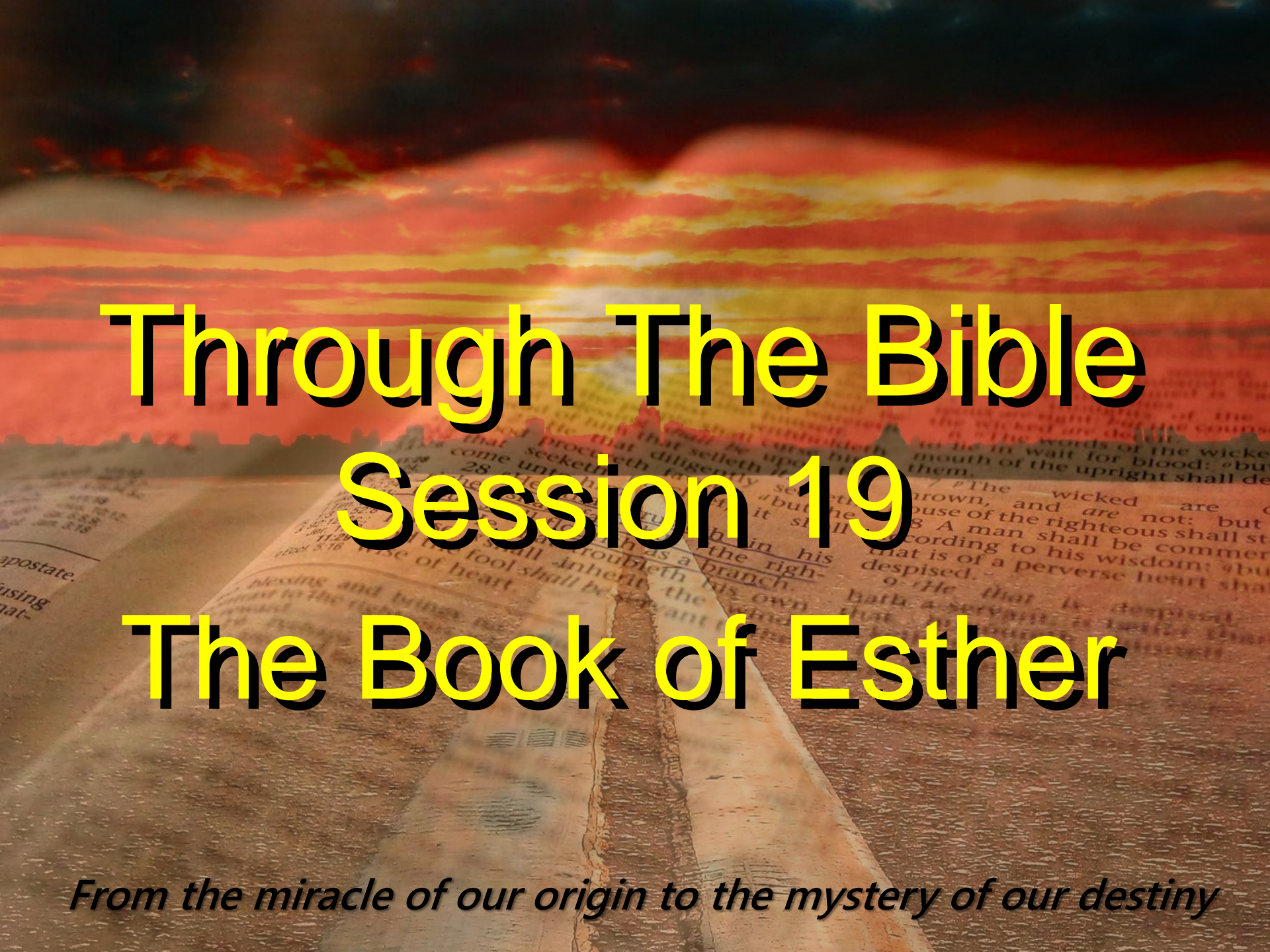


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Simply teaching the Word simply

A dramatic sunset with a sky of orange, red, and yellow clouds. In the foreground, an open Bible lies flat, showing text from the Book of Esther. The title "Through The Bible Session 19 The Book of Esther" is overlaid in large, bold, yellow text with a black outline.

