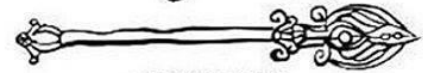




perhaps  
you were  
Born for  
such a time  
as this.



ESTHER 4:14

Esther 2v19-4v17

TWO PLOTS

*“The Christian persecution we read about in Scripture and history books is not a thing of the past. It still exists. Today, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we are living in a time when persecution against Christian believers is the highest in modern history. According to an in-depth report — persecution is increasing at an alarming rate. **Research indicates that every day, 11 Christian believers are killed for their faith.**”*

## **The story of 2 Queens...**

- The Fall of Queen Vashti
- The Rise of Queen Esther

## **The story of 2 Plots...**

- The Plot to Assassinate Xerxes
- The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

# 1) The Plot to Assassinate Xerxes

**2v21:** During the time Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, became angry and conspired to assassinate King Xerxes.

# 1) The Plot to Assassinate Xerxes

**2v22: Mordecai found out about the plot and told Queen Esther, who in turn reported it to the king, giving credit to Mordecai.**

# 1) The Plot to Assassinate Xerxes

**2v23:** And when the report was investigated and found to be true, the two officials were impaled on poles. All this was recorded in the book of the annals in the presence of the king.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v1:** After these events, King Xerxes honoured Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, elevating him and giving him a seat of honour higher than that of all the other nobles.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v2:** All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honour to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honour.



## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v5:** When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honour, he was enraged.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

3v6: Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v7:** In the twelfth year of King Xerxes, in the first month, the month of Nisan, the *pur* (that is, the lot) was cast in the presence of Haman to select a day and month. And the lot fell on the twelfth month, the month of Adar.

## **2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews**

**13/12/474 BC**

*Destruction of every living Jew*

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v13:** Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews – young and old, women and children – on a single day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v15:** ... The king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was bewildered.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**2 Timothy 3v12:** In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...

*Will it be the **freeze** of apathy or  
the **fires** of persecution?*

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v12:** Then on the thirteenth day of the first month the royal secretaries were summoned.

*Will God once again deliver his people  
from a terrible plight?*



## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**3v15:** ... The king and Haman sat down to drink...

**4v3:** In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

4v5: Then Esther summoned Hathak, one of the king's eunuchs assigned to attend her, and ordered him to find out what was troubling Mordecai and why.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

2v20: But Esther had kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai's instructions as she had done when he was bringing her up.

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews



## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**V11:** '...But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.'

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

**V13-14:** ...‘Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape. <sup>14</sup> 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?’

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

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## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

4v15-16: Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: <sup>16</sup> 'Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me.

Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.'

## 2) The Plot to Annihilate the Jews

4v14: ‘...and who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?’

