

Strength
&
Dignity



ESTHER Strength & Dignity

Finding Courage

(Esther 4 NIV)

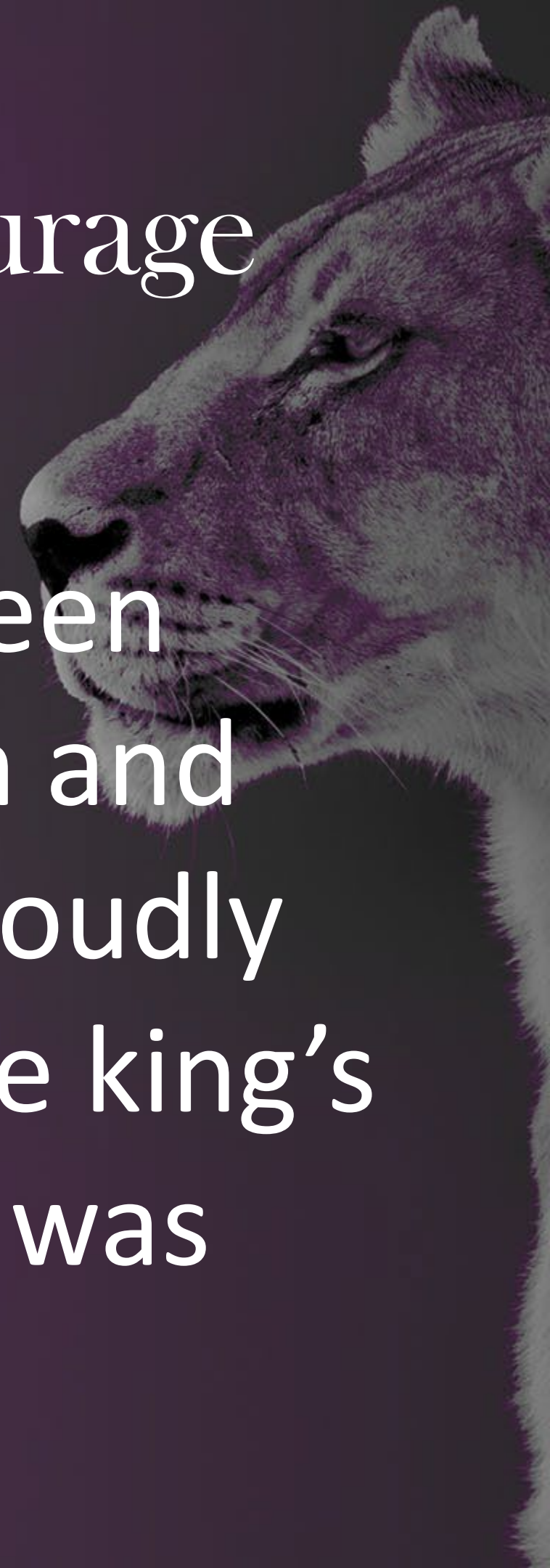


ESTHER Strength & Dignity

Finding Courage

Responding To The Unexpected

¹When 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. ²But he went only as far as the king's gate, because no one clothed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it.

