

"Entrusting Ourselves to God"

Esther 4:1-17

April 30, 2023

I. Esther 4

- A. Mordecai reveals Haman's plot to Esther and commands her to beg the king to stop it.
- B. She initially refuses but is later "persuaded."
- C. With her mind made up, Esther commands Mordecai; and *he obeys her.* (4:17)
 - 1. This is a sudden reversal of what's been happening in the story so far:

Esther 2:20 - Esther had not made known her kindred or her people, as Mordecai had commanded her, for Esther obeyed Mordecai just as when she was brought up by him.

- 2. From this point forward, Esther is in the driver's seat of the story, the key actor instead of the one who's acted upon.

II. Implications and Applications

- A. Life stopped happening *to* Esther only when she decided to faithfully obey the Lord.
- B. We often feel that life is happening *to* us, as if we're always at the mercy of people, events, and forces outside of our control.
 - 1. This happens when we let our faith in the Lord's goodness and control waver, relying on our own schemes and comforts instead.
 - 2. When we reorient our focus to trust in the Lord, our perspective on life changes, allowing us to be both courageous and a blessing to others.
- C. Let us remember the example of Jesus, and consistently entrust ourselves to the Lord:

1 Peter 2:22-23 - ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.