

NEWSLETTER 2023-3

To: My Fellow Saints and Well-Wishers

Date: June 2, 2023

Re: **Imminent Threat of Destruction is Evident (Esther 4:13-17, NB Vv. 13-14).**

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Peter 1:3-5 NKJV).

In my recent newsletters I have focused on the blessings of the righteous, the victory in God despite world’s conditions and indeed we do need to face the facts that these are **“evil days”** (Eph. 5:16); however perfect love certainly do cast out fear (1 John 4:18). The emphasis in today’s presentation, calls attention for us to be utilize to the glory of God in reaching the many who are in need of the victory which is found in Jesus Christ! Jesus specifically gave the charge to be engaged in advancing His cause until He returns (example Luke 19:11-27); unfortunately, many believers are preoccupied with things that are inconsistent with the **perfect will of God**. Beloved, if there is a time the work of God needs emphasis it is now! We will **briefly** focus on Mordecai and Esther as they availed themselves by responding to a most urgent need facing the Jews and saw God’s intervention at a most crucial and demanding time in the history of the Jewish people. **Obviously, there are needs confronting us today and we have work to do!!**

*Rescue the perishing,
Care for the dying,
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave
Weep o’er the erring one, lift up the fallen,
Tell them of Jesus the mighty to save.*

*Rescue the perishing
Duty demands it;
Strength for thy labor the Lord will provide,
Back to the narrow way patiently win them,
Tell the poor wanderer a Savior has died.*

*Rescue the perishing
Care for the dying;
Jesus is merciful,
Jesus will save.*

Col. 3:23 ESV: “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men”

1 Peter 1:13 Amp. Bible: “So prepare your minds for action, be completely sober [in spirit—steadfast, self-disciplined, spiritually and morally alert], fix your hope completely on the grace [of God] that is coming to you when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

Oh! Beloved, it’s time to get rid of some of the things that have crept into the body of Christ’s church and for us to **“occupy until He comes!”** Esther 4:14c NIV: **“And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this.”**

Imminent Threat of Destruction is Evident Esther 4:13-17, NB Vv. 13-14.

At the time when the account as recorded in the Book of Esther occurred (believed to be around 479 B. C.); there was an impending and life-threatening situation that would dramatically and adversely affect **all the Jews** living under the leadership of the Persian Empire. Your familiarity with the Book of Esther will help as I make the brief presentation.

We are acquainted with the account of how Esther became queen (Esther 1-2:20). There is also the record of Haman’s promotion, his destructive pride, arrogance and bitterness exhibited in his hatred for Mordecai and the Jewish people (Esther 3).

The fact is, it became apparent to Haman that Mordecai would not do him obeisance or idolize him and as a result he (Haman) was filled with animosity and evil intent. Haman then became aware of Mordecai’s nationality and eventually sought how to destroy him. In the details of his planning, Haman looked for a way to destroy **all the Jews** throughout the entire empire of Xerxes (Esther 3:5-6).

*As a reminder, this is a **rather brief presentation**.* Please note my main points for Esther 4 and the Sub-Points for Vv. 13-14:

The Main Points for Esther Chapter 4.

1. **Sorrowful/Life-threatening Situation 4:1-3.**
2. **Separation Evident Between the Throne and Subordinates 4:4-9.**
3. **Stated and Unchangeable Decree of the Persians and Medes 4:10-12.**
4. **Sovereign Will . . . The Jews and All Mankind 4:13-17.**

Sub-Points for Esther 4:13-14

1. **Neglect of Your Duty, Hoping for Another to Act** (Vv. 13-14a).
2. **Not Exempted from This Onslaught** (v. 14b).
3. **Now is the Time to Fulfill Your Call to Office** (v. 14c).

Sovereign Will . . . The Jews and All Mankind Esther 4:13-17.

