

## RUTLAND STREET CHURCH SERMON SERIES

Esther

YOU HAVE COME TO THE ROYAL POSITION FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.

There on the poplars we hung our harps, for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

Psalm 137: 1-3

How can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a foreign land?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill.

May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, if I do not consider Jerusalem my highest joy.

Psalm 137: 4-6



Does anybody care?

597 Fall of Jerusalem 587 Destruction of the Temple	123 Years 113 Years
539 Persian capture of Babylon 515 Dedication of the Second Temple	65 Years 41 Years
474 Esther 459 Ezra	Now 15 Years
445 Nehemiah	29 Years

1895 Fall of Jerusalem123 Years1905 Destruction of the Temple113 Years

1953 Persian capture of Babylon 65 Years

1977 Dedication of the Second Temple 41 Years

2018 Esther

**2033** Ezra

**2047** Nehemiah

Now

15 Years

29 Years







After these events, King Xerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, elevating him and giving him a

seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles. All the royal officials at the king's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the king had commanded this concerning him.

**Esther 3:1-2** 





When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged. Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only

Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.









"Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" **Mordecai to Esther (Esther 4:12-14)**  "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

Esther to Mordecai (Esther 4:16)



But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 2:13

## God Cares So should you

Kia atawhai