

**UNLEASHING YOUR
PURPOSE:
FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS**

ESTHER 4:14

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ESTHER 4:14 - 17 (NKJV)

14 For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?"

15 Then Esther told *them* to reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "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!"

17 So Mordecai went his way and did according to all that Esther commanded him.

CONTEXT & SETTING

The Setting

- The Persian Empire, specifically the capital city of Susa (modern-day Iran)
- King Xerxes (Ahasuerus) reigns over 127 provinces.

The Unique Feature

- God's name is **never mentioned** in the entire Book of Esther.
- There are only two books in the Bible with this distinction.

THE STORY ARC

King Removes Queen Vashti

Search For A New Queen

Esther Is Chosen as Queen

PURPOSE REDEFINED



What is Purpose?

- Purpose is the reason that something is created or exists.
- It is the intended goal or outcome for which an individual or thing is designed.

WHY IS PURPOSE IMPORTANT?

Purpose is important because it provides **direction, meaning, and fulfillment in life.**

It helps us to understand our **unique talents and abilities** and to use them for the **betterment of ourselves and others.**

It also helps us to **make sense of our experiences** and to **navigate the challenges of life.**

POSITIONED BEFORE PURPOSE

ESTHER 2:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ And the king loved Esther more than any of the other young women. He was so delighted with her that he set the royal crown on her head and declared her queen instead of Vashti.

ESTHER

POSITIONED TO BECOME QUEEN

Esther was chosen out of hundreds, possibly thousands, of beautiful young virgins. She was chosen not only because of her looks, but through humility and grace.

Many times favor is upon us when we haven't done anything to deserve it except to simply show up. She did not have to do anything extra to obtain the king's favor; she just showed up in obedience with the "right stuff".

MORDECAI POSITIONED AT THE GATE ESTHER 2:21 - 22 (NKJV)

²¹ In those days, while Mordecai sat within the king's gate, two of the king's eunuchs, Bigthan and Teresh, doorkeepers, became furious and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. ²² So the matter became known to Mordecai, who told Queen Esther, and Esther informed the king in Mordecai's name.

MORDECAI POSITIONED AT THE GATE

By being positioned at the gate Mordecai hears news of a plot that ultimately leads to his favor with the king (6:3) . This favor not only thwarted the plot on Mordecai's life but God used the very source of his downfall to elevate him.

When God positions you, the enemies favor with man does not trump your favor with God!

God has you right where He wants you!

Purpose unleashes when you say "yes" to being a solution.

Purpose often shows up as:

- **injustice**
- **hurting people**
- **broken systems**
- **problems others ignore**

Saying "yes" requires courage and obedience.

ESTHER 4:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, *he has* but one law: put *all* to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live. Yet I myself have not been called to go in to the king these thirty days.”

THE CONSEQUENCES FOR ESTHER

In the Persian court:

- No one could **enter the king's presence uninvited.**
- The punishment was **death.**
- The only exception was if the king **extended his golden scepter**, signaling mercy.

ESTHER 4:16 (NKJV)

“I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

THAT’S COURAGE!

Saying yes to a problem requires courage!

Esther's decision shows that **purpose often requires obedience and sacrifice.**

She moved from:

- **comfort** (living as queen)
- to **risk** (possibly dying)

“Esther's position gave her access, but fulfilling her purpose required courage.”

GOD'S REWARD

ESTHER 5:2 (NKJV)

² So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that *was* in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter.

This moment shows Esther's faith and courage and God's favor working together.

JOSHUA 1:9 (NKJV)

9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go.”

Fulfilling your purpose requires stepping into discomfort.

If you are not willing to step into discomfort remember, what you won't do another will.

ESTHER 4:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish.



God's Purpose is Guaranteed!

What You Won't Do, Another Will!

Your Participation Is Optional!

IF YOU WON'T - ANOTHER WILL

Saul Lost the Kingdom

Saul disobeyed God's command. Samuel told him, "Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has rejected you as king." God then raised up David.

1 Samuel 15:23; 16:1

The Fruitful Kingdom

Jesus warned that the kingdom would be taken from unfaithful leaders and given to "a people who will produce its fruit."