Mordecai was fully persuaded that it was God’s intention to use Esther in accomplishing Israel’s deliverance and that’s the reason why she was made queen. Mordecai also realized that it was possible for Esther to fall short of what God had designed to fulfill through her; she was an intricate part of God’s redemptive plan. Beloved, similarly, God had a plan to deliver Israel out of

a grievous Egyptian bondage and yes, initially, Moses questioned the reality of his ability for the task but God's will, was realized, as God used him and his brother Aaron to bring about Israel's freedom from bondage (Ex. 3-13). **The challenge is, dear reader, are you availing yourself wholly to the perfect will of God as He leads you to do His will?**

A. Neglect of Your Duty, Hoping for Some Other to Act Esther 4:13-14a

1. Esther's initial response as it relates to interceding for her people.
 - (a) She was concerned that: *It was an established law that no one enters the king's presence without being called; disobeying such ruling could result in death unless the king shows mercy.* (See Esther 4:11).
 - (b) Esther, herself, was not invited in the king's presence for thirty days (v. 11); this was a matter that confronted her in regards to approaching the king without being called (v. 11).
2. Mordecai did not get in a panic-stricken mode; he was not overwhelmed with hopelessness; when he became aware of Haman's decree to have the Jews slaughtered.
 - (a) He (Mordecai) intently and purposefully sought on securing their deliverance and he did so by seeking Him who is **"mighty in battle!"**
 - (b) He recognized the fact that God had consequently placed both him and Esther in their respective positions for a reason and they seized the opportunity and did what was needed (John 9:4; Gal. 6:10; etc.).
3. **Situations may arise that need your attention and if so, do not withdraw, behave selfishly, wallow in despair, or just sit waiting for God to fix it; instead, ask God for His direction, and act! God most likely have placed you where you are for such a time!!**

B. Not Exempted from This Onslaught! Esther 4:14b.

1. We have noted above Esther's initial response and what it meant for her to go in the king's presence without being called (Vv. 10-11) let's look again at verses 13-14b.
 - (a) Mordecai urged Esther, placing emphasis on the fact that the lives of **all Jews** were at stake and although she was queen she would not be exempted from this malicious and evil objective of Haman because she was a Jewess.
 - (b) **NOTE: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's place any more than all the other Jews" (Esther 4:13 NKJV).**
 - (1) In other words: **"Do not imagine that . . . you alone of all the Jews will escape!"**
 - (2) The Message Bible
"Don't think that just because you live in the king's house, you're the one Jew who will get out alive."
 - (c) Irrespective of the time factor, all believers throughout history have been called to the task of working in the vineyard (example Luke 19:11-27; Matt. 20:1-16; etc.). **These are NOT days to be relaxed in Zion, in our comfort zones, we must**

face up to the call of true discipleship (example see Luke 9:23-27; etc.). This is no time for excuses and denial for not being **actively engaged** in our God given tasks, there is far too much to be done for us to be idle and continue in procrastination and neglect our God given duties (**Deut. 23:21; Prov. 26:13-15; Prov. 20:4; 22:13; Matt. 25:14-30; etc.**). **Also note carefully Amos 6:1-7.**

2 Chron. 29:11 Amp. Bible:

“My sons, do not be negligent and careless now, *for the LORD has chosen you to stand in His presence, to attend to His service, and to be His ministers and burn incense.*”

2. Beloved, **none of us were exempted from Satan’s evil plan** when he deceived Adam and Eve (Gen. 3), which resulted in the sinful disposition inherited by all men (Rom. 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:21). None of us were without sin and as a result were hell bound for eternity (Psa. 53:3; Isa. 64:6; Rom. 3:23; etc.); and yet Jesus Christ who had no sin, willingly paid the ultimate price for us and delivered us from eternal destruction which is the consequence of our sinful deposition, resulting from Satan’s destructive plan (Isa. 53:6; Rom. 6:23; **2 Cor. 5:21**; 1 Peter 1:18-19; etc. . . . also Matt. 25:41; Mark 16:16).

C. NOW is the Time to Fulfill Your Call to Serve!! Esther 4:14c

“ . . . Yet who knows whether you have come for such a time as this.”

