

# ESTHER

## A WOMAN OF STRENGTH AND DIGNITY

### STUDY TWELVE

## In the End, God Wins

*Esther 10*

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*Amid the struggles and the storms and the battles and the sufferings of life, we look beyond today and we see a triumph; we see a victory.*  
—Pastor Charles R. Swindoll

**A**LL earthly woes, all financial pressures, all emotional trauma, all physical disabilities, all domestic conflicts, all international wars and rumors of wars, all plagues, and all demonic influence will one day cease.

God has promised victory for His people, a time yet future when there will be no more hurting, crying, or pain. Until then, we can see in the Bible—the record of God’s history of redemption—foretastes of God’s ultimate triumph.

Through our *Searching the Scriptures* Bible-study series on Esther, we’ve looked for clues of God’s sovereign hand shaping events behind the scenes and moving in the hearts of individuals. This wonderful book of Esther magnifies the providence of God, which is a foundational doctrine that gives us peace in the present and hope for the future. As theologian J. I. Packer writes:

The doctrine of providence teaches Christians that they are never in the grip of blind forces (fortune, chance, luck, fate); all that happens to them is divinely planned, and each event comes as a new summons to trust, obey, and rejoice, knowing that all is for one’s spiritual and eternal good (Rom. 8:28).<sup>1</sup>

The passage for this study is the book’s epilogue. It’s the ribbon that ties together the account of Esther and Mordecai into a beautiful package of truth. The book of Esther is God’s gift to you. It assures you that, regardless of the Hamans who plot to do you harm, God’s hand of providence covers you. Your story has a happy ending because God wins in the end—and with Him, so will you.



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SEARCHING  
THE  
SCRIPTURES  
BIBLE STUDIES

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### PREPARE YOUR HEART

Before we study, let's pray:

*Father, thank You for using Your power for my good. All good things come from You even when I don't recognize them. Please help me to have eyes that see and ears that hear so I can perceive more clearly how You're working in my life. I pray You bless my time as I study this last chapter of Esther. In Jesus' name, amen.*



### TURN TO THE SCRIPTURES

Retrace God's providence through Esther by reviewing each chapter and looking for evidence of God at work behind the scenes. In the following chart, write down the clues you find. You can refer to Insight for Living's [overview and chart](#) for help.

Esther 1	
Esther 2	
Esther 3	
Esther 4	
Esther 5	
Esther 6	
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What central principle about God and our relationship with Him do you think the author of Esther was communicating?

*One of the great themes of Christianity is triumphant hope. Not just hope as in a mere, distant, vague dream, but triumphant hope, the kind of hope where things end right. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll*



### **Observation: Esther's Epilogue**

As we always want to do when we study the Bible, let's begin with a slow observation of *Esther 10*.<sup>2</sup> Read the chapter, writing down any details you find important.

Record five characteristics of Persia's new prime minister, Mordecai, mentioned in Esther 10:3.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

*If you like stories that end well, you'll love Christianity. Amid the struggles and the storms and the battles and the sufferings of life, we always focus beyond us today and we see a triumph. We see a victory. We see relief. We see the cessation of things that have been earthly, and we rejoice. Because in the end, God does win. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll*

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### **Interpretation: Prospering with God in a Foreign Land**

Now let's explore what the text means. We'll answer the question, *What is the author communicating?* Feel free to consult commentaries along with additional resources to aid your understanding of the history and theology in the passage. Online, Bible scholar Thomas Constable offers free summaries and commentary on Esther 10. Look for [Constable's Notes](#) in the righthand reading pane at [netbible.org](http://netbible.org).

Why do you think the author might have included the statement about King Ahasuerus in [Esther 10:1–2](#)? What was the author's reason for citing a history book?

What reasons did the author have for ending Esther with the description and influence of Mordecai?

God formed the Israelites into a nation after He delivered them from Egypt. But when they disobeyed God's Law, He dissolved Israel's unity and exiled the people from their homeland. Why was it vital for the Jews in exile to stay true to God while living far away in a foreign land?

To the faithful Jews in exile, Jeremiah gave this exhortation:

*This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem: "Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce. Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away! And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare." (Jeremiah 29:4–7)*

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This same command applied to the Jews living in Persia. Mordecai spoke up for his people, but he also pursued the welfare of Persia as Ahasuerus' second-in-command. He remained loyal to God, and he served the king.

In this world, we're living in a foreign land longing for our eternal homeland. What principle does the account of Esther offer you regarding how God wants you to live until Christ returns and takes you to your eternal home?