Through The Bible Session 19 The Book of Esther

From the miracle of our origin to the mystery of our destiny

The Book of Esther

- Jewish tradition ascribes the book to Ezra
 - (It sits between ch 6 and 7 of Ezra)
- Theme: God's deliverance of His chosen people Israel from Satan's plans
- The book doesn't mention the name of God!
 - Luther suggested it be removed from the Bible
- Yet God is clearly behind the scenes
- God authenticates His Word
 - 5 Acrostics
 - 3 Equidistant letter sequences

Acrostics - Example

- “Jesus of Nazareth, the king of the Jews” Jn 19:19
– Written in Hebrew, Greek & Latin
- In Hebrew, just four words:
- **Y**eshua (Jesus)
- **H**a-Notzri (of Nazareth)
- **V**'Melekh (the King)
- **H**a-Yehudim (of the Jews)
- **Y H V H**
- The name of God!
- Psalm 119 is intentionally designed this way

Esther 1:20

היא וְכָל-הַנָּשִׁים יִתְּנָה

הוּהִי

YHWH

Initial letters: because the event was initial

Backwards: God was turning back the counsels of man.

Esther 5:4

יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמֵן הַיּוֹם

יְהוָה

YHWH

Initial letters: God was initiating the action;
Forward: God was ruling and causing Esther to act.

Esther 5:13

זֶה אֵינְנִי שׂוֹה לִי

הוהי

YHWH

Final letters: Haman's end was approaching;
Backwards: God was overruling Haman's gladness
and turning back Haman's counsel.

Esther 7:7

כִּי־כִלְתָּהּ אֱלֹהֵי הַרְעָה

יְהוָה

YHWH

Final: Haman's end had come;

Forward: God was ruling and bringing about the end He had determined.

Pairings

- 1) Initial
- 2) Initial
- 3) Final
- 4) Final

Initial: facts are initial

Final: facts are final.

- 1) Backward
- 2) Forward
- 3) Backward
- 4) Forward

Backward: Gentiles

Forward: Israelites

Introversion

- 1) Words spoken *concerning* a queen;
 - 2) Words spoken *by* a queen;
 - 3) Words spoken *by* Haman;
- 4) Words *concerning* Haman.

Esther 7:5

*Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen,
“Who is he, and where is he,
that durst presume in his heart to do so?”*

מִי הוּא זֶה וְאֵי-זֶה הוּא אֲשֶׁר-מָלְאוּ לְבוֹ לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן:

הִיֵּא = “I AM”

Esther 1:3

An Equidistant Letter Sequence, interval of 8.

בְּשָׁנָה שְׁלוֹשׁ לְמַלְכוֹ עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֶּה לְכָל־שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו חֵיל

מְשִׁיחַ

Meshiach, Messiah

Esther 4:7

An Equidistant Letter Sequence, interval of 8.

וַיַּעֲבֹר מֵרֶדְדֵי וַיַּעַשׂ כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-צִוְתָהּ עָלָיו אֶסְתֵּר:

עֲרֻשֵׁי

Yeshua, Jesus

Esther 4:2

An Equidistant Letter Sequence, interval of 7:

עַד לְפָנַי שְׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי אֵין לְבוֹא אֶל-שְׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּלְבוּשׁ שָׂקָ:
וַיָּבוֹא

וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ
אֱלֹהֵי

El Shaddai, The Almighty

Esther 3:11-12

An Equidistant Letter Sequence, interval of 6:

וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַמָּן הַכֹּסֵף נָתַן לָךְ וְהָעַם לַעֲשׂוֹת בּוֹ
כַּטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ:

