

**THE SEARCH & SELECTION OF A NEW QUEEN**  
**How Did A Nice Jewish Girl Like You End Up in a Persian Palace Like This?**  
**(Esther 2:1-18)**

**A. Let's Understand the PRIMARY FACTORS that LED to the DETHRONING of QUEEN VASHTI. (1:1-22)**

**B. Let's Understand the PROVIDENTIAL PROCESS that LED to the DECIDING on QUEEN ESTHER. (2:1-18)**

**1. *It all started when the King* \_\_\_\_\_ **His past Queen Vashti and his decree and sensed his personal** \_\_\_\_\_. (2:1)**

- What had transpired in the meantime in his life? (2:1a, 16)
- What can we learn from this?
- What can we learn from this about your needs and God's solutions?

**2. This resulted in *an empire-wide* \_\_\_\_\_ **for a new queen with the King's approval. (2:2-4)****

- What about the practice of polygamy vs. the biblical model of monogamous marriage?
- What has God, and even the world, desired in a possible mate over the centuries?
- What should Christian parents today desire & value for their children?
- What must you remember about the counsel you receive from others?

**3. *Two specific people this decree would impact were* \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_. (2:5-9)**

- What do we know about Mordecai? (2:5-7a)
- What must we remember about displaced people in exile? (2:5-6)
- What do we know about Esther? (2:7-8)
- How does the Word of God look upon being orphaned and adopted?
- What does "was taken" indicate? (2:8)
- What are some serious moral dilemmas involved in all this and how are they resolved?

- What can you learn from this about parental training and a child's response or reaction to authority?

**4. *The secret that Esther had not revealed was her \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.* (2:10-11)**

- Why?
- Was Mordecai concerned about the outcome of all this? Can you relate?

**5. *The specific preparation and procedure are then explained in more detail.* (2:12-14)**

- What did it entail?
- What must we remember about external and internal beauty?

**6. *The selection by King Ahasuerus of Esther to become the next queen is finalized.* (2:15-18)**

- What character trait do we see reflected by Esther once again? (2:15a)
- What can we observe here about Esther's character?
- What response do we see again toward Esther? (2:15b)
- Why are the specific place and date included? (2:16)
- How did the King respond to Esther and what did she obtain from him? (2:17)
- What did the king do to celebrate obtaining a new queen? (2:18)

**7. *The sovereignty of God is manifested in this \_\_\_\_\_.* **God's determined plan will be accomplished even when His desired will is rejected!****

Some closing thoughts and applications:

- 1) What the Bible describes, it does not necessarily \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) What God ultimately controls, He does not necessarily \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) While God's hand at times seems invisible, His plan for you is ultimately \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) While your externals and internals may describe you, your relationship with Christ \_\_\_\_\_ you.
- 5) While there seems at times to be no hope physically, there is always hope \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) While God never blesses disobedience, but He sometimes blesses \_\_\_\_\_ it. This is grace!
- 7) While you may not have chosen your circumstances, God is willing to meet you right \_\_\_\_\_ you are at \_\_\_\_ you are willing to respond in yielded dependence upon Him.