



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Friday, 05/20/2022

Scripture: Esther

TITLE – Esther – You Can't Cheat Fate

One of the oddest and most memorable movies from my childhood is *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*. It's an unusual tale of cartoons and humans and a villain set on eradicating all "toons." Because you'll never see it, I'll tell you the ending. The bad guy was a toon who ended up being destroyed by his own plot and device. A fitting form of justice.

Well, the Bible has a similar story that is even better and true. What is that story? It's the story of Esther.

The story of Esther fits between Ezra chapters six and seven. It's between the exodus led by Zerubbabel and the exodus led by Ezra. It provides the only biblical story of the majority of Jews who chose to remain in Persia. We don't know who wrote this book. We do know it covers approximately 10 years. The book is split into two sections. Chapters 1-4 is an amazing story of plotting, evil, racism, and threat to the Jews. Chapters 5-10 contain the triumph of the Jews and an incredible ending of perfect justice. The book of Esther is unique in the Bible because the name of God never appears, but His thumbprint is found throughout.

How? It's in God's providence. You simply cannot cheat fate. Without giving too much away, there is a plot from Haman to destroy all the Jews. But Esther was made queen, and she was a Jew.

This exchange is recorded in Esther 4:13-14.

"Mordecai told the messenger to reply to Esther, 'Don't think that you will escape the fate of all the Jews because you are in the king's palace. If you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will come to the Jewish people from another place, but you and your father's family will be destroyed. Who knows, perhaps you have come to your royal position for such a time as this.'"

There is nothing that God is unaware of or unable to effect. God is the sovereign one. What God has planned, we cannot alter. We cannot cheat fate.

And where is Christ in Esther? Well, as already noted, this is the only book of the Bible that God's name does not appear. But we see a type of Christ in Esther. We see God's providence in the preservation of the Jews and the coming of the Messiah. And in Esther 4:14, Mordechai recognizes that Esther's position at the right time was fate.

We get this principled reminder in Colossians 1:16-17. *"For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or*

authorities— all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and by him, all things hold together.”

What’s the main thing from the Book of Esther? You can’t cheat fate. God is the sovereign one. God has a plan. You are in it. Nothing that happens around us will change that.

So here’s my challenge for you today: Be ready. God has you right where He wants you. Yes, the world may be falling down around you. God has prepared you, placed you, and will use you in a special way for Him. So be ready for anything. God’s call is imminent.

When we are ready to serve the King, we will win the day.