

Lessons From the Story of Esther

A Sermon By
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The image is a movie poster for 'The King of Kings'. It features a central figure of Jesus with a beard and long hair, wearing a simple robe, with his arms outstretched. Behind him, several other characters are visible: a young girl with red hair holding a dagger, a woman holding a cat, and several men in traditional attire. The background shows a desert landscape with a sunset sky. The title 'THE KING OF KINGS' is written in large, stylized, golden letters. Below the title, it says 'A Story Told by Charles Dickens' and 'ANGEL' at the bottom.

THE KING OF KINGS

A Story Told by Charles Dickens

ANGEL

Young People

Last Sunday I joined our young people at the movies, after church, to see "King of Kings



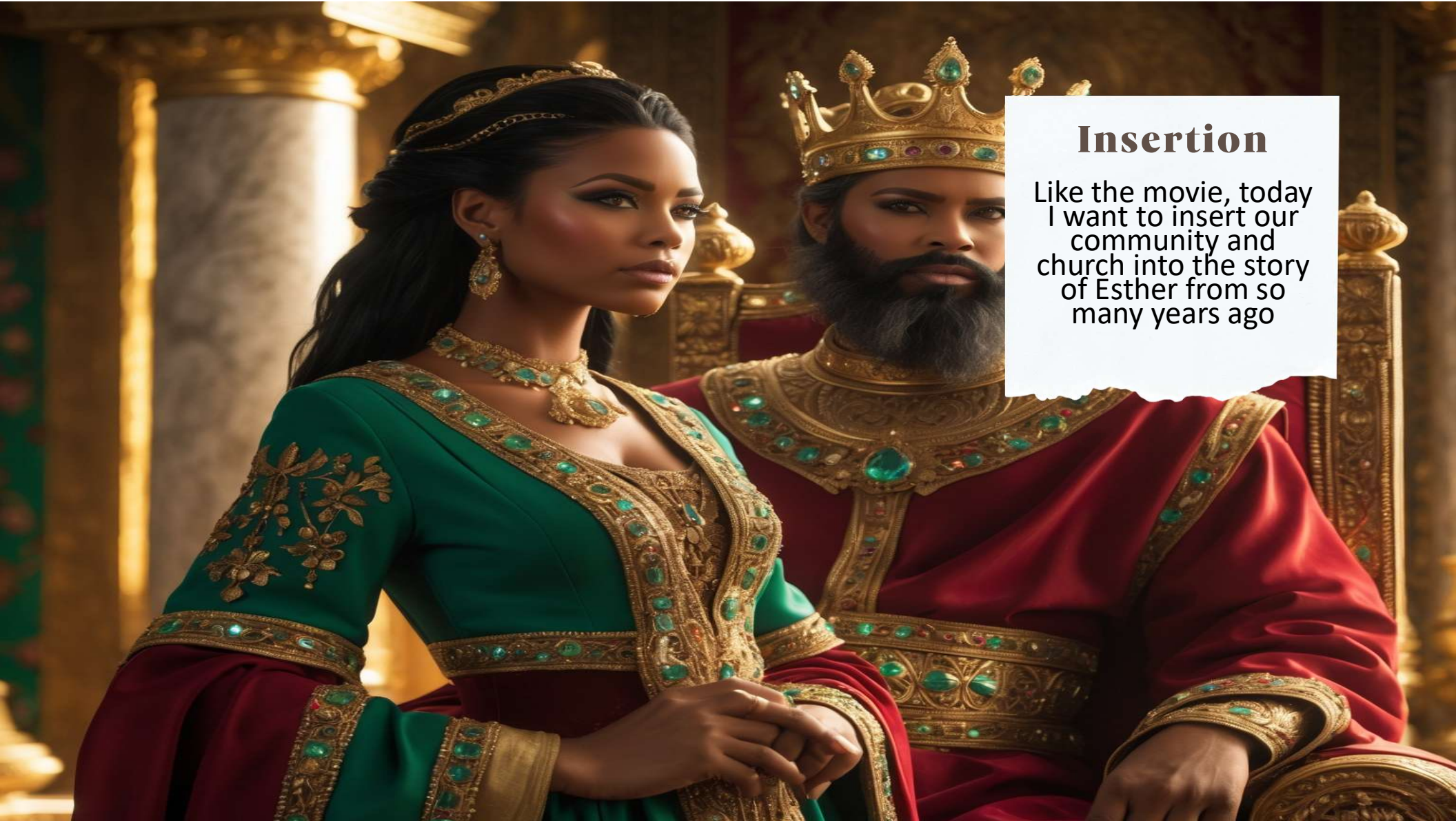
Lesson Learned

The clever approach to the movie was how the producers inserted the characters into the story of Jesus



Esther

Last night we were treated to an amazing production of the Biblical story of Esther by our own Elder Linda Taylor and members of the church



Insertion

Like the movie, today
I want to insert our
community and
church into the story
of Esther from so
many years ago

Book of Esther

The Book of Esther has 10 chapters, 167 verses, and approximately 5,484 words of the 66 books of the Bible it is the 17th book thereof

The Book of Esther

CHAPTER 1

NOW it came to pass in the days of A-has-u-e'-rus, (this is Xerxes) who reigned, ^Rfrom a even unto E-thi-o'-pi-ans, ^Rthree hundred and

to the law; none did compel: for the king had appointed to officers of his house according



Hidden ID

It was her uncle Mordecai that instructed Esther to conceal her identity in order to navigate and manage the challenges of being a minority in a dominant culture



Threat of Destruction

Haman convinces the king to pass a decree that will wipe out the Jewish community in ancient Persia just like we have survived the Middle Passage, slavery and beyond



Memory

Today, the story of Esther is remembered by the Jewish community by its celebration of "Purim" each year as one of their major Holy Days. In like fashion, next month we will celebrate Juneteenth so that we will not forget where the Lord has brought us from



JEWES CELEBRATE PURIM WORLDWIDE



Bishop Ellis Funeral

At the cemetery I watched “Taps” being played while the soldier faced the flag draping the casket. I was told that if the flag is not there a soldier stand at attention but faces the direction from where the music is coming from