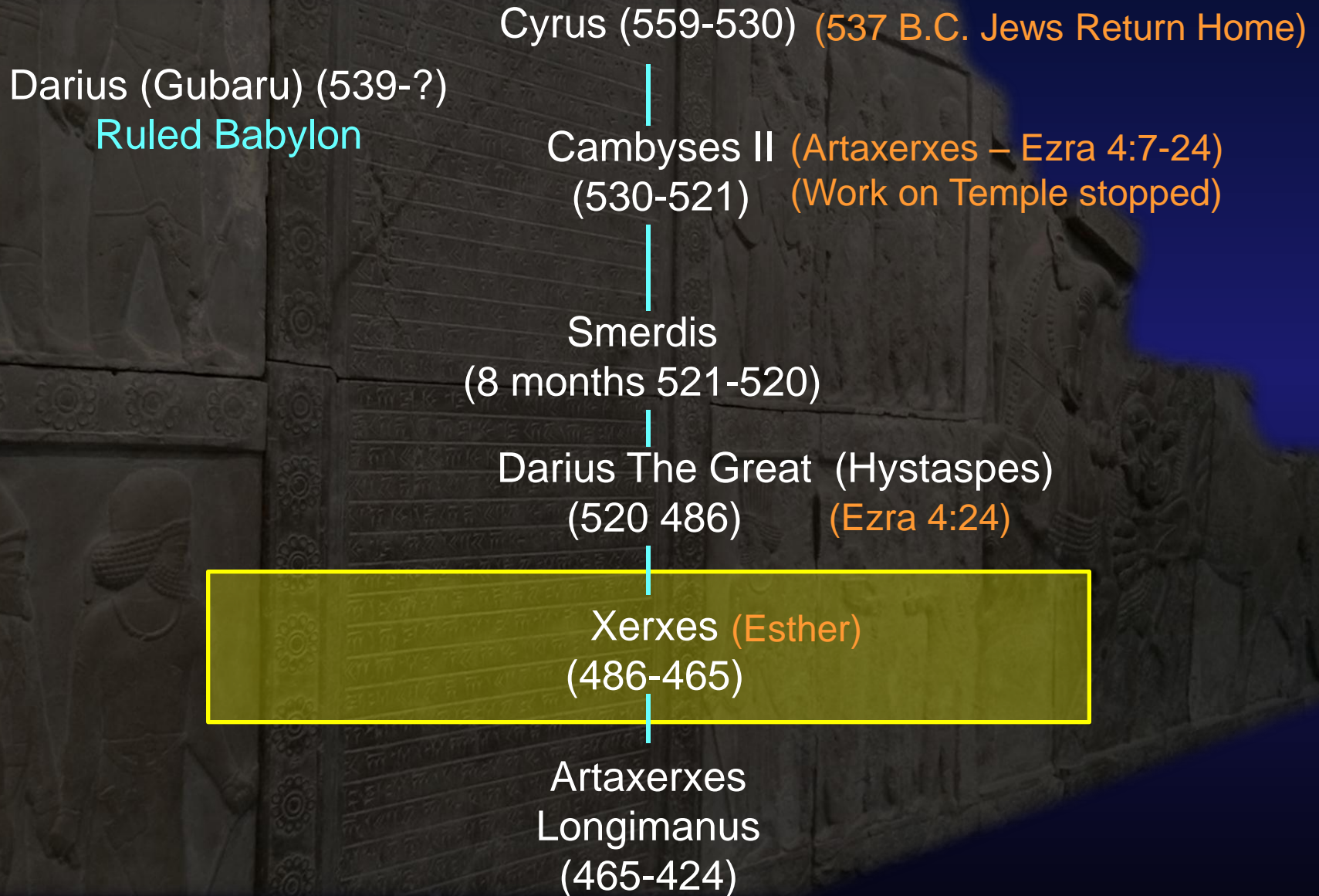
וַיִּקְרְאוּ סִפְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן בַּשְּׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם

הַמָּן וְשַׂטָּן רַיַּח

haman v'satan ray'yach

“Haman and Satan stink.”

Kings of Persian Empire



The Persian Empire



History of the Times

- The background for the book of Esther sees one of the most significant battles in history
 - The Battle of Salamis 480 B.C.
- The Greek city-states of Athens and Eretria had supported the unsuccessful Ionian revolt against the Persian Empire of Darius I in 499-494 BC
- This revolt threatened the integrity of his empire, and Darius vowed to punish those involved
 - Darius also saw this as an opportunity to expand his empire into the divided Greece
- After a successful mission in 492 B.C. the following year Darius sent emissaries to all the Greek city-states, asking for a gift of 'earth and water'

History of the Times

- Having experienced a demonstration of his power the previous year, the majority of Greek cities capitulated.
- In Athens, however, his ambassadors were put on trial, then executed; in Sparta, they were thrown down a well.
- Sparta & Athens were now at war with Persia
- In 490 B.C. Darius attacked Naxos, Eretria, et al
- Finally, he moved against Athens, landing at the bay of Marathon,
- Although heavily outnumbered the Athenians won a remarkable victory, which resulted in the withdrawal of the Persian army to Asia

History of the Times

- Darius, enraged, began raising a huge new army with which he meant to completely subjugate Greece
- However, in 486 BC, his Egypt also revolted bringing to a temporary halt his plans for Greece
- Darius then died whilst preparing to march on Egypt, and the throne of Persia passed to his son
- Enter Xerxes I.
- Xerxes crushed the Egyptian revolt, and very quickly restarted the preparations for the invasion of Greece. Since this was to be a full scale invasion, it required long-term planning, stock-piling and conscription.



The Book of Esther

Chapter 1

The scene is set...