*Think of it. All earthly woes, all emotional trauma, all domestic conflicts, all international wars, all satanic oppression, all that ends. We are with God, and with Him comes nothing but harmony and unity and victory and joy and praise and delight. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll*



### **Correlation: When God Wins, Peace Follows**

The Jews survived. Mordecai grew in honor and influence. God's people prospered. Their relief from their enemies foreshadowed the end of history when God will right all wrongs and bring peace. Let's trace through Scripture the theme of *peace*, or *shalom* in Hebrew, in [Esther 10:3](#) (translated "welfare").

In Eden, peace was lost when Adam and Eve sinned, but God began working to restore peace through Noah and Abraham, Joseph and Moses. As He fashioned the Jews into a nation, He gave them what conditional promise in [Leviticus 26:1–6](#)?

Israel and Judah, however, refused to worship God and, instead, followed pagan religious rituals—silver idols on the walls and idolatrous prostitutes in the high places. God called them to turn back, but they kept turning a deaf ear to Him.

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In the darkness of Israel's rebellion, however, the prophets lit a candle of hope—God's unconditional promise that His people would be restored along with the whole world. Check out God's promise in [Isaiah 9:1–7](#). How does the passage climax with the theme of *peace*?

People must first be at peace *with God* before they can experience the peace *of God*. Jesus came offering both—peace with God through Jesus' death on the cross and the peace of God through a relationship with Him. What did Jesus offer His disciples in [John 16:16–33](#)?

Our peace with God through Jesus Christ is only the beginning. In [Romans 8:18–25](#), what picture of peace and glory did Paul depict for those in Christ to enjoy?

After this brief correlation of the theme of *peace* throughout biblical history, reflect on how this helps us understand the significance of Esther 10:3. Record your thoughts below.

*God will ultimately win. Skeptics call this “pie in the sky, by and by.” Let them say what they will. In the final scenes of history, I find glory. I find peace, the best word heaven gives us. —Pastor Chuck Swindoll*

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### **Application: God Can Do the Unexpected for You**

To end our study of Esther, reflect on three hopeful principles that shine like beacons from the book.

1. *When God wins, He often uses unexpected people.* God used Esther and Mordecai who came from lowly beginnings. God does not always look for the greatest names, those with the largest bank accounts, or the most polished in demeanor. He often works through ordinary people.
2. *When God wins, He usually upholds unpretentious qualities.* Esther didn't seek to make her name great. As a humble servant, she sought the good of her people. God often uses unpretentious people to do His greatest work.
3. *When God wins, the message He honors most often is universal.* Many people benefited from Mordecai's exaltation. God gives a universal invitation for all to enjoy His victory, greatly contrasting the world's victories which often include looking out for number one. Remember that the gospel of Jesus Christ is good news for all.

Which of these principles is most encouraging to you? What message might God be teaching you through Esther?

While talented and wealthy people rise to acclaim in the world, in God's kingdom, the values are reversed. God honors the unexpected and elevates the unpretentious. Jesus' cross equalizes all people, abolishing any room for superiority. In the message of Esther beats the heart of the gospel—the forgiveness, peace, and renewal that God would provide through the coming of Christ.

Is there someone who needs this hopeful message? Perhaps someone in your family needs peace. Whom can you encourage today?

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The book of Esther demonstrates how God works in uncommon ways through the common affairs of life. We see that God not only reigns as the powerful Sovereign, but He also governs as the beneficent King, exercising His providence for the ultimate good of His people. Let Esther be a lasting reminder of God's faithfulness to those who love Him. Receive His peace, and rest in His sovereign control today.



### **A FINAL PRAYER**

*Father, in Christ I have all I need. I ask that His peace removes all my anxiety, His wisdom guides all my plans, His presence subdues all my depression, His love flows through all my actions, and His hope carries me through all my woes. Let all people see in my life, lived in a decaying shell, a supernatural energy that operates according to Your good providence for Your good purposes. I pray this that Jesus may be glorified and my joy be full. Amen.*

### ENDNOTES

1. J. I. Packer, *Concise Theology: A Guide to Historic Christian Beliefs* (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1993), 56.
2. To learn more about Pastor Chuck Swindoll's *Searching the Scriptures* Bible-study method, go to the web page, "[How Does Pastor Chuck Swindoll Study the Bible?](#)"

For the 2026 broadcasts, this *Searching the Scriptures* Bible study was developed by Aaron Massey, senior vice president of *Searching the Scriptures* Ministries, and revised by Bryce Klabunde, vice president of *Searching the Scriptures* Ministries, based upon the original outlines, charts, and transcripts of Charles R. Swindoll's messages. Copyright © 1989, 2018, 2026 by Charles R. Swindoll, Inc. All rights are reserved worldwide. Duplication of copyrighted material for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

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