

# ISRAEL WAS RESCUED

**Bible Passage:** Esther 3-8

**Memory Verse:** Psalm 27:1

**Text Truth:** God used Esther to rescue His people.

**Christ in Context:** The Book of Esther highlights our need for deliverance. Jesus is our deliverer. He came to live a perfect life and die on the cross for our sin. God raised Him from the dead. Jesus delivers us from our old life of sin to a new life changed by His grace and mercy.

**Key Points:**

1. God had a plan to rescue His people.
2. God uses ordinary people for extraordinary purposes.

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### Esther 3-8

King Ahasuerus ruled the Persian Empire. He had chosen Esther to be his queen. One of the king's leaders was an evil man named Haman, Haman decided that he wanted to get rid of all the Jewish people in the empire. So he made plan and he convinced the king to make his plan a law.

Now Queen Esther's relative, Mordecai, heard about the new law and he was very upset. Mordecai sent a message to Esther. He told her about the new law. Esther was also Jewish, but the king did not know that. Mordecai begged Esther that this might be the reason she had been picked to be queen—so she could save her people.

Esther knew that it was against the law to go see the king if he hadn't asked for you to come. But she knew that she had to go see him anyway. Esther put on her royal clothes and she went to see the king. The king saw Esther invited the king and Haman to a special banquet. The king and Haman went to the banquet. At the banquet, the king asked Esther to tell him what she wanted. He promised to give her anything, even half of the kingdom. Esther asked the king and Haman to come to another banquet.

Haman was very happy. The queen had invited him to a special banquet. The king had given him a special job in the kingdom, and his plan to get rid of Mordecai and the Jewish people was going to

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## ISRAEL WAS RESCUED (Continued)

### Esther 3-8

Happen soon.

The king and Haman again came to a special feast prepared by Queen Esther. The king again Esther, “Whatever you ask will be given to you.”

This time Esther said, “If the king is pleased, spare my life and the lives of my people. We have been sold to destruction and death.”

“Who is the one who created this plan?” the king asked.

“Haman.” Queen Esther answered.

The king was very angry. Haman was killed instead of the Jewish people.

The king wrote a new law that would help the Jewish people protect themselves against the people who tried to kill them. Esther had interceded for and saved her people.



## SCEPTERS

Tools: 2-3 inch foam balls, wooden skewer sticks, aluminum foil, foil stickers.

- Explain: “A scepter was a symbol of the king’s power. When a visitor wanted to approach the king, the king would hold out his scepter to show that the visitor could approach him. All scepters looked a little differently, but most of them were ornate with gold and precious stones.”
- Demonstrate how to wrap both the foam ball and the skewer stick in aluminum foil. Then using the sharp end of the skewer, push it carefully into the foam ball.
- Use foil stickers as ornate jewels on the scepter ball.
- Say: “Queen Esther knew that she was risking her life when she approached the king. God used Esther to rescue His people, though, so the king held out his scepter to welcome Queen Esther into His presence.”

## PRAYER:

“God used Esther to rescue His people. Let’s pray and thank God that even when we don’t see Him working in our lives, we can trust that He is working all things together for His purpose.”