1 Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, (this is Ahasuerus which reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over an hundred and seven and twenty provinces:)

2 That in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the palace,

Esther 1:1-8

3 In the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

4 When he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore days.

Esther 1:1-8

5 And when these days were expired, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both unto great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace;

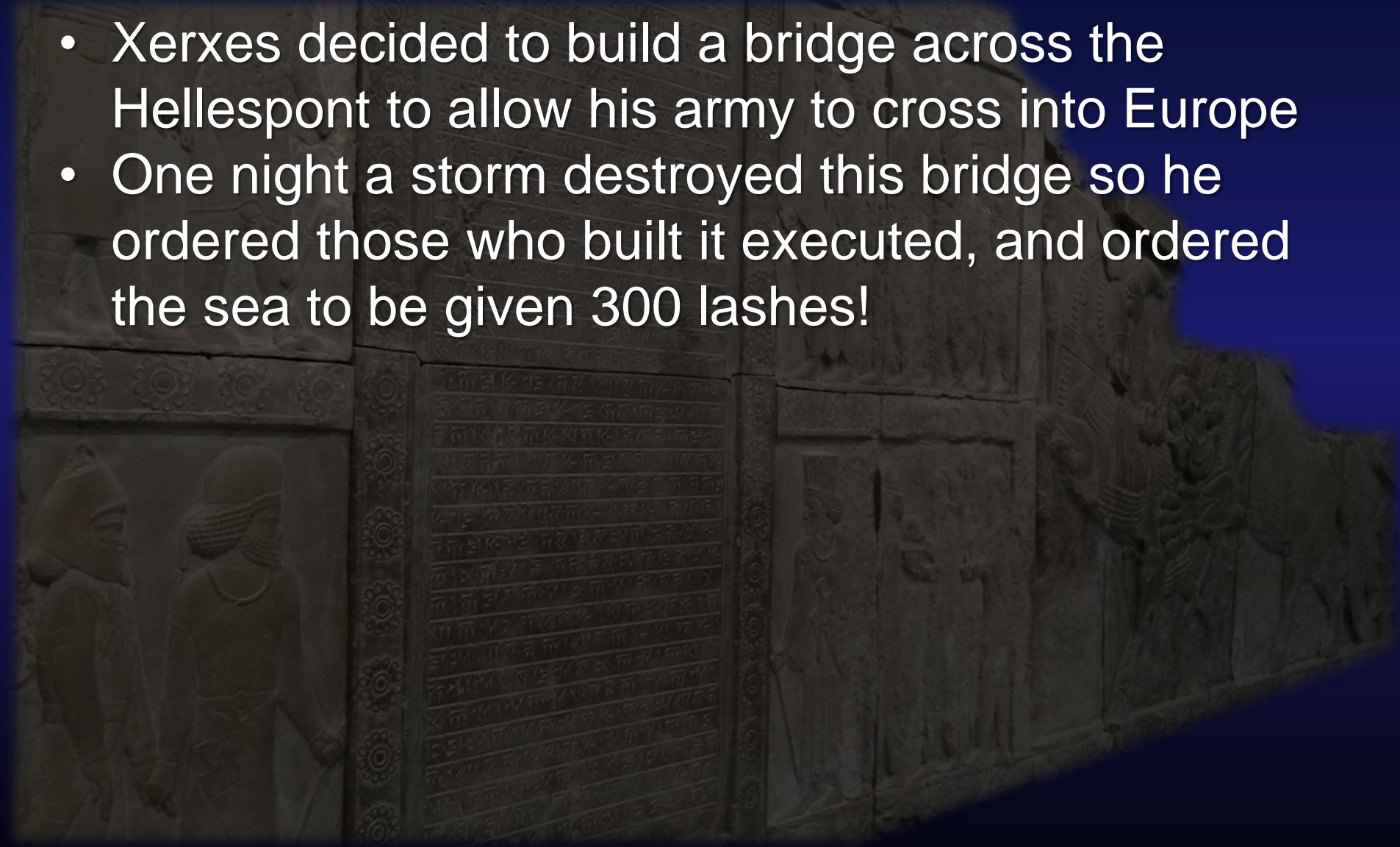
6 Where were white, green, and blue, hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black, marble.

7 And they gave them drink in vessels of gold, (the vessels being diverse one from another,) and royal wine in abundance, according to the state of the king.

8 And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel: for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.

Xerxes I

- Xerxes decided to build a bridge across the Hellespont to allow his army to cross into Europe
- One night a storm destroyed this bridge so he ordered those who built it executed, and ordered the sea to be given 300 lashes!



