

Title: Invisible, but Invincible!

Text: Esther 1-10

Target: The book of Esther is critiqued by scholars because it never mentions God by title, but today we will discover not only the thumbprint of God is evident in this story, but yours as well.

1. The Favor of God: (2:4)

- a. **Despite burdensome Circumstances:** *“when her father and her mother died” (2:7)*
- b. **During a Beauty Contest:** *“and won his favor...and advanced her and her young women to the best place in the harem” (2:9)*

Key Concept: If there were no STAND by Vashti there would be no STORY of Esther.

2. The Provision of God: (2:21)

- a. **In a Plot being Exposed:** *“he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai” (2:22)*
- b. **In Preservation from an Enemy:** *“Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage to him, Haman was filled with fury” (3:5)*
- c. **In a Plea against Extinction:** *“to go to the king to beg his favor and plead with him on behalf of her people” (4:8)*

Key Concept: If there were no INSIGHT for Mordecai, there would be INTERVENTION by Esther.

3. The Hand of God: (4:8)

- a. **Gave Confirmation:** *“For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place” (4:14)*
- b. **Gave Courage:** *“have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” (4:14)*
- c. **Gave Conviction:** *“Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish” (4:16)*

Key Concept: If there was no MESSENGER in Hathach, there would be no MEAL by Esther.

4. Timing of God: (5:2)

- a. **Invitation from a Queen:** *“let the king and Haman come to the feast that I will prepare...” (5:8)*
- b. **Intent of a Tyrant:** *“he had the gallows made” (5:14)*
- c. **Insomnia of a King:** *“On that night the king could not sleep. And he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds” (6:1)*
- d. **Inheritance for Mordecai:** *“let royal robes be brought, which the king has worn, and the horse that the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown is set” (6:8)*

Key Concept: If there were no written RECORDS, there would have been no REVELATION by Esther.

5. Deliverance of God: (7:5-6)

- a. **A Decree Revoked:** *“let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman” (8:5)*
- b. **A Day of Remembrance:** *“as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies” (9:22)*
- c. **A Defender of Righteousness:** *“sought the welfare of his people and spoke peace to all his people” (10:3)*

Key Concept: If we don't see the EVIDENCE of God in Esther it is only because we don't have the EYES of Esther.

Takeaway: The challenge of recognizing the physical presence of God in our daily lives requires eyes to see and a heart that feels, while possessing an open mind to the miraculous, but meticulous ways God reveals Himself.