

The Beauty Contest: Esther 2:1-18 Explained

Sermon Challenge

Name: _____ Date: _____

BEFORE THE SERMON: What do you think God values most in a person? (3 points)

- ☐ Physical beauty
- ☐ Wealth
- ☐ Popularity
- ☐ A humble heart

KEY VERSE: Esther 2:15 Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required _____ but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

What did Esther require? _____ (2 points)

SERMON OUTLINE TRACKER: Fill in the blanks as Pastor Nathan preaches through each point.

Point 1: A Queen Was _____ (3 points)

Point 2: The Search _____ (3 points)

Point 3: God Already _____ (3 points)

Point 3: Favor Is _____ (3 points)

Point 3: Wisdom Is _____ (3 points)

Point 3: The World's _____ (3 points)

Point 3: True _____ (3 points)

Point 3: God Exalts the _____ (3 points)

QUICK LISTENING CHALLENGE: What was Esther's Hebrew name?

- ☐ Vashti
 - ☐ Hadassah
 - ☐ Miriam
 - ☐ Abigail
- (2 points)

FIND IT IN YOUR BIBLE: Find these verses in your KJV Bible during the sermon. (3 points each if found)

☐ Esther 2:1	☐ Esther 2:2-4	☐ Esther 2:5-7	☐ Esther 2:8-9	☐ Esther 2:10-11
☐ Esther 2:12-14	☐ Esther 2:15	☐ 1 Peter 3:3-4	☐ Esther 2:16-18	

BIG IDEAS: Why did Esther find favor? _____ (2 points)

What was God doing behind the scenes?

_____ (2 points)

CHALLENGE QUESTION: What made Esther different from the other women? (3 points)

- ☐ She wore the nicest clothing.
- ☐ She chose the best jewelry.
- ☐ She came from a royal family.
- ☐ She required nothing but what Hegai appointed.

TRUE OR FALSE (2 points each)

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| 1. Esther volunteered to become queen. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2. Mordecai instructed Esther not to reveal she was a Jew. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3. Every young woman spent twelve months preparing. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4. Esther required whatever she wanted before seeing the king. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5. God can accomplish His purposes through ungodly rulers. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 6. Outward beauty is the world's standard. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 7. God delights in inward beauty. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 8. Esther became queen by God's providence. | TRUE | FALSE |

WHO WAS IT? Who raised Esther after her parents died? _____ (2 points)

Who was the keeper of the women? _____ (2 points)

QUICK LISTENING CHALLENGE: What was the oil used during the first six months of purification? (2 points)

☐ Frankincense ☐ Peppermint ☐ Olive ☐ Myrrh

PERSONAL APPLICATION: How have you seen God working behind the scenes in your life? (2 points)

ONE THING I LEARNED THAT I DIDN'T KNOW: _____ (2 points)

ONE SENTENCE SUMMARY (Summarize today's sermon in one sentence): _____
 _____ (2 points)

DISCUSSION: Why do you think Esther "required nothing" instead of choosing whatever she wanted?
 _____ (2 points)

FINAL CHALLENGE: Complete this statement: (3 points)

Don't live to impress _____. Live to impress _____.

One question I have for the preacher that wasn't answered:

_____ (2 points)

Other comments or notes:

Next Sermon: Job 1:13-22 Could You Survive Job's Day? by Pastor Joshua Tapp. Read the chapter to prepare for the next sermon challenge.

★ **Score:** _____ / 100 Points ► **Initial** (I completed this honestly on my own): _____

95-100 = Faithful Servant, 90-94 = Diligent Disciple, 80-89 = Bible Scholar
 70-79 = Good Listener, 60-69 = Bible Student, Below 60 = Keep Growing