Bible Introduction

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Esther

by Laura Reynolds

The story of Esther begins with a beautiful maiden whose parents have died. Her cousin Mordecai raises and cares for her. Esther's real name was a Hadassa and changed to Esther. This was done to hide her identity as a Jew. Esther and Mordecai were both Jewish. Mordecai charged her to keep her Jewish identity a secret.

Esther went to the Kings Palace to be presented to the king. Along with many other women. Esther found favor with the king and she was chosen as the Kings new wife. Esther 2:17

Inside the palace there was an evil man named Haman. Haman was second in command from the King. 3:1 Haman hated the Jews and especially hated Mordecai. Because Mordecai would not bow to him, Haman devised a plan of conspiracy against Mordecai and the Jewish people. Haman had a gallows built and had an army to destroy the Jews (3:9).

The Queen Esther tells the King everything that Haman had plans to do and even tells him that she herself is a Jew. The king had Haman on the gallows and saved Esther’s people.

Esther obeyed God and saved her people from Haman. 7:10 This story shows that God protects His people, if they obey his commands.