9 Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

10 On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded ... the seven chamberlains that served in the presence of Ahasuerus the king,

11 To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty: for she was fair to look on.

12 But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains: therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

13 Then the king said to the wise men, which knew the times, (for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment...

15 What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?

16 And Memucan answered before the king and the princes, Vashti the queen hath not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the people that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus.

17 For this deed of the queen shall come abroad unto all women, so that they shall despise their husbands in their eyes, when it shall be reported, The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not.

19 If it please the king, let there go a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she

Esther 1:19

Royal Humiliation

- Vashti is banished:

19 If it please the king, let there go a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she

Esther 1:19

- Then begins the search for a new queen

History of the Times

- By early 480 BC, the preparations were complete, and Xerxes' army marched towards Europe
- The Athenian-led Greeks had also been preparing for war
 - under the guidance of the Athenian politician Themistocles
- Themistocles spread the rumour that the Greeks were disbanding and lured the Persians into narrow water between Salamis & the mainland
- History records 378 Greek ships vs 1207 Persian
 - Conservative scholars suggest 600-800 Persian
- Greece was outnumbered at least 2:1
- Yet wins a decisive victory

History of the Times

Salamis

The Greek World during the Persian Wars (500-479 BC)

- ★ Ionian revolt
- ✕ Main battle
- Greek opponents of Persia
- Greek neutral states
- Persian empire
- Persian vassal states
- Ionian rebels (498 BC)
- Mardonius (492 BC)
- Artaphernes/Datis (490 BC)
- Xerxes/Mardonius (480 BC)

