

ESTHER BECOMES QUEEN

The king who ruled Persia was Ahasuerus, and in the third year of his reign, King Ahasuerus gave a magnificent feast for all his officers. After that feast was over, the king prepared a feast for the men who lived in Shushan, the empire's capital city. Queen Vashti prepared a feast for the women.

Bring Vashti the Queen to show the people and the princes her beauty.

But the queen refused to come. King Ahasuerus became very angry and asked his wise men what he should do.

Remove Queen Vashti from being queen.

I also advise you to choose another queen to take her place.

Pleased with these suggestions, the king dethroned Vashti. Word was sent throughout the kingdom to send the most beautiful women to the palace. Among those chosen was a Jewish girl named Esther.

Esther, I advise you not to tell anyone that you are a Jew.

Mordecai, you are my cousin and have raised me all these years. I will obey your words.

And so Esther, along with other lovely women, went to the palace to prepare herself for the king.



When Esther was brought before the keeper of the women, she found favor in his eyes. He gave her seven maids to care for her and the best rooms in which to live.

One by one, the women were called before the king. Finally the day came when Esther was called.

Esther found favor with all that looked upon her, even the king.

Esther, you have found favor in my sight more than the others. I place this crown upon your head and declare that you are queen.



God allowed this Jewish girl to be chosen over all the other young girls of the kingdom, for God had a very special plan for Esther.