Matthew 21:43

God is looking for people who are faithful and produce.

Responsibility in God's kingdom requires faithfulness.

Mordecai tells Esther two things at once:

- **God will still deliver His people.**
- **Not only will Esther miss out the opportunity to deliver her people, but her father's house would perish.**

This shows that purpose is both a calling and a responsibility.

Purpose requires patience, preparation, and spiritual dependence on God.

ESTHER 4:16 (NKJV)

“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.

PREPARED BEFORE POSITIONED

ESTHER 2:12 - 13 (NKJV)

¹² Each young woman's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus after she had completed twelve months' preparation, according to the regulations for the women, for thus were the days of their preparation apportioned: six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with perfumes and preparations for beautifying women. ¹³ Thus prepared, each young woman went to the king, and she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the women's quarters to the king's palace.

God often prepares people long before He positions them.

- Joseph
- Moses
- David
- Esther
- Paul
- Jesus

PREPARATION DEVELOPS CHARACTER

In Esther 2:15, Esther asked for nothing other than what Hegai, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the harem, advised.

Preparation is not only about skills or appearance; it is also about **character formation**.

Esther demonstrated humility and wisdom during this period. Her restraint and teachable spirit distinguished her. Preparation teaches us to **listen, learn, and grow before stepping into influence**.

PREPARATION BUILDS FAVOR

Esther 2:9 Esther found favor with Hegai.

Esther 2:15 Esther gained favor with everyone who saw her.

Esther 2:17 The king loved her more than all the others.

Preparation often places people in environments where favor and relationships are built.

Success = Preparation + _____

PREPARATION POSITIONS YOU FOR THE MOMENT ESTHER 4:14b (NKJV)

**Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom
for *such* a time as this?”**

**Esther’s ability to act in that moment was the result of
everything that came beforehand.**

ECCLSIASTES 3:1 (NKJV)

**To everything *there is* a season,
A time for every purpose under heaven:**

Preparation favors success, but success is decided by God.

PROVERBS 21:31

**The horse *is* prepared for the day of battle,
But deliverance *is* of the LORD.**

YOUR PURPOSE IS BIGGER THAN YOU!

- Esther's decision saved **an entire nation.**
- Joseph's dreams saved **an entire nation.**
- David's actions saved **an entire nation.**
- Jesus's sacrifice saved **all nations.**

“YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.”

Your purpose is designed to impact others.

- Have you used your gifts to get others saved?
- Are you walking in your purpose and impacting the kingdom?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY

1. Recognizing God's Positioning:

- Where might God be positioning you right now that you don't fully understand yet?
- Have you ever realized later that God placed you somewhere for a specific reason?
- What situations in your life might be preparation for something greater?

2. Purpose vs. Function:

- What functions or roles are you currently operating in (job, ministry, family, leadership)?
- Do you think those roles are connected to a larger purpose God is revealing?
- Have you ever discovered that your role was only the **platform** for something bigger?

Example Discussion Illustration: A hammer's **function** is to hit nails, but its **purpose** is to connect or dismantle.

3. Identifying Burdens That Reveal Purpose:

- What problems in the world consistently bother or burden you?
- Do you believe God sometimes reveals our calling through the things that deeply move us?
- What issues or needs do you feel drawn to help solve?

4. Courage and Obedience:

- What fears might prevent someone from stepping into their calling?
- Have you ever had a moment where obedience to God required courage?
- What would it look like to trust God even when the outcome is uncertain?

5. Preparation and Process:

- Why do you think God often prepares people long before their purpose becomes clear?
- Can you identify a season in your life that might have been preparation for something else?
- What are some ways God prepares people (skills, character, hardship, mentors)?

6. Timing and Patience:

- Why do you think Esther waited before revealing her request to the king?
- Have you ever experienced a situation where the **right timing** made all the difference?
- How can patience help us make wiser decisions?

Reflection verse: Ecclesiastes 3:1

7. Participation in God's Plan:

- What do you think Mordecai meant when he said deliverance would arise “from another place”?
- Do you believe God's purposes will be accomplished even if people refuse their calling?
- Why do you think God gives people the choice to participate in His work?