



GULF SHORES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Morning Sermon (by Ray Reynolds)

January 22, 2017

"THE PROPOSAL OF MORDECAI"

TEXT: Esther 4

Introduction: There is much to be said for being in the right place at the right time. The fact that Ahasuerus, Haman, Esther, and Mordecai were all playing roles in the palace is not a coincidence. Esther was in the right place at the right time because it was the providence of God. Esther was promoted to a position of power to keep the Israelites from extermination. She was a woman who had come to the kingdom for just such a time (**Esther 4:14**). What does that mean? How does her role change everything? Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. The Concern of Esther (Esther 4:1-4)

- ◆ The decree is signed into law.
- ◆ The devastating announcement is made throughout the kingdom.
- ◆ The deadly proclamation causes prayer, fasting, and humiliation.
- ◆ The disheartened queen sends for Mordecai.

II. The Consideration of Esther (Esther 4:5-14)

- ◆ Mordecai stresses the necessity of approaching the king.
- ◆ The guards were ready for those who might assassinate the king.
- ◆ Esther was worried she might anger the king.
- ◆ The Jews feared being annihilated by the king.

III. The Courage of Esther (Esther 4:15-17)

- ◆ We need believing men and women.
- ◆ We need blameless men and women.
- ◆ We need brave men and women.
- ◆ We need bold men and women.

Conclusion: Esther's presence in the palace was not an accident. It was the providence of God and Mordecai knew it. God put her there to save His people. He put her there so that she could make a difference. What about you? Why has God put you where you are? No doubt, like Esther, He has put you where you are to make a difference. Follow this sound advice from Mordecai. Realize that you are not a mistake. Understand that you have a purpose. God has placed you here for "such a time of this." **Psalm 103:19** says, "The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all." Will you trust in the Lord? Will you have the strength to do the right thing?