1. As a result of her cousin’s urgent persuasion, Esther determined to risk her life, if need be, to approach the king on the Jews behalf (they were all included in the posted decree anyway).
2. Life in the Spirit Study Bible notes:
*“This passage reveals the basic meaning of the book: **God is involved in the events of the world in order to save His people from its evil and to accomplish His redemptive purpose on their behalf** (emphasis mine). All believers must remember that God is working in what happens around us in order to deliver us from this present evil world and to bring us to be with Him forever (Rom. 8:29-39; Gal. 1:4; Jude 24).”*
3. Beloved, we do not have time for delays, or denying the facts, or allowing ourselves to be diverted from God’s perfect will for us today, as commanded in the **“Church’s Mandate” . . . “The great Commission”**; neither can we neglect the need to perfectly love Him; etc. (Matt. 28:19; Mark 12:29-31; etc.). As to the will of God see: 1 Thess. 4:3; 5:15-18; Acts 13:22; Eph. 6:6-7; etc. However, today I am focusing on the need of responding to the **SOS calls all around us and throughout the world!!**
John 9:4 ASV
“We must work the works of Him that sent me, While it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work,”
4. Beloved, this “royal priesthood” has been called to action! ***“To the work to the work we are servants of God, Let us follow the path that our Master has trod; With the balm of His counsel our strength to renew, Let us do with our might what our hands find to do.”***

Closing Thought

While God is not explicitly mentioned in the Book of Esther, He is clearly seen and demonstrated not only in the lives of His chosen people but in the victories, He has given to them. As noted earlier, Mordecai, upon becoming aware of the posted decree to destroy the Jews did not become fainthearted but encouraged himself in the LORD and along with Esther and the Jewish people they looked to Him from whom our help comes!

We note once more that in the Book of Esther we have not seen any mention made of God by name or title but obviously His Divine presence fills the pages. Mordecai and Esther believed in God's care, and because they acted at the right time, God used them to save His people. **God has a planned purpose for you! Will you be submissive to His perfect will and be used to His honor and His glory!!**

In your personal life, when you face challenges in life, seek to know what God wants you to do, and do it! Confident that He will do His part. You don't know ahead of time how He will accomplish His will but He will!!! Just trust and obey!! As you maintain your trust in God, be prepared to be surprised by the ways He demonstrates His trustworthiness!! HE WILL BRING IT TO PASS!!!

Whatever, it may be, whether it's an individual emphasis or it is on a collective level; look around you listen to God, he will allow you to see the needs because **definitely "The harvest truly is great and laborers are in limited supply!! The workforce NEEDS WORKERS!! ARE YOU AVAILBLE!!**

"And who knows whether you have attained royalty for such a time as this [and for this very purpose]?" (Esther 4:14c Amp. Bible).

Website Update (BRIEFLY)

Currently I have three completed lessons that **may not** be posted before early July; however, if my son, who helps with the website, gets the opportunity the lessons will be posted in June. If you desire, I can have these lessons sent to your email upon request. The completed lessons are Psalm 24, 27 Part A, and 27 Part B.

Psalm 32 is now in the initial phase and should be available by August. Currently, there is a new phase in my Christian life that will require additional time to the glory of God and your continued prayers are truly appreciated . . . ***"There is MUCH work to be done as we all look to our Savior's glorious return!!***

Father's Day greetings will be sent out a few days before Father's Day; these will be sent out to all on my mailing list please share it accordingly and **also pray for ALL fathers!!**

Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated, I do have some medical procedures coming up between June ,July or August but God is good!! **You are highly appreciated and dearly loved!!**

God continue to richly bless you and your wonderful family.

Take My Life and Let It Be . . . by Frances R. Havergal (1874)

Verse 1

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Verse 5

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine,
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.
it shall be thy royal throne.

Verse 6

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store,
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only all for thee,
ever, only all for thee.

Beloved, let us give it ALL to Him! He is worthy of it ALL!!

Yours-in-Christ
Bishop K. Wright
Cell: 608-571-8468
Email: kingsleywright@yahoo.com
Website: livingwaterstudies.com