

## Who Am I After The Saving Power Of The Gold Sceptre?

**“On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood on the inner court of the palace, in front of the king’s hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance. When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and held out to her the gold sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the sceptre. Then the king asked, “What is it, queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you.” Esther 5:1-3**

In the mid of life are many huge and giant figures around. You see yourself so small, poor, and unknown while rich masters try to control and oppress you until you say, ‘Who am I?’ When you are sick, blind or barren, belittling yourself but waiting for a healing you may say, ‘Who am I?’ When you are lonely, feeble and weak and while the evil forces are fighting against you, to daunt you and put you down, perhaps you may say, ‘Who am I!’ When you are frustrated and feel forsaken, you may say, ‘Why me!’ But when you wake up in the morning and many things need to be done for a plan to be accomplished again you may say, “Who am I?” When many obstacles or adversaries are in front of you, requiring your job, family or even your life and you need a big jump then you received a miraculous rescue you may say, ‘Who am I!’ Or if you belong to a group, congregation or assembly facing threats in form of persecution, discrimination, or imminent destruction you may ask yourself, ‘Who are we?’

This issue’s passage is from the book of Esther, the only book in the Bible that does not contain the word God yet, it demonstrates the hidden, watchful love of God to His people. This book covered the period of the history when the people of God were in exile, living in a foreign land from India to Cush, away from their native land and the temple of God. Although they were the chosen people of God they were despised, dishonoured and considered the lowest in the society around them. They were hiding their identities for the world was against them. They were persecuted, and a plot was made to execute them all who were in the Persian Empire. They faced dangers and threats while others know who they really are!

Queen Esther was the wife of the King of Persia. She was lovely in form and features, but she was hiding her identity being a daughter of God. Her people begged her to speak in their behalf to the King. She was asked to intercede for all her people in the Empire. The task was too big for Esther that she would have said, “Who am I to interfere with such a big issue?” Especially she knew that no one is allowed to approach the king in the inner court without being summoned and the king would put to death anyone who displeased him. So, Esther was reluctant to go to the king. She forgot that she is the bride; the wife for the king. *This forgetfulness for Esther and for anyone of us represents a transient spiritual sleepiness or death in our faith to our King. What can you say more if you forget that, “... you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1 Peter 2:9)*

After three days of fasting with all the people of God in Susa city, the passage for this issue comes forth. This Old Testament passage represents the New Testament good news and promises. But to understand the message let us look to it with spiritual eyes:

**1. On the third day Esther put on her royal robes:** The third day was the day of expectation for all the countrymen of Esther to know their destiny while they wait, fast, and pray for deliverance. Spiritually, this would represent the resurrection of Jesus on the third day. By His resurrection the world was given the

hope of life. If Jesus was not resurrected no one would rise from death and could have eternal life. By the death of Jesus on the cross, he gave us our freedom from sin, and we received from Him eternal life. Through Jesus, we become like Esther, the chosen wife of the King; the royal robe would also mean that we are the adopted children of God. **“You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Galatians 3:26-27)**

**2. “... and stood on the inner court of the palace, in front of the king’s hall.”** The inner court spiritually represents the altar or where the throne of God is located. The King of kings is Jesus Christ, God on His throne. But what will happen when Esther or any one of us come to Him? We can reach God:

**(A) God is waiting for us: “The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance.”** God is waiting for you the same as he was waiting for Queen Esther to come to Him to present her request.

**(B) God is happy to see us coming to Him: “When he saw queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her.”** The King is happy to see His beautiful bride, the church, coming to Him.

**(C) God has provided a way for us to come to Him: “and held out to her the gold sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the sceptre.”** The gold sceptre on the hand of the king is the only hope for Esther to be saved. **“All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that he be put to death. The only exception to this is for the king to extend the gold sceptre to Him and spare His life.” (Esther 4:11)** In the same way, God held out the cross of Jesus to save us. Like Esther who touched the tip of the gold sceptre, was saved, and was given chance to speak to the King, anyone who receives the saving grace of the cross of Jesus can boldly come before the throne of God.

**(D) God will listen to our request: “Then the king asked, “What is it, queen Esther? What is your request?”** Remember, God is waiting for you to ask Him your request through the proper channel. Jesus said, **“I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.” (John 16:23-24)**

**(E) God will give generously: “Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you.”** What was the feeling of Esther, or what would you feel if you hear these words? *We will be clothed by the spirit of victory and become more than conquerors.* More than you expect from God you will receive if you will go to Him through the cross. For Jesus promised us to have the Kingdom of God when He said **“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.” (Luke 12:32)** The power of the cross of Jesus will not only provide material things but it is the means that will expel all the deception, the vices, and the lies of Satan and all evil forces. It will take away the heavy burden from your shoulders. It will give you release, healing, and deliverance. Through the gold sceptre Esther was given her request, her people were vindicated and their enemies were put to death. So **“What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)**

**My Dear and Beloved:** You, who do not know the value of the cross or the gold sceptre in your life, I wish that you make the right decision today. As well, you, who say, ‘who am I?’ this message has enlightened you about your royal position. In the eyes of God, in the eyes of our King, whatever your situation, remember you are beautiful, lovely feature as Esther because of the blood of Jesus shed on the cross. The King will be pleased in seeing you in the inner court. You will find favour from Him and the gold sceptre will be held out to you, for He loves you and cares for you.

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your encouraging word to me. Lord increase my faith and uphold me with your love and grace and lead me to live my life to you. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.*