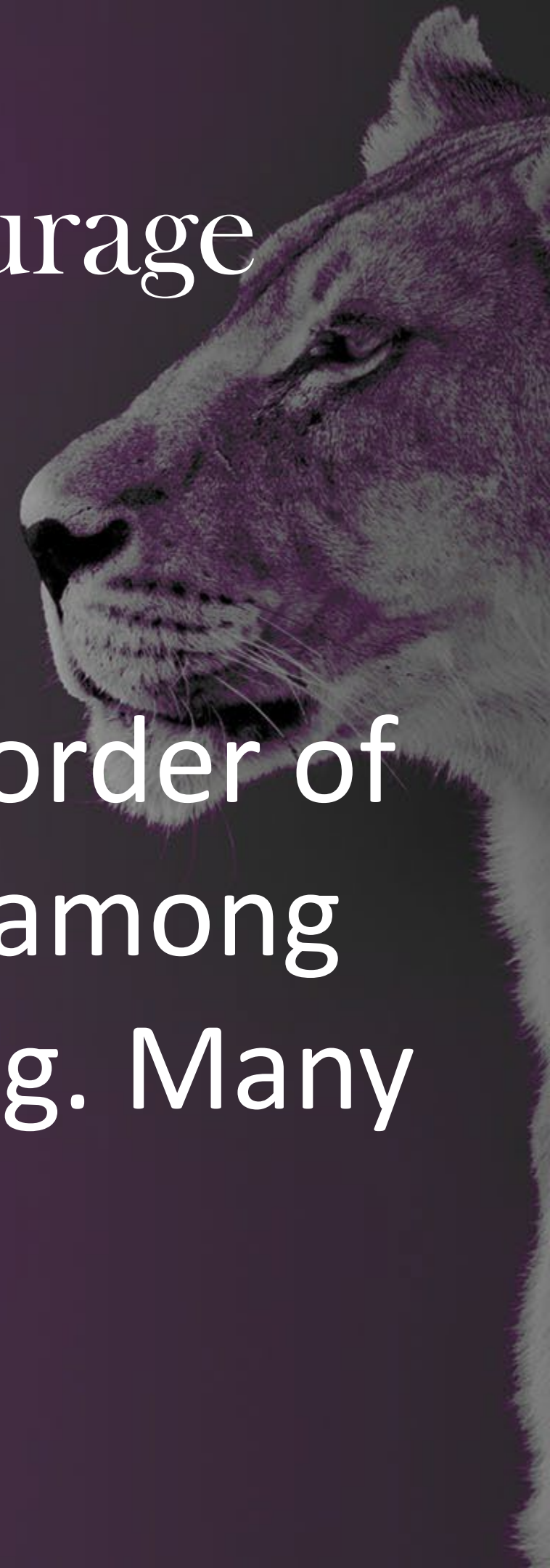


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Finding Courage

Responding To The Unexpected

³In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.



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Compassion For Suffering

⁴When Esther's eunuchs and female attendants came and told her about Mordecai, she was in great distress. She sent clothes for him to put on instead of his sackcloth, but he would not accept them.



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Compassion For Suffering

⁵Then Esther summoned Hathak, one of the king's eunuchs assigned to attend her, and ordered him to find out what was troubling Mordecai and why.



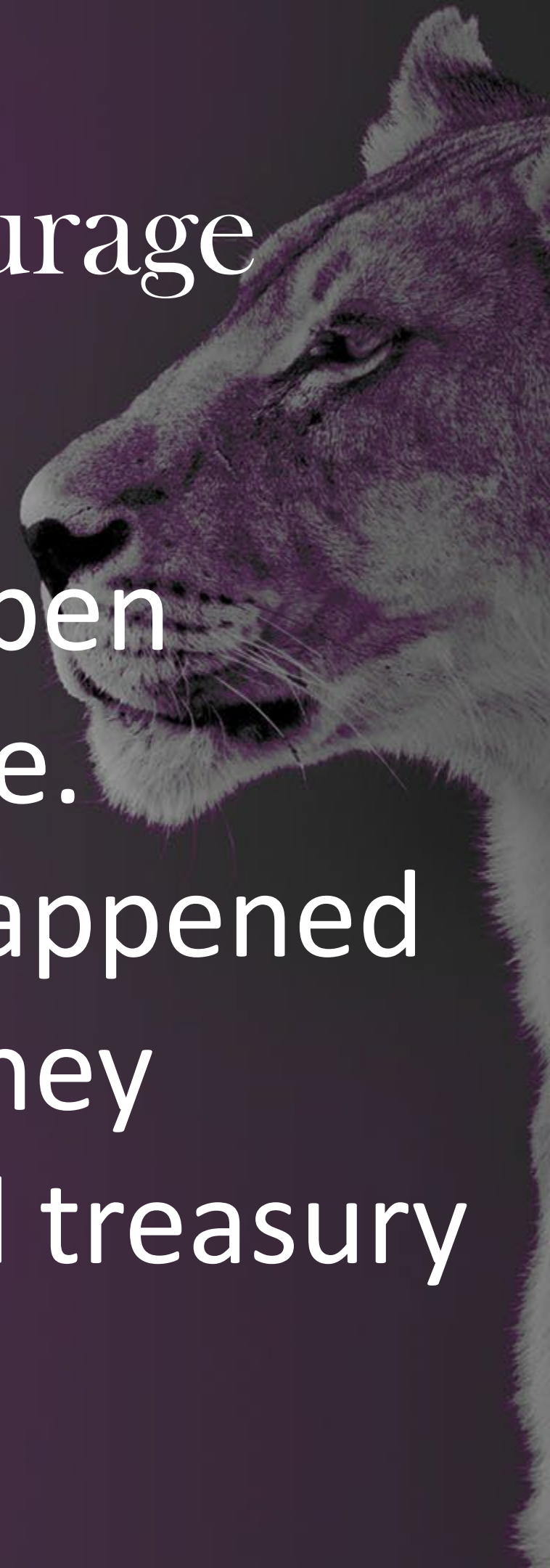
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Finding Courage

