

Esther Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Would Esther have been justified to think that she was abandoned by God when her parents died?

How did God prepare her for her difficult role in the history of Israel?

How had Esther's relationship to Mordechai contributed to her character development?

What evidence do we have for the depth of her spiritual life?

How did being the adopted daughter of Mordechai play into her eventual elevation to being queen?

Imagine you are a young Jewish girl with dreams of a nice Jewish family being "invited" to become part of a royal harem?

What options might have gone through her head?

What would be a typical response of a late-teen-aged girl today?

What are some reasons for being afraid of the king?

Was there a bias against preparing girls for significant roles in society at that time? Is there today?

Mordechai shared his knowledge of the danger to all Jews with Esther. How can those of us with children share significant events and conversations with young or adult children?

Was Esther truly at risk for doing what she did, to enter the king's presence?

Was Mordechai at risk for blowing the whistle on the most powerful man in the kingdom?

Was it unnecessarily risky for Mordechai to fail to bow to Haman?

Was it irresponsible to bring Esther into the danger?

How did God orchestrate the timing of the revelation about Mordechai's uncovering of the plot against the king?

How does this encourage us to look at difficult situations and ask the question, "What is God up to?"

Have you ever felt like you "blew it" in failing to respond to the leading of the Lord to do or say something you felt He wanted you to do? How should you respond?

Liberal scholars make a big deal about the absence of God's name in this book. How can they miss the evidence of God's intervention in this amazing story?

How does God arrange to solve the problem without changing the laws of the Medes and the Persians?

How does God incorporate human decisions into His will – for example making the Purim feast a two day festival?