

Story 77: Esther, Queen of Persia

The Israelites were slaves in Persia. Esther was a beautiful Israelite lady. The King of Persia needed a wife. He saw Esther and loved her very much. Soon they were married, but the king did not know Esther was a Jew. One of the king's officials, Haman, did not like Jews. He tricked the king into signing a law that all Israelites (Jews) must be killed. When Queen Esther heard about this, she was brave and told the King that she was a Jew. She asked him to protect her people. The King became very angry with Haman and had him hanged. Then the King found a way to stop the Jews from being killed. Through Esther, God kept his promise to bless and protect the descendants of Abraham.

Read this story in the Bible in the book of Esther, Chapters 1-9.

Words to Know

tricked – past tense of “trick” – to make someone believe something that is not true

brave – to have courage or no fear

protect – to shield from harm or injury; to guard

hanged – past tense of “hang” – to come to death by a rope around the neck

Questions

1. What were the Israelites doing in Persia?
2. Who was Esther?
3. How did Esther become the Queen of Persia?
4. What secret did Esther keep from the King?
5. Who was Haman? What bad thing did he do?
6. What did Esther do when she found out about Haman's plan?
7. What did the King do to Haman?
8. How did the King show he still loved Esther, even though she was a Jew?
9. How did God use Esther to keep his promise to Abraham?

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