

Sermon Outline
May 24, 2026

The Fingerprints of God | Making Decisions in a Broken World
Esther 2:12-23
Pastor Ryan Potelicki



Two Scenes

1. The coronation of a queen (v.12-18)

Esther 2:15, “When the turn came for Esther the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised.”

Esther 2:16-17, “And when Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, into his royal palace, in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign, the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she won grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.”

Two Scenes

1. The coronation of a queen (v.12-18)
2. The preservation of a king (v. 19-23)

Esther 2:23, “When the affair was investigated and found to be so, the men were both hanged on the gallows. And it was recorded in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.”

“The author does not allow us to come to simple answers when we consider Esther’s life in light of Scripture. The author is skillfully describing a morally ambiguous and complex situation because that is the way real life often is in this fallen world.”- Karen Jobes

Three Words of Counsel for Christians Making Decisions in a Broken World

1. Recognize: Every Christian will be faced with disputable decisions

Romans 14:3, “Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.”

Three Words of Counsel for Christians Making Decisions in a Broken World

1. Recognize: Every Christian will be faced with disputable decisions
2. Remember: Every Christian will stand before the judgment seat of Christ

Romans 14:4, “Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.”

Hebrews 9:14, “how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.”

Three Words of Counsel for Christians Making Decisions in a Broken World

1. Recognize: Every Christian will be faced with disputable decisions
2. Remember: Every Christian will stand before the judgment seat of Christ
3. Rejoice: God is the hero of our stories

“Here is hope for all those who find themselves in difficult circumstances in the present because of their past sin and compromise...Perhaps he has brought us to where we are today so that we can serve him in a unique way. If so, that doesn't make those wrong decisions and sinful actions right. But it should cause us to give thanks to God that he is able to form beautiful pictures out of our smudged and stained efforts. Past failures do not write us out of a significant part in God's script in the future.”- Iain Duguid