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Today's Sermon:
Esther - Strength & Dignity:
Characteristics Of Strength And Dignity

Speaking: Dan Housam

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Esther - Strength & Dignity: Characteristics Of Strength And Dignity

(Esther 2 NIV)

³“Let the king appoint commissioners in every province of his realm to bring all these beautiful young women into the harem at the citadel of Susa. ... and let beauty treatments be given to them.

⁴Then let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti.”

⁵Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai ... ⁶who had been carried into exile from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, among those taken captive with Jehoiachin king of Judah. ⁷Mordecai 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.

⁸When the king’s order and edict had been proclaimed, many young women were brought to the citadel of Susa Esther also was taken to the king’s palace and entrusted to Hegai, who had charge of the harem.

_____ -Filled Charm

⁹She pleased (Hegai) 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.

Verbal _____

¹⁰Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so.

Humility

¹⁵When the turn came for Esther ... to go to the king, she asked for nothing other than what Hegai, the king’s eunuch who was in charge of the harem, suggested.

Esther won the favor of everyone who saw her. ... ¹⁷Now 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 others.

Teachable Spirit

²⁰But Esther had kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai’s instructions as she had done when he was bringing her up.

²⁴During 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. ²²But Mordecai found out about the plot and told Queen Esther, who in turn reported it to the king, giving credit to Mordecai. ²³And when the report was investigated and found to be true, the two officials were impaled on poles.