

A decorative scroll with a light pink background and a white border. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers on the left and right sides. The word "ESTHER" is written in a large, bold, black serif font across the center of the scroll.

ESTHER

World Powers

Assyrians

Babylonians

Persians

Greeks

Romans



ESTHER

- Takes place between Ezra 6 & 7
- Contains about 10 years of history
- About 15 years before Ezra
- About 30 years before Nehemiah

THE PERSIAN KINGS

CYRUS
(559-530)

- * **Captured Babylon in 539 BC**
- * **Issued Decree: Any Jew could
return & rebuild**

THE PERSIAN KINGS

CAMBYSES

(530-522)

- * **Considered to be the Artaxerxes in Ezra 4:7,11,23 who stopped the rebuilding of the temple**

THE PERSIAN KINGS

DARIUS

(522-486)

- * **Issued Decree: the temple work could continue**
- * **Provided funds from the royal treasury**

THE PERSIAN KINGS

XERXES I

(486-465)

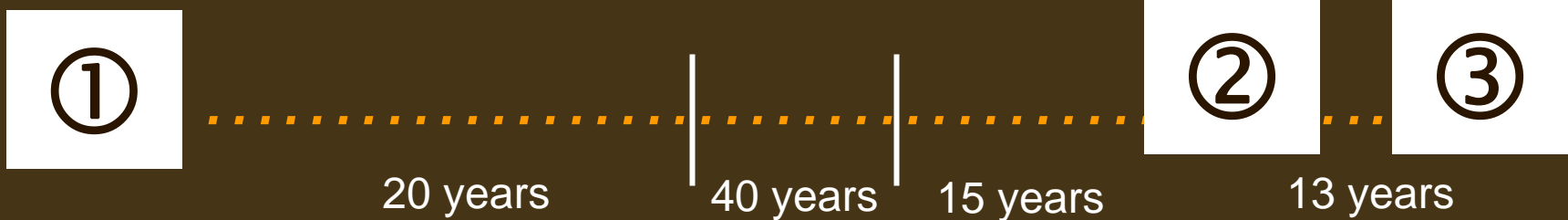
- * **AKA: AHASEURUS**
- * **Received letter of opposition: nothing occurred**
- * **Replaced Vashti with Esther**

THE PERSIAN KINGS

ARTAXERXES I

(465-424)

- * **AKA: LONGIMANUS**
- * **Showed favor to the Jews**
- * **Made Nehemiah his cupbearer**



EZRA

ESTHER

NEHEMIAH







WHO WAS ESTHER?

- Jewish orphan, from the tribe of Benjamin
- Lovely and beautiful
- Raised by Mordecai, her older cousin
- Obtained favor in the sight of all
- Taken into the Persian King's harem
- Took the place of Vashti as queen
- Loved more than any other woman

WHO WAS MOREDECAI?

- Became as a father to Esther
- Held a prominent position in king's gate
- Saved King Ahasuerus from death
- Unwilling to bow to any other
- Known as “different”
- A true leader – a man of vision
- Led by the Spirit of God

Persecution of the Jews



Persecution of the Jews

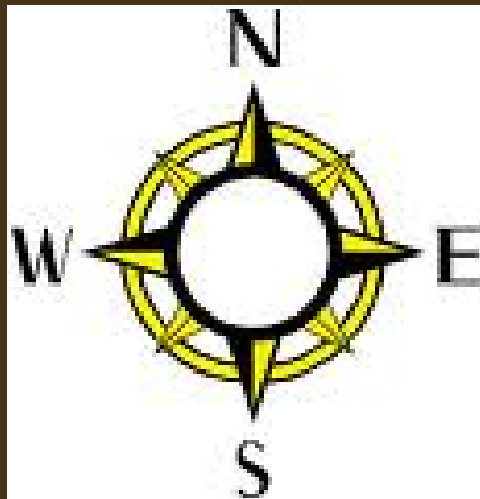




Edomites

Samaritans

Ashdodites



Ammonites

Arabs

Moabites

WHO WAS HAMAN?

- The Agagite, enemy of the Jews
- A man of great hostility
- A man of great power
- A man of worldly greatness
- A great fool !

The Hidden Identity



The Hidden Identity

“Behold, He who keeps
Israel will neither slumber
nor sleep.”

Psalm 121:4

The Hidden Identity

“...His invisible attributes are clearly seen..., even His eternal power...”

Romans 1:20

The Hidden Identity

“Moses endured as seeing
He who is invisible.”

Hebrews 11:27

God is Faithful to His Promise

TO

PRESERVE

HIS PEOPLE

TO

DESTROY

AMALEK

**THE
SEED**

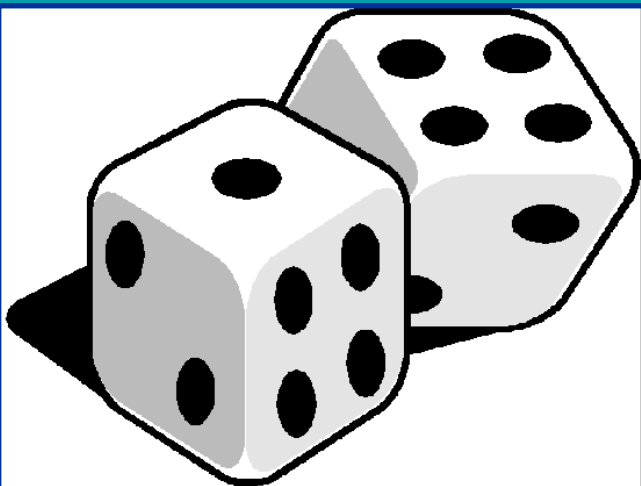
**For such a time as
THIS**

“If I perish, I perish”

10 Feasts in Esther

1:5	King Ahasuerus	his people
1:9	Vashti	the women
2:18	King Ahasuerus	his own
3:15	King Ahasuerus	all people
5:5	Esther	king & Haman
6:10-11	Haman	himself
7:1	Esther	king & Haman
8:15-17	Mordecai	all Jews
9:18-19	GOD	His People

THE FEAST OF PURIM



“The lot is cast into
the lap, but its every
decision is from the
Lord.” Proverbs 16:33