

# sermon notes

Adam Casalino, Verse By Verse Fellowship | Esther  
April 17, 2024 | The "King" of the World | **Esther 1:1-9**

- 1) Who wrote the book of Esther?
- 2) When was the book of Esther written?
- 3) Where was the book of Esther written?
- 4) Why was the book of Esther written?

## Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

### GO DEEPER

Who do you believe wrote the book of Esther? Why did he write this book? Why do you believe the writer left out the name of God?

Why did Ahasuerus throw these lavish feasts? What do you think Jewish readers thought about the Gentile king's display of wealth and power? How does Ahasuerus' actions remind you about our modern, unbelieving world?

In what way does Ahasuerus depict the character of Christ? Is Ahasuerus a positive example of Jesus? How might he be an "anti-type" of Christ? How does Ahasuerus' kingdom differ from the description of God's kingdom in Revelation 21 and 22?

### GET PERSONAL

What were the circumstances of the Jews living in the Persian empire? How are they similar to our circumstances living in a Gentile, secular culture?

Do you often feel as if God is far away? Why do you think he doesn't always "show off"?

How is God at work in your life right now? What is he teaching you through your circumstances? Can you see God doing something in your life even if he is "silent"?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

How does the world entice you to worship its "kings" and idols? What does Jesus Christ offer you that is superior than the world's displays of "pomp and splendor"? How is God speaking to you today? Is he challenging you to grow in some way?

What things of this world are you willing to give up to laid hold of the true riches of heaven? King Ahasuerus wanted his subjects to be awed by his power and might. The world in our day and age does the same. What temptations and traps do you see trying to entice you? What does God say about those temptations? How is Christ providing a much better way?

### ADVANCED QUESTIONS

In the book of Esther, God will be at work even when he is not named. It takes faith and discernment to see his work. How is God using you in a similar way, right now? If you do not believe God is using you in any way, how can you start making yourself available to him? Are there needs around you that can be met through your service and help? Is God calling you to a new level of commitment and sacrifice? How can he use you to make a difference in your home, job, community, and church?