

# Esther

## God's Silent Sovereignty

### The Blessing of Ignorance

#### Esther 4

Grace Fellowship Church | Dave Wernz | June 26, 2022

Four reasons Mordecai's uncertainty can be a source of encouragement for us today:

#### I. Ignorance Is Universally Relatable

**Genesis 3:1-6** *"Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?'<sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,<sup>3</sup> but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."<sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die.<sup>5</sup> For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.'<sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate."*

#### II. Our Uncertainty Provides Us With an Opportunity for Faith!

**Hebrews 11:1** *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."*

Biblical faith: **A confident, active, dependency on God's promises and character.**

**1 Peter 1:3-7** *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,<sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,<sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,<sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."*

**Esther 4:11** *"All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—to be put to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter so that he may live. But as for me, I have not been called to come in to the king these thirty days."*

**Esther 4:14** *“For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”*

### III. God Actually Welcomes the Weak

Two things you need to know today:

**A. You Are Not Alone.**

**B. God Is Not Limited By the Size of Your Faith.**

**Mark 9:24** *“... ‘I believe, help my unbelief!’”*

### IV. We Have More Reasons for Faith Than Mordecai Ever Dreamed of Having

Let's make the application as simple as possible:

**A.** Our **active dependence** on God's promises and character should look like **rest**. We stop trying to manage or avoid uncertainty and humbly accept what God gives us.

**B.** Our **active dependence** on God's promises and character should look like **celebration**. We practice regular thanksgiving for what God has done and is doing, even in the middle of our distress.

**2 Corinthians 4:5-18** *“For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. <sup>8</sup>We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. <sup>11</sup>For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup>So death is at work in us, but life in you. <sup>13</sup>Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, ‘I believed, and so I spoke,’ we also believe, and so we also speak, <sup>14</sup>knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. <sup>15</sup>For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. <sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup>as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.”*