

It's Time - Living For Jesus In Our Day

Sunday, January 12, 2020

VIDEO: The Bible Project – Esther

REVIEW (Chapters 1-6)

It's Time to STOP SWIMMING in cultural currents-CH 1

It's Time to CLOTHE OURSELVES with the beauty of Holiness-CH 2

It's Time to TAKE A STAND for what's right-CH 2

It's Time to UNDERSTAND THAT EVERYTHING Is written down-CH 2

It's Time to UNDERSTAND WHO OUR ENEMEY IS and how he operates-CH 3

It's Time to BELIEVE THAT WE WERE CREATED to fulfill the purposes of God.-CH 4

It's Time to WALK IN HUMILITY rather than pride – Ch 5

It's Time to HOLD ON TO THE HOPE that God has not forgotten about us – CH 6

Esther 7 New International Version (NIV)

7 So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther's banquet, **2** and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."

3 Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. **4** For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king."

5 King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?"

6 Esther said, "An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!"

Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen. **7** The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden. But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life.

8 Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was reclining.

The king exclaimed, "Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?"

As soon as the word left the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face. **9** Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, "A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman's house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king."

The king said, “Impale him on it!” **10** So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king’s fury subsided.

Here in Chapter 7 we finally hear Esther use her voice to present her request to the King. We knew that everything hinged upon this moment; we had been waiting on pins and needles, hoping for a favorable outcome. But the truth is, without Esther’s voice destruction would have surely come for the Jews. Without Esther’s voice nothing would have changed. Without Esther’s voice the truth could not have been revealed. It was time for Esther to use her voice and it is time for us to use our voice as well

God has given us a voice to use in this world both as individuals and corporately as the body of Christ, but are we using it? Maybe you’re afraid. Maybe you don’t feel qualified. Maybe you think it won’t change anything. Maybe you assume that God will use someone else. Esther chapter 7 teaches us that

It’s Time to USE OUR VOICE to...

- Proclaim the existence of the one true creator and God

Genesis 1:1 New International Version (NIV)

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

John 1:1 New International Version (NIV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1 Corinthians 8:6 New International Version (NIV)

⁶ yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.

Isaiah 44:6 New International Version (NIV)

⁶ “This is what the LORD says—Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

- Present the truth of right and wrong, good and evil

Leviticus 10:10-11 New International Version (NIV)

10 so that you can distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean, **11** and so you can teach the Israelites all the decrees the Lord has given them through Moses.”

Ezekiel 22:26 New International Version (NIV)

26 Her priests do violence to my law and profane my holy things; they do not distinguish between the holy and the common; they teach that there is no difference between the unclean and the clean; and they shut their eyes to the keeping of my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.

Ezekiel 44:23 New International Version (NIV)

23 They are to teach my people the difference between the holy and the common and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.

Isaiah 5:20 New International Version (NIV)

20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.

- Prophecy the things that are to come

John 16:13 New International Version (NIV)

¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

- Prepare people for the reality of eternity in heaven or hell

Ezekiel 3:17-21 New International Version (NIV)

17 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. **18** When I say to a wicked person, ‘You will surely die,’ and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **19** But if you do warn the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; but you will have saved yourself.

20 “Again, when a righteous person turns from their righteousness and does evil, and I put a stumbling block before them, they will die. Since you did not warn them, they will die for their sin. The righteous things that person did will not be remembered, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **21** But if you do warn the righteous person not to sin and they do not sin, they will surely live because they took warning, and you will have saved yourself.”

Ezekiel 33:1-11 New International Version (NIV)

33 The word of the Lord came to me: **2** “Son of man, speak to your people and say to them: ‘When I bring the sword against a land, and the people of the land choose one of their men and make him their watchman, **3** and he sees the sword coming against the land and blows the trumpet to warn the people, **4** then if anyone hears the trumpet but does not heed the warning and the sword comes and takes their life, their blood will be on their own head. **5** Since they heard the sound of the trumpet but did not heed the warning, their blood will be on their own head. If they had heeded the warning, they would have saved themselves. **6** But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet to warn the people and the sword comes and takes someone’s life, that person’s life will be taken because of their sin, but I will hold the watchman accountable for their blood.’

7 “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. **8** When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **9** But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

10 “Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’ **11** Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

- Reveal the Promise of God's love and forgiveness for all who seek it

Ephesians 2:4-5 New International Version (NIV)

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Matthew 11:28-29 New International Version (NIV)

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

- Preach the power of the cross

1 Corinthians 1:18 New International Version (NIV)

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Acts 5:42 New International Version (NIV)

42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

- Petition for Gods help in Prayer

Matthew 7:7-8 New International Version (NIV)

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

- Praise the wonders that God has done

Daniel 4:1-3 New International Version (NIV)

4 King Nebuchadnezzar, To the nations and peoples of every language, who live in all the earth: May you prosper greatly! **2** It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. **3** How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation.

Psalms 40:5 New International Version (NIV)

⁵ Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.