

SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERMON

PREPARATION FOR HIS PURPOSE

Esther 2:12-18

CHEN SU-AI | 15 SEP 2024

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

¹⁶ **All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

ROMANS 15:4

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.

The Book of

Esther

Chapter 1

ESTHER 2:3

³ and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather all the beautiful young virgins to Shushan the citadel, into the women's quarters, under the custody of Hegai the king's eunuch, custodian of the women. And let beauty preparations be given them.

ESTHER 2:8-9

⁸ So it was, when the king's command and decree were heard, and when many young women were gathered at Shushan the citadel, under the custody of Hegai, that Esther also was taken to the king's palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women. ⁹ Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance...

ESTHER 2:12

¹² Each young woman's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus after she had completed twelve months' preparation, according to the regulations for the women, for thus were the days of their preparation apportioned: six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with perfumes and preparations for beautifying women.

ESTHER 2:13

¹³ Thus prepared, each young woman went to the king, and she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the women's quarters to the king's palace.

Preparation

ESTHER 2:3, 9, 12-13 (NKJV)

³ And let beauty **preparations** be given *them*.

⁹ Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty **preparations** to her, besides her allowance.

¹² Each young woman's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus after she had completed twelve months' **preparation**, according to the regulations for the women, for thus were the days of their **preparation** apportioned: six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with perfumes and **preparations** for beautifying women.

¹³ Thus **prepared**, each young woman went to the king, and she was given whatever she desired to take with her from the women's quarters to the king's palace.

ESTHER 2:3, 9, 12-13 (KJV)

³ and let their things for purification be given them ⁹ And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her things for purification, with such things as belonged to her, and seven maidens, which were meet to be given her, out of the king's house: and he preferred her and her maids unto the best place of the house of the women. ¹² Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their purifications accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odours, and with other things for the purifying of the women).

1. PREPARATION

Strong's Concordance

1. 8562: **tamruq**

a scraping, rubbing, cleanse, thing for purification

2. 4838: **maraq**

to scour, polish, sharpen, rinse

3. 4795: **maruq**

a scraping, rubbing, properly, purification

1. PREPARATION

“**scour**” defined as

“to remove dirt from something by rubbing it hard with something rough”

1. PREPARATION

*Is God speaking to me about an area (s)
that I need to allow Him to do a work of
Preparation for His Purpose?*

1. PREPARATION

“purification” defined as
*“the act of removing harmful substances
from something”*

JOHN 15:1-2

¹ “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and **every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.**

HEBREWS 12:5-7

“...My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; ⁶ **For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.**” ⁷ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

Preparation

What about SSMC as a church?

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THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

Eph 3:14-21

Pastor Robin Liew | 2 June 2024

JOSHUA 3:5

⁵ And Joshua said to the people,
**“Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the
Lord will do wonders among you”.**



Purpose

Preparation for His Purpose

ESTHER 4:13-14

¹³ And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: “Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king’s palace any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴ For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. **Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”**

ACTS 17:26

²⁶ And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and **has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,**

2. PURPOSE



Love GOD. *Love* PEOPLE. *Make* DISCIPLES.

PHILIPPIANS 2:15b-16a

...Then you will **shine among them like stars in the sky** ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life.

COME, follow Me..



IDENTITY:

A disciple/follower of Jesus

PURPOSE:

To become like Jesus Himself

MISSION:

To do what He did

ESTHER 4:16

“...and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and **if I perish, I perish!**”

JOSHUA 1:6-7, 9

⁶ Be strong and of good courage.

⁷ Only be strong and very courageous.

⁹ Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Providence

ESTHER 2:9, 15-17

⁹ Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; ... ¹⁵ And Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her. ¹⁷ The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Providence

Co-incidences or Providence?

3. PROVIDENCE

“The great paradox of Esther is that God is omnipotently present even where God is most conspicuously absent”.

Karen H. Jobes, The NIV Application Commentary

CONCLUSION

Preparation

Purpose

Providence

CONCLUSION

*Is God speaking to me about an area (s)
that I need to allow Him to do a work of
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HEBREWS 12:1-3

... let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For **consider Him** who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

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