In The Kingdom: “For Such A Time As This”

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday September 12th, 2021

Text: Esther 4:14

# Intro

1. Mordecai told Esther, concerning her need to act to save her people, “If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?” (Esther 4:14)
2. *Esther 4:1-9*
   1. Mordecai learned of Haman’s plan to eradicate the Jews *(Est. 3) and* put on sackcloth and ashes and wailed and wept loudly!
   2. Esther sends messenger to find out why and hears what Haman has planned and finds out Mordecai wants her to talk to the king!
3. *Esther 4:11-14* 
   1. Esther reminded Mordecai that anyone that goes to the king not summoned will be put to death unless he holds out his golden scepter. She had not been summoned for 30 days!
   2. Mordecai responded with that she will perish too, despite being queen.
   3. Then he asked, “And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?” (Esther 4:14)
4. *Esther 4:15-17*
   1. Esther told Mordecai she would go after three days of fasting.
   2. She told them to fast, which often included praying, for her for 3 days.
   3. A lesson here for us, when making big decisions, not to leave God out! *(Js. 4:15)*
5. *Esther 5:1-4*
   1. Esther braved the law and entered the king’s throne room. She found favor and touched his outstretched scepter.
   2. The king offered anything, and she invited him and Haman to a banquet!
6. Then from there her plan went into motion to save her people *(Est. 5:5-10:3)*, but it started from the motivation that she was put where she was by God “for such a time as this.”
7. What if we are in the kingdom of Christ with our unique talents and abilities “for such a time as this”?

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1. **Encourager**
   1. Like Barnabas – Acts 4:36-37; 9:26-28
      1. He was a man from Cyprus named Joseph who must have been a man with such a personality that he built people up because the apostles renamed him Barnabas, which means, “Son of Encouragement.”
      2. He took a strained situation, where Saul of Tarsus was trying to join with the disciples at Jerusalem and they were afraid of him, and he brought Saul to the apostles and vouched for him. Saul moved freely among them afterwards!
   2. Col. 4:7-8: Paul said Tychicus was sent to encourage the saints at Colosse.
   3. Encouragement is important – lest we grow weary and become discouraged!
      1. I Thess. 5:11, 14; Heb. 3:13; 10:23-25: We are to encourage one another!
   4. Perhaps you are in the kingdom because you have a gift to build people up – Use it!
2. **Heart of a Servant** 
   1. Like Tabitha (Greek = Dorcas) – Acts 9:36-43 & Phoebe – Rom. 16:1-2
      1. **Tabitha:** She was a woman who was “was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did.”
      2. When she died they brought Peter to bring her back to life – She was missed!
      3. When Peter arrived the widows showed him all that she had made for them.
      4. She was a woman who served others!
      5. **Phoebe:** Paul introduces her as a woman who was a “servant of the church which is at Cenchrea” (City on an isthmus 8 miles from Corinth).
      6. Paul said of her that she was “a helper of many, and of myself as well.”
   2. John 13:12-16: Jesus washed His disciples’ feet as an example; Not of washing feet but of taking on the role of the lowly house servant. An example of servitude to one another!
   3. Gal. 5:13: From love we are to serve one another! (I Pet. 4:9-10)
   4. *It is Christ Whom we truly serve – Col. 3:24; I Jn. 4:15-21(We love God & brethren)*
   5. Phil. 2:3-4: Saints are to “regard one another as more important than yourselves.”
   6. We ought to see the needs of one another and fill them (Js. 2:15-16; I Jn. 3:17-18)!
   7. You may be in the kingdom with an ability to serve God and serve one another – Use it!
3. **Preacher/Teacher to save the lost**
   1. Like Paul the Apostle – Acts 9:15-16; II Cor. 5:10-11; Eph. 6:18-20; Col. 4:2-4
      1. Ananias obeyed God and went to tell Saul of Tarsus what Jesus had said, that he was a chosen instrument to bear Christ’s name “before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel.”
      2. Paul took the gospel to the Jews and Gentiles and before kings, all the way to Caesar! *(Phil. 4:22: There were saints in Caesar's household)*
   2. Some people have the ability to study one-on-one more than others (able to connect).
   3. Mt. 4:19: Jesus called His apostles to be “fishers of men.” *(Lk. 19:10: Jesus’ mission)*
   4. There are some people that seem to have the ability to “fish” for men more than others!
   5. II Tim. 2:24-26: As “bondservants” of the Lord we are to be able (apt) to teach to save men from the snare of the devil! (II Cor. 5:10-11; Col. 1:28)
   6. Perhaps you are in the kingdom because you have the ability to teach and save the lost – Use it!
4. **Preacher/Teacher to defend the faith**
   1. Like Timothy – I Tim. 4:1-6; II Tim. 4:1-5
      1. Paul warned Timothy that apostasy would come from within “the faith.”
   2. Some people have the ability to defend the truth (Jude 3); debates, studies, etc.
   3. This may happen while teaching to save the lost, and is not mutually exclusive, but some people really have the ability to defend the truth against error! (Paul did both!)
   4. Eph. 4:14-16; II Tim. 2:15: Saints are to be studied enough to see truth from error.
   5. You may be in the kingdom with the ability to defend the faith – Use it!
5. **Use Talents and Abilities as Members of the Body** 
   1. As members of the body all have functions to fulfill – I Cor. 12:12-27; Eph. 4:14-16
      1. The body of Christ is made up of individual members with different functions and we are to grow up together in love! (I Pet. 4:10)
   2. For the body to function properly, every member must act according to its role or ability.
   3. Our example in our daily lives to those around us (Mt. 5:16; Eph. 5:11) can demonstrate our abilities to teach and serve!
   4. When we assemble together, all things can be done properly & in order (I Cor. 14:40):
      1. The building maintained for the purpose of meeting together.
      2. The Lord’s Supper prepared.
      3. The Song Leader ready and prepared.
      4. Teachers and preacher ready and prepared for their classes and sermon.
      5. Members ready to participate and serve as needed!
   5. I Cor. 15:58: To have fellowship in work, all must work!
   6. You may be in the kingdom because you fill a role & ability of the body – Use it!
6. Just as Esther was queen “For such a time as this” you may be in the Kingdom of Christ “For such a time as this” – *Like Esther, fulfill your role and ability as God has given it to you!*

# Conclusion

1. When all the members of the body work together as “every joint supplies” *(Eph. 4:16)* saints are edified and ready for the work God has given us to do!
2. Let us work for the Lord in His kingdom supposing we are here “For such a time as this!”
3. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized!
4. If a Christian living with sin, repent and He will forgive you.
5. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!