

Esther 4:13-16 NKJV And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" 15 Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai: 16 "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!"

Esther 5:1-2 NKJV Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, across from the king's house, while the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, facing the entrance of the house. 2 So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter.

Esther 4:11 NKJV: "... any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, he has but one law: put all to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live. Yet I myself have not been called to go in to the king these thirty days."

Dangerous Things, Different Outcome

1. Fasting and Prayer Empowers Us to Come Boldly But Reverently Before the Lord.

- **Esther 5:1** NKJV Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, across from the king's house, while the king sat on his royal throne in the royal house, facing the entrance of the house.
- **Hebrews 4:16** NKJV Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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2. Fasting and Prayer Empowers Us to Walk in Who We Are in Christ.

- **Esther 5:1** NKJV Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** NKJV For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

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3. Fasting and Prayer Empowers Us to Receive More Favor.

- **Esther 5:2** NKJV So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter.
- **Esther 5:3** NKJV What is your request? It shall be given to you — up to half the kingdom!"
- **2 Corinthians 6:2** NIV: ... I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

- **Luke 4:18-19** NKJV: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."
- **James 4:6** NKJV But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

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4. Fasting and Prayer Empowers Us to Have Right Motives.

- **Matthew 6:17-18** NKJV "But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."
- **Esther 6:6** NKJV: ..."Whom would the king delight to honor more than me?"
- **Matthew 6:33** NKJV But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

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5. Fasting and Prayer Empowers Us to Walk in Our God-Given Authority.

- **Esther 8:8** NKJV "You yourselves write a decree concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; ...
- **Esther 8:11** NKJV By these letters the king permitted the Jews who were in every city to gather together and protect their lives — to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the forces of any people or province that would assault them...
- **Luke 10:19** NKJV "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

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6. Fasting and Prayer Empowers Us to Share the Favor We've Been Shown.

- **Esther 8:1-2** NKJV On that day King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her. 2 So the king took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai; and Esther appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman.
- **Esther 8:3** NKJV Now Esther spoke again to the king, fell down at his feet, and implored him with tears to counteract the evil of Haman the Agagite, and the scheme which he had devised against the Jews.

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Conclusion

- **Esther 8:13** NKJV A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province and published for all people, so that the Jews would be ready on that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.
- **Esther 3:7** NKJV: In the first month, which is the month of Nisan... they cast Pur (that is, the lot), before Haman to determine the day and the month, until it fell on the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar.
- **Esther 9:1** NKJV: On the day that the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, the opposite occurred, in that the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them.
- **Esther 9:26** NKJV: So they called these days Purim, after the name Pur.