Find Reliable Information

⁶So Hathak went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate.

⁷Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews.

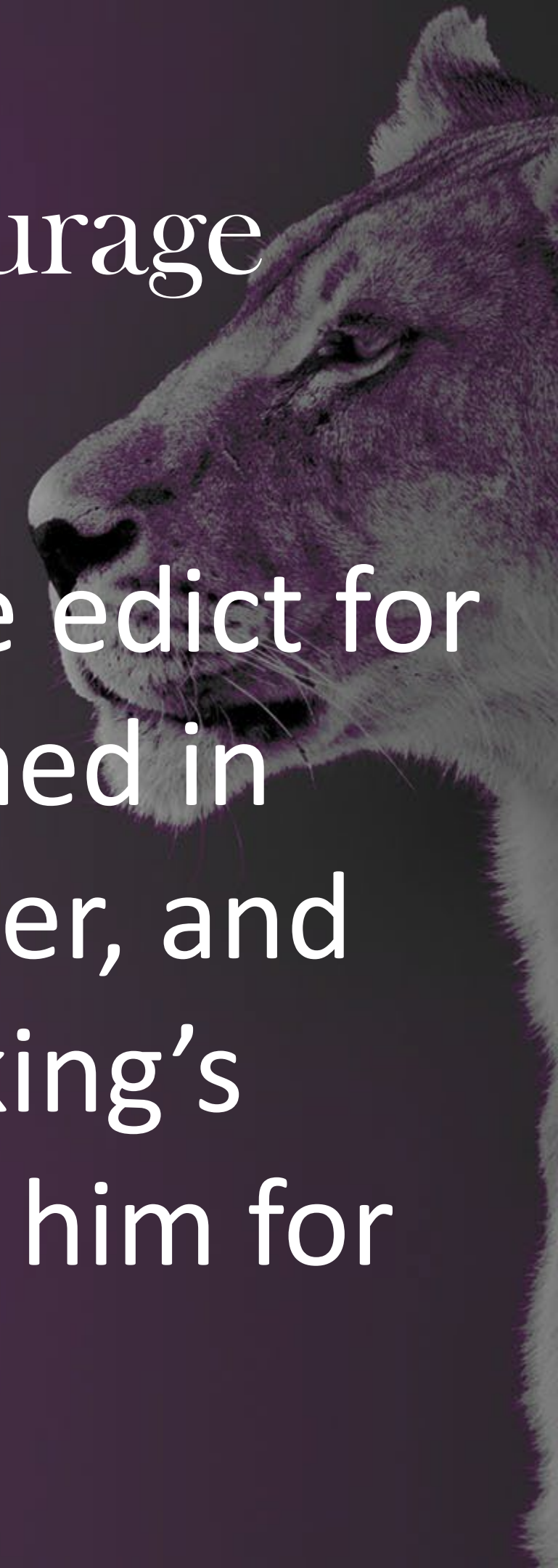


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Find Reliable Information

⁸He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict for their annihilation, which had been published in Susa, to show to Esther and explain it to her, and he told him to instruct her to go into the king's presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people.