0 30 100 km



History of the Times



THE BATTLE OF SALAMIS,

480 B.C.

SCALE OF MILES



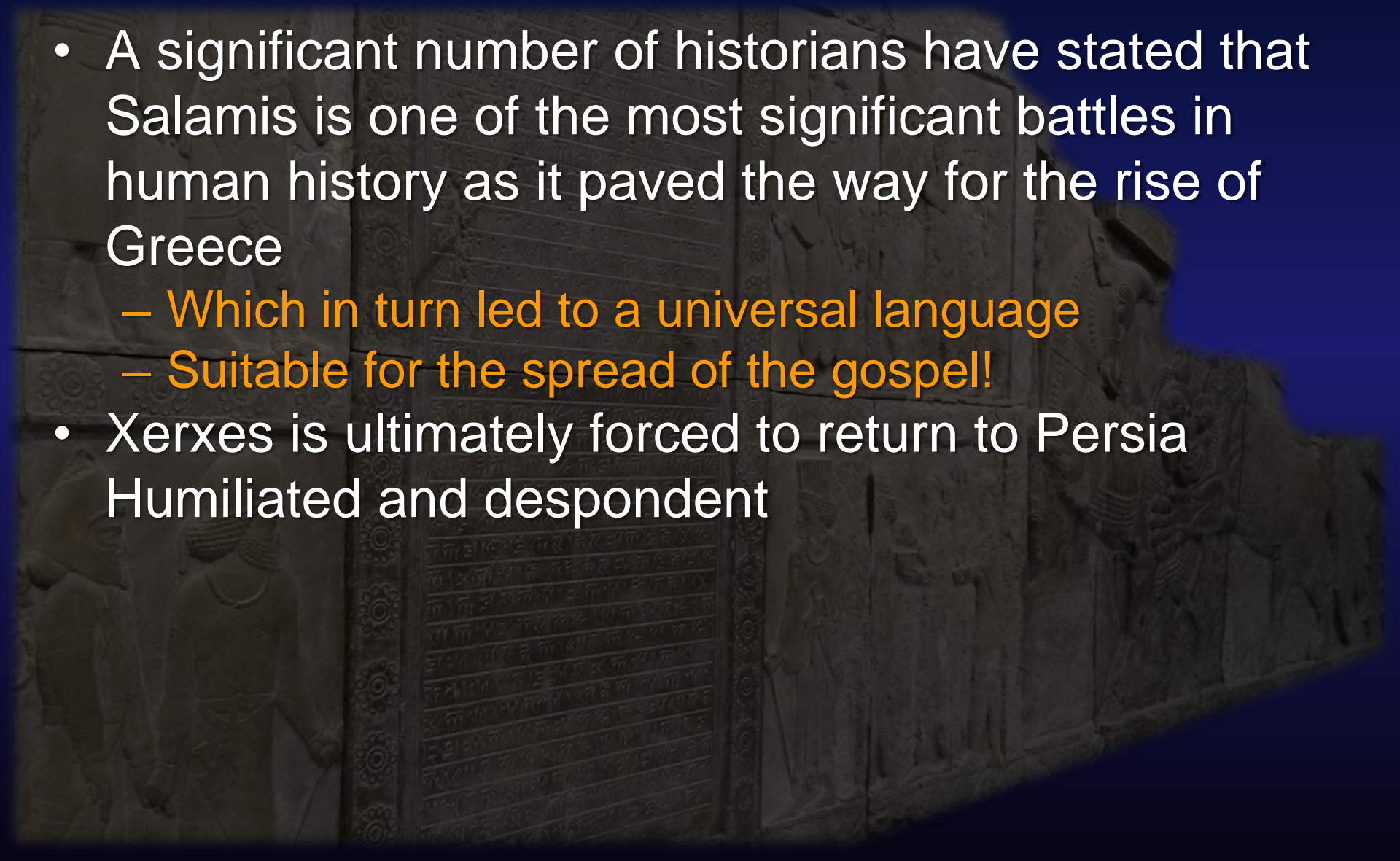
Geographic Cell of Excellence

Geography is the study of the earth and its features.



History of the Times

- A significant number of historians have stated that Salamis is one of the most significant battles in human history as it paved the way for the rise of Greece
 - Which in turn led to a universal language
 - Suitable for the spread of the gospel!
- Xerxes is ultimately forced to return to Persia Humiliated and despondent



