TIM WAUGH | CROSSNET

For Such a Time as This

Esther’s story offers courage to those who feel overlooked, displaced, or unprepared.

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PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

Esther 2:7; Esther 4:13–16

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES

Esther 5:1–8; Esther 7:1–6; Romans 8:28; Ephesians 2:6

READ TEACHING

Esther was a Jewish woman in the Persian Empire. Esther 2:7 tells us she had lost both father and mother and was cared for by Mordecai. The text does not say her ethnicity made her visibly different from every other woman at court; in fact, her Jewish identity was initially undisclosed. Her story should be taught from what Scripture says rather than from imagined details.

When her people faced destruction, Mordecai challenged her to consider whether she had come to royal position for this moment. His question invited responsibility, not certainty about every hidden purpose. Esther asked for a fast and chose to approach the king despite the danger. Her courage was neither careless nor passive.

For the person carrying rejection or abandonment, this story offers a careful hope: what happened to you does not settle the question of what God can do through you. It does not call abuse good, demand silence, or promise that pain automatically brings promotion. It invites wise companionship and a courageous next step.

Christians may reflect on Esther’s advocacy as an illustration pointing toward the greater deliverance accomplished in Christ. That is a devotional connection, not an explicit identification made by the book of Esther. Our standing in Christ, described in Ephesians 2:6, rests on His work rather than on reaching a position of worldly influence.

Ask: Who can offer wise counsel? What responsibility is in front of me? Where do I need support to act with courage? Your story deserves care, and your calling does not require pretending the wounds never happened.

KEY REVELATION POINTS

Esther’s orphanhood was part of her history; it did not erase her future.

Courage can include preparation, wise counsel, and costly action.

Providence is visible in the story, even though the book does not explicitly name God.

TEACHING / SERMON OUTLINE

1. Read Esther’s early circumstances in Esther 2.

2. Hear Mordecai’s challenge in Esther 4.

3. Follow Esther’s preparation and courageous appeal.

4. Apply hope without promising that every loss leads to public prominence.

YOUR POSITION IN CHRIST

“and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus” - Ephesians 2:6 NKJV

Read all passages in context. Use this handout for personal study, group discussion, or sermon preparation.