

## End Times Prophecy in the Book of Esther Pt 1

On this program I want to talk about one of the most amazing prophetic books in the Bible, and that is the book of Esther. The book of Esther prophesies about the end times, the times we are living in today and Esther is unique in all of the Bible, because it prophesies also the end of the Old Testament.

Now one of the proofs that Esther is an end times prophecy is the author's extensive use of biblical numerology, especially the numbers 4, 7 and 12. These are three of the most important end times numbers and the reason is because 4 is the last week in a month, 7 is the last day in a week and 12 is the last month in a year. Therefore when a prophetic author in the Bible want to speak about the last days, he uses these numbers.

Let's see how the author of Esther begins his book. In chapter 1 verse 1, 'In the days of Ahasuerus', now Ahasuerus was probably Xerxes, in fact many Bibles use his name Xerxes who reigned from India to Ethiopia over 127 provinces'. Now those 127 is a very interesting number, because it is not an end times number, until you break it down into two components. In other words there are 12 sevens in the book of Esther.

Now the first of the 12 sevens is found in the number 127 itself, and the second seven we will find in verse number 3, where the author lists seven princes. 'Now in the third year of his reign, he made a great feast for all his princes, and for his servants, for the most mighty of the Persians and for the nobles of the Medes and the governors of the provinces in his sight.' That is the second seven in the book of Esther. This great feast, by the way, refers to the Old Testament and all these famous people represent the chosen people of the Jews.

In verse number 5, we find our third seven. 'And when those days had expired, the king gave a banquet lasting seven days. Now this short seven-day banquet refers to the ministry of Jesus which follows the Old Testament. In verse number 10, 'On the 7<sup>th</sup> day when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, Abagtha, Zethar and Carcas, the 7 eunuchs who served in his presence.' Now actually there are three sevens in this verse because we have two sevens listed plus the seven eunuchs are listed. So that gives us a total of six.

Now this phrase 'merry with wine' is very interesting. It does not mean symbolically that the king is drunk or out of his senses, in fact just the opposite. It means that the king is filled with the Holy Spirit. The king symbolizes God specifically Jesus Christ. Now as I said, the short seven day party following the long party symbolizes Jesus ministry to the entire world, following the Old Testament. King Ahasuerus invites his queen Vashti to come to this party and show the common people her beauty, but Vashti refuses.

Vashti symbolizes the scribes and the Pharisees of Jesus' own time. They did not want to share their exclusivity to the Gentiles. This angers King Ahasuerus who symbolizes God, and he asks the seven princes who are assembled with them, what their advice should be. Now these seven princes are Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena and Memucan, the 7 princes of the Medes and the Persians.

Therefore we now have eight sevens. Now Esther is chosen to replace Vashti. 'And the maiden pleased him and he gave her 7 maidens.' These 7 handmaidens constitute the ninth seven in the book of Esther. And in chapter 2 verse 16, 'So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus in his royal house in the tenth month which is the month Tebeth, in the 7<sup>th</sup> year of his reign.' That's the 10<sup>th</sup> number 7. And we finish up with two more recitations of 127 which give us number 11 and number 12 for the number 7.

The number 7 is not the only indicator of end times prophecy. The number 4 is also extremely important, and there are three fours in Esther. The first of these 4's is in chapter 1 verse 4, 'That he might show the riches of the glory of his kingdom and the greatness and boasting of his power for a long time.' Now this 'long time' symbolizes the Old Testament, 'an hundred and four score days'. Now this 4 does not count on our list of 4's, because this 'hundred and four score days' is 180 days, and that represents one half of a year and that symbolizes the first half of revealed scripture.

The Book of Esther describes the end of the Old Testament. Vashti symbolizes the Jews. Her beauty symbolizes monotheism which she refuses to show to the assembled commoners who symbolize the Gentiles. Therefore God must find a substitute for Vashti, and his substitute will be Christianity, and Esther symbolizes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Now let's look at our second and third 4. 'And in every province and every city, wherever the edict of the king went, there was joy and gladness among the Jews with feasting and celebrating.' That's our second 4. 'And all the rulers of the provinces, and the lieutenants, and the deputies, and the officers of the king, helped the Jews.' That is our third number 4.

The third great end times number is the number 12. 'Where were white, green and blue hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen, purple and silver and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver upon a pavement of red, and blue, white and black marble.' So we see 12 adjectives for the decorations in the palace of King Ahasuerus.

Now we've already mentioned the three 12's in the number 127, which is repeated three times. So this is the fourth 12 in the book of Esther. All the maidens who are candidates to replace Queen Vashti must go through a year of vigorous training. 'Now when every maid's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus, after 12 months', there's our fifth 12, '6 months with oil of myrrh and 6 months with sweet perfumes'. Now this 6 and 6 constitutes our sixth 12.

Normally in end times prophecy, these numbers would stand alone, because 6 is an evil number, but because this is specifically a breakdown of the 12 months, this 6 and 6 counts as another 12. In chapter 3 verse 7, we find two more twelves. 'In the first month, that is Nisan, in the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the reign of King Ahasuerus, they cast lots and the lot fell on the 12<sup>th</sup> month which is the month of Adar.' That gives us eight 12's.

In chapter 3 verse 13, 'And the letters were sent to annihilate all the Jews on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> month of Adar'. That's our ninth number 12. Now in chapter 8 verse 12, we find another 12, 'the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> month, the month of Adar', number 10. And in chapter 9 verse 1, 'On the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> month, the month of Adar, our 11<sup>th</sup> number 12.

But where is the 12<sup>th</sup> twelve? And I believe we find the 12<sup>th</sup> twelve in Esther when we add together the three 4's. Remember these three 4's? Those add up to the number 12. For more than 2000 years, the book of Esther has been studied and analyzed, but no rabbi no pope or Bishop, no Catholic theologian or Protestant Bible scholar has ever understood the hidden prophecies in the book of Esther.

That's because it was not necessary to know what Esther was about, until these end times. Esther predicts the end of the Old Testament in order to verify that these prophecies about the end of the New Testament are also true. And it's very important for us to know what these prophecies are.

And in part number 2 of this series on the book of Esther, I will reveal the importance of the end times prophecies in the book of Esther.