"King Xerxes' Banquets" Esther 1:1-9

- I. BANQUET #1: "Ahasuerus...gave a banquet" (vv.1-3)
 - **A. Reign:** "reigned...India to Cush...127 provinces" (v.1)
 - **B. Ruling:** "sat on his royal throne...in Susa" (vv.2-3)
 - 1. Location: "in Susa the capital" (v.2)
 - 2. Leaders: "he gave a banquet for his princes..." (v.3)
- II. <u>BANQUET #2</u>: "the king gave a banquet" (vv.4-8)
 - **A. Exhibition:** "he displayed his riches...splendor" (v.4)
 - **B. Extravagance:** "a banquet lasting seven days" (vv.5-8)
 - 1. Desire: "for all the people...present in Susa" (v.5)
 - 2. Decor: "fine/linen...columns...couches...pavement" (v.6)
 - 3. Drinking: "golden vessels...no compulsion" (vv.7-8)
- III. BANQUET #3: "a banquet for the women" (v.9)
 - A. Feast: "Queen Vashti also gave a banquet" (v.9a)
 - **B. Females:** "a banquet for the women" (v.9b)
 - C. Facility: "palace belonged to King Ahasuerus" (v.9c)

Next week: Read Esther 1:10-22