



EMBRACING EXILE

GOD BEHIND THE SCENES



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AUTHOR:

Unknown

DATE:

ca. 485 BC–465 BC

LOCATION:

SUsa, Persia

KEY CHARACTERS:

**King Xerxes, Esther,
Mordecai, Haman**

This is what happened during the time of Xerxes, the Xerxes who ruled over 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush: At that time King Xerxes reigned from his royal throne in the citadel of Susa, and in the third year of his reign he gave a banquet for all his nobles and officials. The military leaders of Persia and Media, the princes, and the nobles of the provinces were present.

She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence in the tenth month, the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.



God places
particular people
in particular places,
at particular times
to accomplish His particular purpose.



But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.



In our increasingly secular, post-Christian world,
we do not see the parting of the seas,
**but if we act with courage,
we will see God deliver and sustain.**





C

Considered Spirituality

4:9-16





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**Considered
Spirituality**

4:9-16

O

**Openness
to People**

2:10, 15-17, 20



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U

**Undeterred
by Opposition**

3:2-4, 13-15



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3:2-4, 13-15

R**Respect
for Authority**

2:14-15, 18, 20; 3:1



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A**Authenticity**

2:12-15



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G**Graceful
Self-Control**

2:9-10





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E

**Emotional
Balance**

4:1-8; 5:9-6:14





In a secular society,
**life thrusts convictional believers
into compromising situations.**



“All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.”

When Esther’s words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape.

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."



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