KINGDOM PRINCIPLES FROM THE BOOK OF ESTHER

Esther's Hebrew name was "Hadassah", meaning "myrtle". She was planted in the earthly realm, but was lifted from obscurity and placed in a position of kingdom authority. We know her as "Esther", which means "<u>STAR</u>". Worldly "stars" project themselves, seek their own following, and are worshipped by the people. God's "stars", like Esther, <u>cause all to gaze toward the heavens</u>. Her spiritual beauty, grace and character shone against the darkness that threatened her people.

Esther's Journey To The Throne:

1. The old order "Vashti" has refused to come, according to the King's commandment. Like Israel who rejected their King when He called, God has said that another will be chosen; Esther 1:12-19; Acts 13:46-49; Romans 11:15-20.

2. A call has gone out to "gather the virgins", from which a Bride will be selected. Esther responded to the call. Many are called but few are "chosen"; Matthew 22:14.

3. In ancient times in a Persian palace, there were three sets of apartments for the women. Prophetically speaking, they point to different groups, roles and degrees of love for the King within the Kingdom:

a. One for the VIRGINS; Esther 2:8

b. One for the CONCUBINES; Esther 2:14

c. One for the QUEEN and the other wives; Esther 1:9. This was the "Royal House" which was separated from the rest of the palace by a court.

4. The selection of Esther parallels the selection of the Bride of Christ:

a. She is accepted and purified; Ephesians 5:25-27; 1 John 3:3; Matthew 24:40-41.

b. Her marriage is consummated; Matthew 25:1-13; Revelation 19:7-9.

5. Esther submitted to, and acquired the necessary training, preparation and instruction received through Mordecai, Hegai and the eunuchs, the Seven Wise Men (princes), the Seven Maidens, those who were given to her from the King's palace; see Isaiah 11:2.

a. These point to the ministry of the Holy Spirit, and the Galatians 4:2; Ephesians 4:11 ministries. All of these instruct, counsel and advise Esther; Proverbs 8:32-35.

b. They are the King's officials, "friends of the Bridegroom", who prepare Esther for the presence of the King; Esther 1:10; John 3:29.

c. Question: Are you submitted to the government of the Holy Spirit, or are you directed by the kingdom of "Self"?

6. Esther demonstrated a proper response to authority to all those within the Kingdom.

7. Esther "hid herself". She did not make her "own identity" known; she did not promote herself or speak of herself; Esther 2:10.

8. Esther had to be purified before she was accepted. The King's throne is in "Shushan", which means "lily", symbolic of holiness and purity; Esther 1:5; 2:3; Hebrews 12;14.

9. Esther submitted to full preparation. She completed her "days of purification", (1 John 3:3), which consisted of:

a. 6 months application of the "oil of myrrh", symbolic of sufferings, trials; Mark 15:23 b. 6 months application of "sweet odors", of Christ; The fruit of the Holy Spirit is ripening in the Bride; Galatians 5:22; 2 Corinthians. 2:14-16; Philippians 4:18.

c. Other things necessary for her cleansing and perfection; Song of Sol.3:6; Malachi 3:2

d. The Bride's preparation must be complete. She is separated from wrong influences, sinful indulgences, and unholy substances, as not to grieve the Holy Spirit; Ephesians 4:30; 2 Corinthians 6:15-17.

10. Esther was given a specific "diet", foods provided for her by the king's house; Psalm 23:5; Rev. 2:7,17. Her diet is compatible with her "high calling".

a. The Bride does not feed upon the "husks" as the prodigal does; Luke 15:15-16.

b. The Bride puts away the "meat sacrificed to idols"; Revelation 2:14, 20.

c. The Bride is careful about that which is added to "her pot", and what she is preparing to set before her companions to feed upon; 2 Kings 4:40-44.

11. Esther understood protocol, the pattern for entering the Most Holy Place (The Throne Room) as seen in Esther 5:1-3:

a. She put on her royal apparel, the "wardrobe" of the believer; Eph. 6:10-18; Is. 61:10.

b. She was in the Inner Court, the Holy Place of the King's house. This is the "Candlestick Realm", Revelation 1:12-13, where the "banquet of wine" is enjoyed, the realm of being "filled with the spirit"; Song of Solomon 2:4; Ephesians 5:18.

c. When Esther went into the King, she "required nothing" from His house; she only brought herself. That which Hegai (Holy Spirit training) had given was enough; 2:13-15.

12. Esther "won" the King's favor. When the King sees her, she obtains favor in His sight; Esther 2:9,15; 5:2; Psalm 41:11.

a. She was taken to The King, who delights in her; Esther 2:14-16; Song of Sol. 7:10.

b. She obtains grace and favor in his sight more than the other virgins.

c. The king sets the royal crown upon her head (a picture of being sealed in the forehead with the mind of Christ); Rev. 1:6; 3:21.

