

## **DIVINE OPPORTUNITY - WEEK 1**

### **For Such A Time As This**

#### **DEFINITION OF DIVINE OPPORTUNITY:**

A Divine opportunity is a moment when God invites human obedience to partner with His divine purpose.

**If it stretches you, scares you, or calls you higher – it may be divine.**

Esther 1:19, NIV

“Therefore, if it pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media, which cannot be repealed, that Vashti is never again to enter the presence of King Xerxes. Also let the king give her royal position to someone else who is better than she.

Esther 1:20, NIV

Then when the king’s edict is proclaimed throughout all his vast realm, all the women will respect their husbands, from the least to the greatest.”

Esther 2:5, NIV

Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai.

Esther 2:7, NIV

Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

Esther 2:9, NIV

She pleased him and won his favor. Immediately he provided her with her beauty treatments and special food. He assigned to her seven female attendants selected from the king’s palace and moved her and her attendants into the best place in the harem.

Esther 2:10, NIV

Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so.

Esther 2:17, NIV

Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favor and approval more than any of the other virgins. So he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esther 2:21, NIV

During the time Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the doorway, became angry and conspired to assassinate King Xerxes.

Esther 2:22, NIV

But Mordecai found out about the plot and told Queen Esther, who in turn reported it to the king, giving credit to Mordecai.

Esther 2:23, NIV

And when the report was investigated and found to be true, the two officials were impaled on poles. All this was recorded in the book of the annals in the presence of the king.

Esther 3:1, NIV

After these events, King Xerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, elevating him and giving him a seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles.

Esther 3:2, NIV

All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor.

Esther 3:6, NIV

Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.

Esther 3:7, NIV

In the twelfth year of King Xerxes, in the first month, the month of Nisan, the pur (that is, the lot) was cast in the presence of Haman to select a day and month. And the lot fell on the twelfth month, the month of Adar.

Esther 4:1, NIV

When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly.

Esther 4:12-13, NIV

When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape.

Esther 4:14, NIV

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Esther 4:16, NIV

"Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

Esther 5:9, NIV

Haman went out that day happy and in high spirits. But when he saw Mordecai at the king's gate and observed that he neither rose nor showed fear in his presence, he was filled with rage against Mordecai.

Esther 5:14, NIV

His wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Have a pole set up, reaching to a height of fifty cubits, and ask the king in the morning to have Mordecai impaled on it. Then go with the king to the banquet and enjoy yourself." This suggestion delighted Haman, and he had the pole set up.

Esther 6:1, NIV

That night the king could not sleep; so he ordered the book of the chronicles, the record of his reign, to be brought in and read to him.

Esther 6:3, NIV

“What honor and recognition has Mordecai received for this?” the king asked. “Nothing has been done for him,” his attendants answered.

Esther 6:4, NIV

The king said, “Who is in the court?” Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the palace to speak to the king about impaling Mordecai on the pole he had set up for him.

Esther 6:6, NIV

When Haman entered, the king asked him, “What should be done for the man the king delights to honor?” Now Haman thought to himself, “Who is there that the king would rather honor than me?”

Esther 7:3, NIV

Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request.

Esther 7:4, NIV

For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated.

Esther 7:9, NIV

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, “A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman’s house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king.” The king said, “Impale him on it!”

Esther 7:10, NIV

So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai.

Esther 8:1, NIV

That same day King Xerxes gave Queen Esther the estate of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came into the presence of the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her.

Esther 8:2, NIV

The king took off his signet ring, which he had reclaimed from Haman, and presented it to Mordecai. And Esther appointed him over Haman’s estate.

Esther 8:15, NIV

When Mordecai left the king's presence, he was wearing royal garments of blue and white, a large crown of gold and a purple robe of fine linen. And the city of Susa held a joyous celebration.

Esther 8:16, NIV

For the Jews it was a time of happiness and joy, gladness and honor.

### **1. Divine Opportunities Are Orchestrated by God.**

Ephesians 2:10, NKJV

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

### **2. Divine Opportunities Require Courageous Obedience.**

Esther 4:16, NIV

I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.”

### **3. Divine Opportunities Are Time-Sensitive.**

Esther 4:14, NIV

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”

Galatians 6:10, NIV

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

### **4. Divine Opportunities Often Bless Others, Not Just Us.**

Genesis 50:20, NIV

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

**Ask Yourself:**

- Who will be helped if I obey?
- Who will suffer if I don't?
- What story might God be writing through my yes?