

Lesser-known Heroes of the Bible ***Mordecai***

He serves the Persian Empire quite willingly. Esther 2:5-10

He is a Benjamite exile w/connections to Saul's family, but he serves at "the king's gate" while raising Esther. And why not hide her from the bad beauty contest? How good are these choices?

He saves the life of King Ahasuerus. Esther 2:21-23

While on the job at the king's gate he overhears an assassination plot. He saves the king, which goes unrewarded till later, 6:1ff.

He helps save the Jews from genocide. 4:13-17

- ◆ His refusal to bow to Haman, who has Amalekite roots (3:10, Ex. 17;16, Num. 24:7, I Sam. 15:2ff.) leads to a genocide plot. Was his choice not to bow to Haman appropriate?
- ◆ Mordecai convinces Esther to risk approaching the king to stop Haman's plot. Their efforts pay off, as Haman is executed.
- ◆ Newly promoted Mordecai and Esther pen a decree protecting Jews from genocide and allowing for strong reprisals, 8:1ff. This deliverance/victory becomes a national holiday.

He is promoted, which benefits everyone. 8:2, 10:2,3

- ◆ Compare his promotion to Gen. 41:40-43 and Dan. 6:1,2, 28.
- ◆ God's providence stands out in this story, even though He is not mentioned. What NT verse is so well-illustrated here?



What can we learn from Mordecai's actions and God's providence in this story?