13. The King makes a "great feast" and Esther celebrates with him; Esther 2:18; Luke 14:16-24; John 7:2-10.

14. Esther was invited to approach the King in His throne room (the Most Holy Place):

a. The King holds out the Golden Sceptre, which is in His hand (symbolic of His divinity, and the full authority of Jesus' name as we stand in His presence); Esther 5:2; Matthew 28:18; Hebrews 1:8.

b. This is also symbolic of the "rod" of God, that which shall rule the nations; Jeremiah 1:4-12; Numb. 17:1-13; Psalm 23:4; Revelation 2:26-28.

c. Esther, like the Bride of Christ, draws near and touches the TOP of the Sceptre; Esther 5:2.

d. When we touch the TOP of the Sceptre, we take hold of Him, and grow up into His "headship"; Deut. 34:1; Eph. 4:15; Psalm 72:16; Song of Sol. 4:8; Isaiah 2:2.

<u>Hegai (A Eunuch) Had Custody Of Esther And The Other Women In The King's Harem:</u> A "eunuch" is a castrated male, incapable of physical reproduction. Jesus taught on the spiritual meaning of "eunuchs" in Matthew 19:12:

1. There are some eunuchs who are BORN this way from their mother's womb.

2. There are some eunuchs who were MADE EUNUCHS of (by) men. These have been castrated by religious systems, men's traditions and doctrines of men, and CANNOT (are not able) to produce the Kingdom; Mark 7:8-9,13; Colossians 2:8.

3. There are EUNUCHS WHO HAVE MADE THEMSELVES eunuchs for the Kingdom of Heaven's sake. These have "cut off" the works of their flesh, and cannot produce anything but the Kingdom (they refuse to create anything else); Romans 8:8; Gal. 5:16.

The Book Of Esther Reveals Many Kingdom Principles:

1. The hand of Divine Providence guards God's people, and overrules above the affairs of men, preserving His elect.

2. Those who attempt to destroy God's people shall themselves be destroyed.

3. There is a royal wine; ("outpouring" of Holy Spirit); Acts 2:13; Luke 5:38; Esther 1:7

4. There is a royal house; (the Most Holy Place); Esther 1:9; Numbers 7:89.

5. There is a royal throne, a "seat" of authority; Esther 5:1; Eph. 1:20-21; Rev. 3:21.

6. There is royal apparel; Esther 5:1; 6:8; Psalm 45:13-14; Isaiah 61:10.

7. There is a royal crown; (sealed in the forehead with the mind of Christ); Ex. 39:28-31;

Ezek. 9:4; Rev. 14:1; Est. 1:11; 2:17. It is also symbolic of a reward; 1 Cor. 9:17-18.

8. There is a royal commandment, the "law" of love; John 13:34; Esther 1:19.

9. There is a royal estate, an inheritance; Revelation 21:7; Esther 1:19.

10. The Bride is strategically placed in the Kingdom at a very critical time; Esther 4:14.

11. Esther knew that plans had been made to destroy her and her people, so she made a plea before the king to "put away the mischief of Haman" (a type of Satan), through a "writing which was written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring"; see Esther 3:5-11; 5:14; 7:4; 8:3-8.

12. Esther understood the authority of the King's laws and commandments; 1 Peter 1:25.

13. Submission to God-ordained authority is the vehicle to a higher realm.

14. Esther's Feast is a picture of the Marriage Feast; Esther 2:18; Matt. 22 and Rev 19.

15. Mordecai refused to bow to Haman, who wanted worship from the people. Any ministry that refuses to bow to the whims of man will "enrage" the system; Esther 3:5-6.

16. Esther and Mordecai were both from the tribe of "Benjamin" (son of the right hand). They were the instruments used by God to expose the enemy's plans; Esther 7:4-6.

17. Mordecai and Esther are a type of a "firstfruits" company, and the Royal Priesthood. Together, their ministry points to the "high calling" in Philippians 3:1-14.

18. Esther and Mordecai understood the principles of teamwork, unity and intercession; Matthew 18:19. As intercessors, they stand between the living and the dead, as reconcilers and peacemakers.

19. Mordecai gave his life to help prepare Esther, the Bride. He "raised her" as his own daughter. The one who prepares the Bride is "great in the King's house"; Esther 9:3-4.

20. Esther was courageous, and was willing to lose her own life for the sake of her people. She preserved God's people from destruction; Esther 4:16; Luke 17:33.

21. God may not intervene in His people's behalf until the "gallows" are built.

22. Our future destiny hinges on our present obedience. The Scriptures tell us that only those who overcome will rule and reign with Christ; Revelation 2 & 3; 21:7-7.

23. God has set in place a "Season of Reversal". On the very date that Haman had planned for the destruction of God's people, he lost his own life; Esther 7:10. The Feast of Purim is a reminder that "the lot cast" as a day of death for God's people, became a lasting day of deliverance.

24. Practical Application: Go into the Throne Room and SPEAK UP! Other people's lives are at stake; they depend upon your obedience "for such a time as this"; Esther 4:14.
25. <u>Question:</u> Have you pressed in to touch the TOP of the Sceptre in the Throne Room, or are you still hanging around the outer courts? Esther 2:8, 14.

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