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Assess The Risks

⁹Hathak went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, ...



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Assess The Risks

¹¹“All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. ...”



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Assess The Risks

But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.”



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Select Wise Advisors

¹²When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai,
¹³he sent back this answer: "Do not think that
because you are in the king's house you alone of all
the Jews will escape. ¹⁴For 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. ...



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Select Wise Advisors

... And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?”

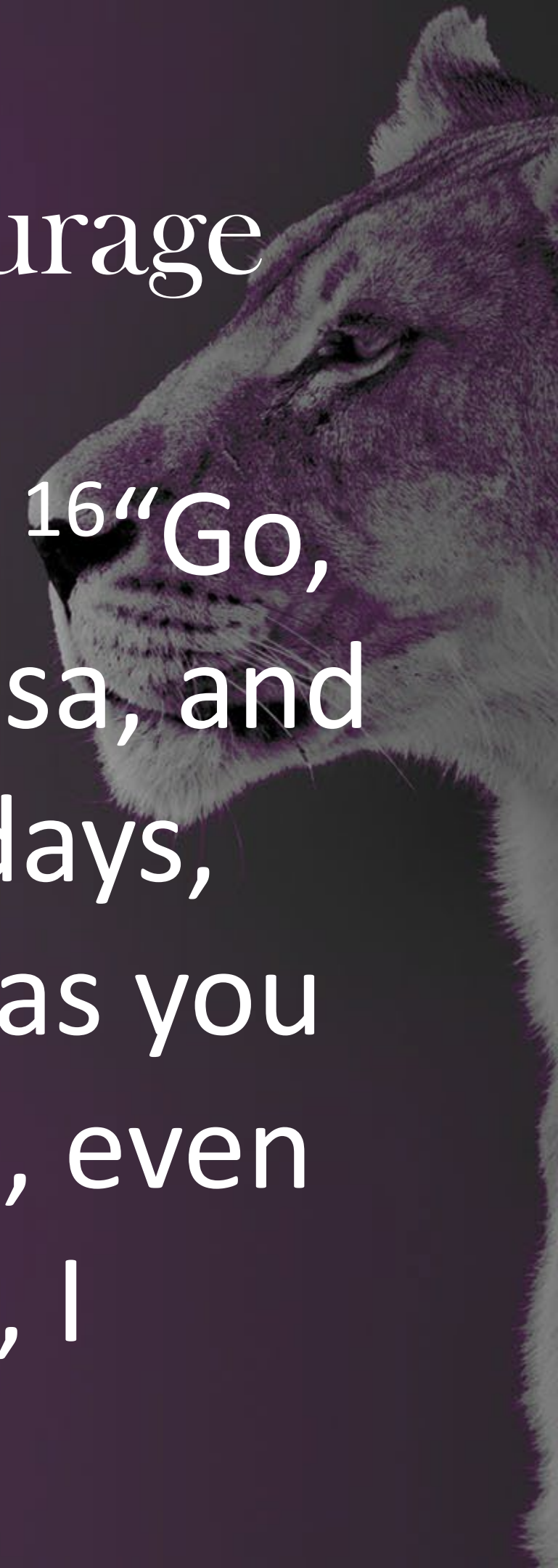


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Make A Plan And Act

¹⁵Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶“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.”



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Finding Courage

Make A Plan And Act

¹⁷So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.



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