
 - To protect her life, her uncle told her not to tell them she was a Jew and to not go by her Hebrew name Hadassah, but to use her gentile name of Esther.
 - All the virgins were put under the care of the king's eunuch Hegai. Esther found favor in the site of Hegai, so he gave her extra beauty treatments, and provided for her seven choice maidservants, and he moved her to the best place in the house of women.
 - Her Uncle Mordecai inquired of her daily through servants, never forgetting his duty and love for her.
 - After 12 months of beauty treatments, as well as etiquette training for each young virgin to know the laws of being in the presence of a king, each woman was brought before the king, to have one night with him, to see if she was to be chosen as the next queen.
 - After being with the king for one night, each woman would then be transferred to the second house of women to be a part of the king's concubine. "She would not go in to the king again unless the king delighted in her and called her by name." Esther 2:14.
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- Side note: Each of these women who were not chosen to be queen, most likely would never be brought before the king or into his bed chamber ever again. Unless, she became pregnant on her one night with the king, she would never have the opportunity to have children, nor be cherished by a loving husband.
 - And none of these women had a choice whether to become part of the king's concubine or not. They were taken as per the pleasure of the king. If they had been in love with another man before being taken, they would most likely never see the man again, not even in the market because they would probably never be allowed to leave the palace unless chosen Queen.
 - So, that is why we call Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and the like, fairytales — they are not even close to the truth of what historically happened. Now, I am sure, in history, there are some exceptions to the rule, and I believe in my heart, Esther and King Ahasuerus are one of those exceptions. Again, because I know the heart of Father God.

- Esther's night finally came, and she listened intently to everything the eunuch Hegai instructed her to do. "Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her." Esther 2:15. Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus in the 7th year of his reign – now, let me point out that the 180 day feast started in his 3rd year. So, he banished Vashti at the end of the 3rd year or the beginning of the 4th. Somewhere, not long after that, all the virgins were rounded up and brought to the palace. Let's say that took 6 months to a year, that puts us at year 5 of his reign, then a year of beauty treatments for all the virgins, now we are in the 6th year of his reign. And in the 7th year, Esther is finally taken into the royal palace...wow!
 - Now, 7 represents the Spirit of God. "This is the number that marks where God is doing something by His Spirit apart from any other source. It is the number that marks His rest and where He rules over all things created. Seven is perfection of Spirit." (Numbers that Preach, Troy A. Brewer). Seven is also the number of completion. As I said before, God is in the details. It is not a coincidence that Esther was taken before the king in the 7th year of his reign. God was making a huge statement!!
 - "The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti." Esther 2:17. Remember, when the Bible says the king loved her, it means he loved her; it isn't an exaggeration.
- Now, I need to share an important piece of this account of Esther because God is setting into motion a plan for escape for what is to come, and I don't want any of us to miss it. Again, the perfect intricacy of God is mind blowing!
- Esther's Uncle Mordecai was sitting within the King's gate, and he witnessed and overheard two of the king's eunuchs plotting to kill the king. He told Queen Esther, and she informed the king, giving Mordecai all the credit. The matter was looked into, found to be accurate, and the two men were hanged on a gallows. This entire account was written in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king. (Esther 2:21-23).
- Okay, I know today's post is a little shorter than others, but the next part is big, important, and we will need to deep dive back into history to fully understand the weightiness of it.
 - I truly hope you have enjoyed learning about the account of Queen Esther so far. I have always loved reading about Esther and God's greatness through the account of her advancement to royal life, for such a time as this...It shows how God will use anyone who is a willing vessel, and it shows how when we give God our whole life, He will use it to change the world, and possibly save an entire nation of people.
 - Until tomorrow, be blessed and encouraged for our God is never tricked, never out smarted, and He ALWAYS has a plan to save His people and establish His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:10).
 - "For the LORD will not cast off His people, Nor will He forsake His inheritance." Psalm 93:14. That is a promise!