

SHE-roes of the Faith

Esther

Ron Marsh

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I. The *characters*

- A. King *Xerxes*: Ruler of the world; focused on money, sex, and power
- B. *Haman*: The villain and the second in command
- C. Queen *Vashti*: A women of character and conviction
- D. Queen *Esther*: The heroine who exhibits both inner and outer beauty
- E. *Mordecai*: The good guy and stepfather of Esther; a man of integrity and faith

II. The *story*:

- A. A Queen takes a costly *stand* (Ch.1)
- B. An obscure Jewish girl wins Persian *idol* (Ch. 2)
 - 1. A massive *search*
 - 2. A favored *beauty*
 - 3. A concealed *nationality*
 - 4. A reported *assassination* attempt

C. An arrongant *politician* is promoted (Ch. 3)

- 1. He demanded *honor*
- 2. He was dominated by *hate*
- 3. He devised an ancient *holocaust*

D. A demonstration of heroic *faith* (Ch. 4)

- 1. Mordecai's *challenge*
 - a. Don't be *fooled* you won't be *spared*
 - b. If you don't *act* then God will *use* someone else
 - c. God has *prepared* you for this
- 2. Esther's delayed *request* (Ch. 5-8)
 - a. An angry politician plans a *hanging*
 - b. A case of holy *heartburn*
 - c. A request for Haman's *head*
 - d. A great reversal of *honor*

III. The *message*:

* Question: Who or what are you living for?

- A. You will *stand* for something or someone
 - 1. Vashti took a *moral* stand
 - 2. Mordicai took a *spiritual* stand
 - 3. Esther took a *positional* stand

* God is at work and he's looking for men and women to join Him