

For Such A Time As This

Introduction

Romans 15:4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

1. **When problems arise, someone must be willing to arise to the problems.**
2. **Queen Esther was faced with this problem:**
Esther 4:13-17
3. **Mordecai said to Esther:**

Esther 4:14 ".....Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

4. **We are living in a unique time. There are many ungodly problems.**
 - A. **It might well be the case that we are the ones that God has raised up for such a time as this.**
5. **The question is – what sort of time was it?**

A Time When People Had Little or No Respect for Life

1. **It was a time when a king would have a person killed for desiring to see him:**
Esther 4:11
2. **They were willing to kill all the Jews:**
Esther 3:5-6

3. **But what about today?**
 - A. **We have over one million babies who are aborted in the U.S. every year. Over 59 million aborted since 1973.**
 - B. **Euthanasia (assisted suicide).**
 - C. **Many drive-by shootings.**
 - D. **Many killings for very little.**
4. **Sadly, many of these same people will defend killers and animals.**

A Time When Pleasure Was the Order of the Day

1. **Pleasure was encouraged and the expense of most everything else.**
Esther 1:8
2. **America is wrapped up in pleasure**

Luke 8:14 Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

3. **What is our mind set? Do we care more for God or pleasure?**
 - A. **What have we taught our children in regard to this?**
4. **Being wrapped up in pleasure has been one of the things that has helped in the bringing down of most empires over time.**

Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

A Time for Divorce (to dispose of) For Any Cause

- 1. The King would allow whatever pleased him.**

Esther 1:17-19

- 2. However, Jesus taught differently.**

Matthew 5:32 But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.

Matthew 19:9 And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

A Time for Strong Drink

- 1. To make one "merry" with wine.**

Esther 1:10-11

- 2. The Bible teaches us what God's attitude and law is toward drinking.**

Proverbs 20:1 Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.

Isaiah 5:11 Woe to those who rise early in the morning, That they may follow intoxicating drink; Who continue until night, till wine inflames them!

1 Peter 4:3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.

- 3. There are millions of alcoholics in America today and thousands have been killed by drunken drivers.**

A Time for Wickedness

- 1. There are many accounts mentioned in the Bible of man's wickedness before God.**

Esther 1:7

Genesis 13:13 But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.

Proverbs 11:10 When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.

- 2. In many areas of our country it is not safe to walk the streets.**

A Time for Gross Immodesty

- 1. Some believe that Vashti was called upon to dance in a lewd way before the men.**

A. Whatever the case, her husband was calling upon her to compromise her modesty. This she would not do!

- 2. The Bible teaches that modesty is required to be pleasing to God.**
1 Timothy 2:9-10

- 3. Today, the church is becoming more and more immodest.**

A. Saints, who should know better, are showing more flesh.
2 Peter 2:14-15

Matthew 5:28 But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

- 4. We are to go the "extra mile" to do what we can to make sure we are properly clothed and not help cause others to lust.**

A Time of Pride

Esther 3:5-6, 14

1. The Proverb writer says:

Proverbs 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

2. Pride, along with other sins, begin within the heart.

Mark 7:21-23 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

3. In regard to the eldership, a man must not be a novice because there is a chance he could be filled with pride.

1 Timothy 3:6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

A Time for Providence

1. God's name is not found in the book of Esther, but His presence is seen everywhere.

Esther 6:1 That night the king could not sleep. So one was commanded to bring the book of the records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

2. God will help us if we will arise to "such a time as this."

Conclusion

- 1. The story of Esther is one in which we can learn some valuable lessons.**
 - A. God is always in control.**
- 2. Will we choose in life to be an Esther – or a Demas?**
 - A. We can always make a difference for the positive if we desire.**
- 3. What will history say about our local congregation?**
- 4. What will history say about each one of us?**
- 5. Most importantly, what will Jesus Christ say about our effort and what we did in life?**

John 12:48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

