

Agape Worship Center Intl
Handout Esther: If You Remain Silent
Chapter 4

Main Scripture: 4:13 (NIV) 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. **14** 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?”

Integrity is imperative during crisis. The purpose of sackcloth and ashes was to symbolize deep sorrow, repentance, and humility. This practice, prevalent in biblical times, it served as an outward sign of mourning, and it was a way to express a repenting heart before God. **Precisely, sackcloth represented mourning.** The ashes indicated repentance and humiliation, reinforcing public spirituality and individual emotions.

Important points:

1. Mordecai stood in his beliefs and faith and did not waive. He trusted God and was not going to change his mind and plead at the feet of Haman to save himself and his people.
2. This is a great example of how we as Christians should always stand during distresses or issues that appear to be overwhelming. Our God is way better than the crisis standing before us. Mordecai was convinced and did what he had to do **“run to the throne of God.”** It did not change his faith.

Main Point: The king could not change a decree once it was stamped with his signet ring which meant it was approved. We have a king of all kings through His blood, everything against us it is greater than a ring from a hand of a man. the blood still works. He took it on and destroyed it all at Calvary the works of the enemy. Mordecai knew where deliverance would come from God. **He will always have a plan of victory for His people.**

1. Mordecai explains the problem to Esther, but he knew Esther was a source to be used by God.
2. Mordecai challenged Esther to intercede on behalf of her people before the king and she replied, **“fear for herself”.**
3. Mordecai brought a reality check to Esther that she would be included in the decision of destruction of the Jews. She was not protected by immunity because she was the queen.
4. Occasionally, Christians must be reminded who they are and that God has called them during the season they are currently in, and that they have been statically placed there.
Purpose on mission!!!!

Practical applications viewed in several ways :

1. **You must have courage in the face of fear** Esther had to be bold to approach the king after the decree was known but she demonstrated power and boldness and the people witnesses, and they felt empowered to put their trust in a Holy God.
2. **The power of fasting and prayer:** Esther called for the fast and to pray before she took any action she had to go to and before God. Seeking God's guidance and His wisdom is always key to victory. This is a reminder to totally depend on the Lord's wisdom, strength and empowerment in decision making before acting in all situations and circumstances.
Pray
3. **Unity in the community support:** Esther had to have the support of the Jews, and they had to be in unity before God. She recognized her power came through a united front to seek righteous and justice. .
(Romans 15:5-6) May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
4. **Advocate for Righteousness:** Esther boldness advocates for her people before the king is a model for others to follow and use your position always for the greater good to speak out against injustice to promote justice.
5. **Faith always Dispel Doubt/Fear:** This is a reminder that faith overcomes fear and doubt when you trust God. Esther initially hesitated before she took actions of faith. But when she stepped into the realm of faith and trusted God it led to her success. She stepped out into the remembering God's promises.
6. **God's Providence is unfailing:** God's providence is evident even if she did not mention His name, she had relationship and knew who He was. God's assurance is always there for His people to guide and protect them, **BUT you must place your total and complete trust in Him.**

Groups Discussion Question

Has God ever spoken to you to do something, but you were fearful it was not His voice because it looked impossible? Did you feel overwhelming fear, or did you increase your faith with boldness and confidence and to complete the task?

When you knew God was with you how did it change your ability to move forward act. Did you complete the task. (Share with the group what was the outcome)