

I have chosen Esther to study this year. Esther never wanted to be a queen. Esther was a nice Jewish girl living an otherwise uneventful life. And then things changed.

She was chosen because of her beauty to be the Queen of Persia around 483 B.C. Women were essentially powerless and marginalized members of society, even if they were a queen.

A law passed that would mean death to all Jews in Persia. Esther was frightened and did not know what to do. No one in the palace knew she was a Jew. She could have stood by and watched as destiny played itself out, and the Jews were all killed. Instead, she decided to fast and pray for three days and asked her uncle, a Jewish leader and his fellow Jews to do likewise.

After this she approached the King at great risk to her life, and told him about the evil plot to get rid of all the Jews in Persia. Once a law had been passed, it could not be repealed, no matter how unjust. There was a solution to the problem, however and that was to write a second law that would take care of the actions of the first.

We may find ourselves in a position like Esther, when the laws of the land seem to be unjust. We don't know what we can do or even how to start? I hope that we like Esther decide to do something. So many times in the Bible it speaks of Jesus taking time to be alone & praying. It is usually followed with some great action. What will our action be to unfair laws? Will we just give up and say nothing can be done, or will we keep trying as long as it takes?

Most of the time, our lives may be pretty routine, but all of us have a few defining moments when we may be called on to put godly principle above personal benefit. What will you do when you encounter those defining moments in your life? What will you do when you face your "Esther moment"?

By Theresa Ryan