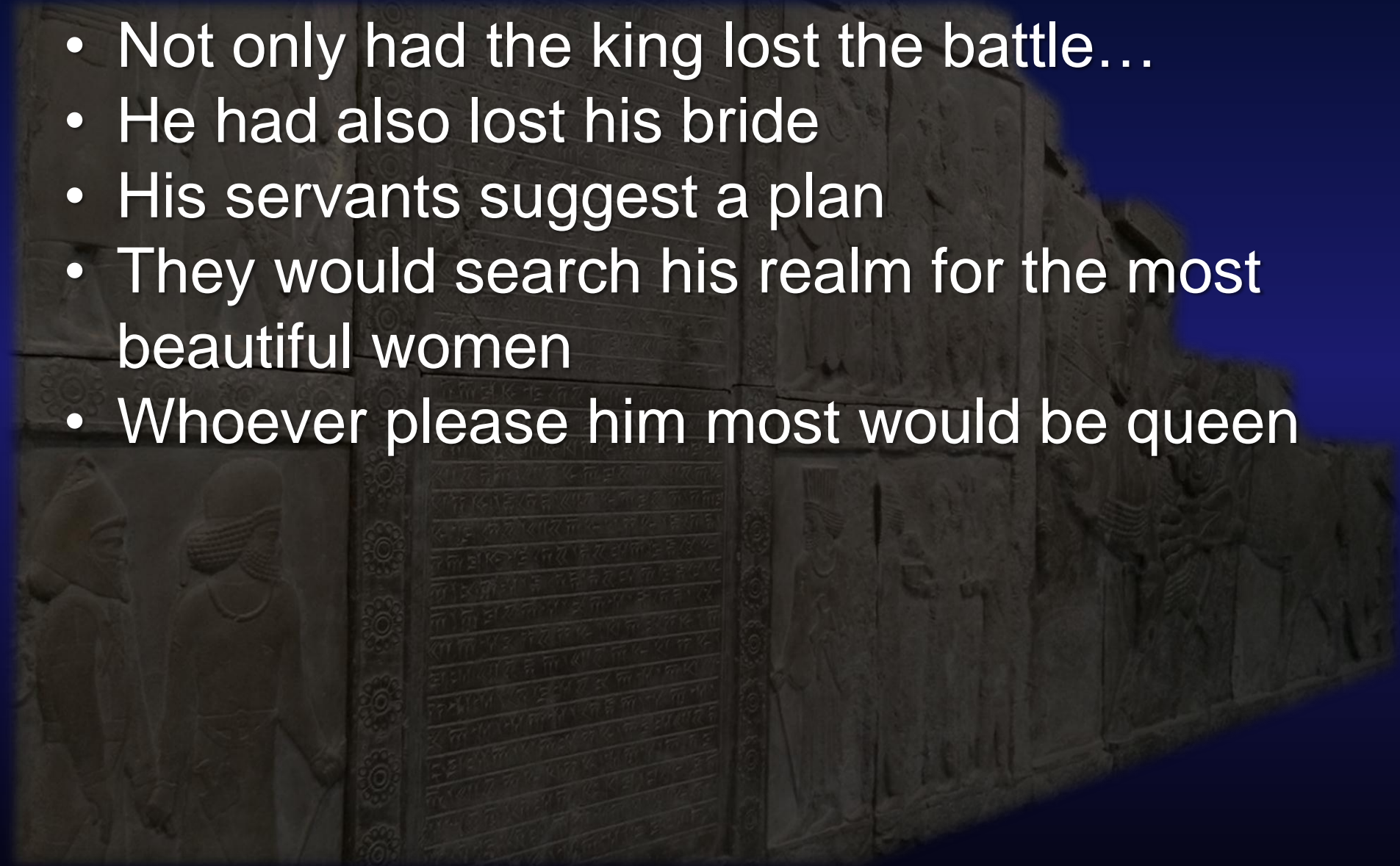


The Book of Esther

Chapter 2
The Royal Bride

A Despondent King

- Not only had the king lost the battle...
- He had also lost his bride
- His servants suggest a plan
- They would search his realm for the most beautiful women
- Whoever please him most would be queen



5 Now in Shushan the palace there was a certain Jew, whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite;

6 Who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity which had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.

7 And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter: for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

Mordecai

- David declined to take vengeance on Shimei 2 Sam 16:5-13; 19:16-23
- Mordecai was a descendant of Shimei, of the House of Kish, the father of King Saul, a product of David's grace
- He will ultimately confront Haman, the result of Saul's failure to follow God's instructions
- He refuses to do obeisance to Haman...

Shushan (Susa)



Part of the remains of Susa. The Susa inscription from King Darius states *"This palace which I built at Susa"* - Louvre Museum

Shushan (Susa)



Shushan (Susa)

Glazed brick guardsman

This was part of a frieze depicting rows of guards. The vivid colours show how the carved stone sculptures would have looked when they were painted. The guards are thought to be members of the 1000 special royal guards. They were said to have formed part of the royal army known as the 'Immortals' because their strength was always apparently maintained at this level.

521–500 BC

East gate of palace, Susa, Iran

132525 Permanent loan from the Musée du Louvre, Sb 4001



Shushan (Susa)



The New Queen

- Esther is chosen as queen
- But Mordecai counsels *not* to reveal her nationality

21 In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those which kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

22 And the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name.

23 And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.



The Book of Esther

Chapter 3
Attempted Genocide

1 After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.

2 And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed, and revered Haman: for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence.

The Plot of Haman

- *“Haman was full of wrath”* ^{v5}
- He then sought to kill Mordecai...
- ...And all the Jews in the realm!
- Haman seeks an audience with the king
- ...speaks ill of the Jews
- ...and advises that the king agree to have all the Jews killed
- Haman even offers to bankroll the project
- The king is coerced and gives Haman his ring as a sign of his authority
- Letters are then sent setting the day



The Book of Esther

Chapter 4

For such a time as this

1 When Mordecai perceived all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

2 And came even before the king's gate: for none might enter into the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.

Esther 4:1-14

3 And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4 So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told it her. Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received it not.

5 Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

6 So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which was before the king's gate.

7 And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.

8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.

9 And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

10 Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.

12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

Esther 4:1-14

13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

For such a time...

- Esther agrees to petition the king
- ...but calls all the Jews to fast for 3 days and 3 nights



The Book of Esther

Chapter 5
A Royal Banquet

A Royal Banquet

- Esther goes to see the king
- He holds out his royal sceptre
- Esther invites the king, and Haman to a banquet
- At the banquet the king offers up to half the kingdom!
- Esther then invites the king, and Haman to a 2nd banquet the following day
- Haman, full of pride (and drink) marches home, only to see Mordecai refusing to bow!
- Haman orders a gallows built for Mordecai



The Book of Esther

Chapter 6
A Sleepless Night

1 On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

2 And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

Esther 6:1-10

3 And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

4 And the king said, Who is in the court? Now Haman was come into the outward court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.

5 And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in.

6 So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?

Esther 6:1-10

7 And Haman answered the king, For the man
whom the king delighteth to honour,
8 Let the royal apparel be brought which the king
useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth
upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his
head:

Esther 6:1-10

9 And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

Esther 6:1-10

10 Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou has spoken.

Esther 6:1-10

Pride Before a Fall

- Haman then has to lead Mordecai through the streets proclaiming *“Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honour”*
 - His own words!
- The people of the city were already bemused by Haman’s edict to kill all the Jews
- Now they must have scratched their heads as Haman publicly honours his adversary!
- As Haman returns home (with his head covered in shame) his wife offers words of comfort:

Pride Before a Fall

10 If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.

Esther 6:13

Pride Before a Fall

- 5 ..be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

1 Peter 5:5-6

Pride Before a Fall

12 *And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased;
and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.*

Matt 23:12

Pride Before a Fall

- 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*
- 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;*
- 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;*
- 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)*
- 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.*

1 Timothy 3:2-6

Pride Before a Fall

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Isaiah 14:13-15



The Book of Esther

Chapter 7
Later that day...

14 And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hasted to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

ESTHER 7

1 So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

Esther 6:14 - 7:1

2 And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

Esther 7:2-10

3 Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:

4 For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.

5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?

6 And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

Esther 7:2-10

7 And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

Esther 7:2-10

8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

Esther 7:2-10

9 And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon.

10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

Esther 7:2-10

Haman's Gallows

- Many commentators stress that the 'gallows' should actually be a 'cross'
- The Persian's 'invented crucifixion' and commentators suggest that Haman was 'impaled'
- However, in 9:13 we find that Haman's sons are also 'hanged' on the 'gallows'
- But after they were dead! Ch 9:12-14
- This was done as a public display!
- Remember the 'Gallows' were 50 cubits high
 - 75 feet tall!

The Ten Sons of Haman

Parshandatha	Curious Self	busy-body
Dalphon	Weeping Self	self-pity
Aspatha	Assembled Self	self-mobilized; self-sufficiency
Poratha	Generous Self	spend-thriftiness; self-indulgence
Adalia	Weak Self	self-consciousness; inferiority
Aridatha	Strong Self	assertiveness; insists upon one's way
Parmashta	Preeminent Self	ambition; desire for preeminence
Arisai	Bold Self	imprudence
Aridai	Dignified Self	pride; haughtiness; sense of superiority
Vaizatha	Pure Self	worst of all: self-righteousness



The Book of Esther

Chapter 8
Reversing The Decree?

Reversing The Decree?

- Esther is then granted all of Haman's estate
- Esther tells the king that Mordecai is her cousin
- The king then promotes Mordecai and gives him the ring that he had previously given to Haman
- But the edict to kill all the Jews was still in force
- So Esther once again petitions the king
- The decree cannot be reversed...
- ...but it can be 'superseded' !



The Book of Esther

Chapter 9
The Feast of Purim

I Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them, (though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them;)

Esther 9:1-4

2 The Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt: and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all people.

Esther 9:1-4

3 And all the rulers of the provinces, and the lieutenants, and the deputies, and officers of the king, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them.

4 For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

Esther 9:1-4

Victory over the enemy

- On the appointed day, the Jews then have victory over their enemies
 - 500 in Shushan
 - 75,000 throughout the realm
- This becomes a national celebration throughout the realm
- Gifts are sent and it becomes a day of joy
- The feast of Purim is thus now part of the annual Jewish feast-calendar.



The Book of Esther

Chapter 10

The Humble Exalted

1 And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

2 And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

Esther 10:1-3

3 For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.

Esther 10:1-3

Lessons From Esther

- 1. The most high rules in the kingdoms of men, **Daniel 4:25**
- 2. We see the silent working of God in human affairs.
- 3. The modesty of Vashti and her convictions about exposing herself to the lustful eyes of men is a needed example in our day, **1:11-12.**
 - **For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**
Matt 16:26,

Lessons From Esther

- 4. We see the destructive influence of strong drink in the conduct of Ahasuerus toward his wife. How many relationships break down through excess alcohol?
 - “don’t be given to wine” 1 Tim 3:3, 3:8 Titus 1:7,2:3
- 5. Even an oriental moral reprobate like Ahasuerus appreciated the chaste beauty of the young Jewish virgin.
- 6. Anti-semitism is not a phenomenon of our century. Haman was the Hitler of his day.

Lessons From Esther

- 7. We see the evil influence of false pride in Haman who would kill a man who would not bow before him.
- 8. In the Persian's law that could not be recalled, we see the foolishness of a man, organization or government that cannot admit it has made a mistake and correct its course.
- 9. In Haman's evil plot we see the meaning of *Psalm 76:10, "Surely the wrath of man shall praise Thee"*

Lessons From Esther

- 10. Were we called into the kingdom for such a time as this? 4:14.
 - Will you stay silent or speak on behalf of God?
- 11. To try and fail is not sin, but faithlessness is.
- 12. God always raises up a deliverer for his people when they repent and look to Him.
- 13. The wicked are often hung on their own gallows because of God's providence.

Lessons From Esther

- 14. Let us remember to thank God for every deliverance.
- 15. We will always be more than conquerors through him that loved us, **Rom 8:37**



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