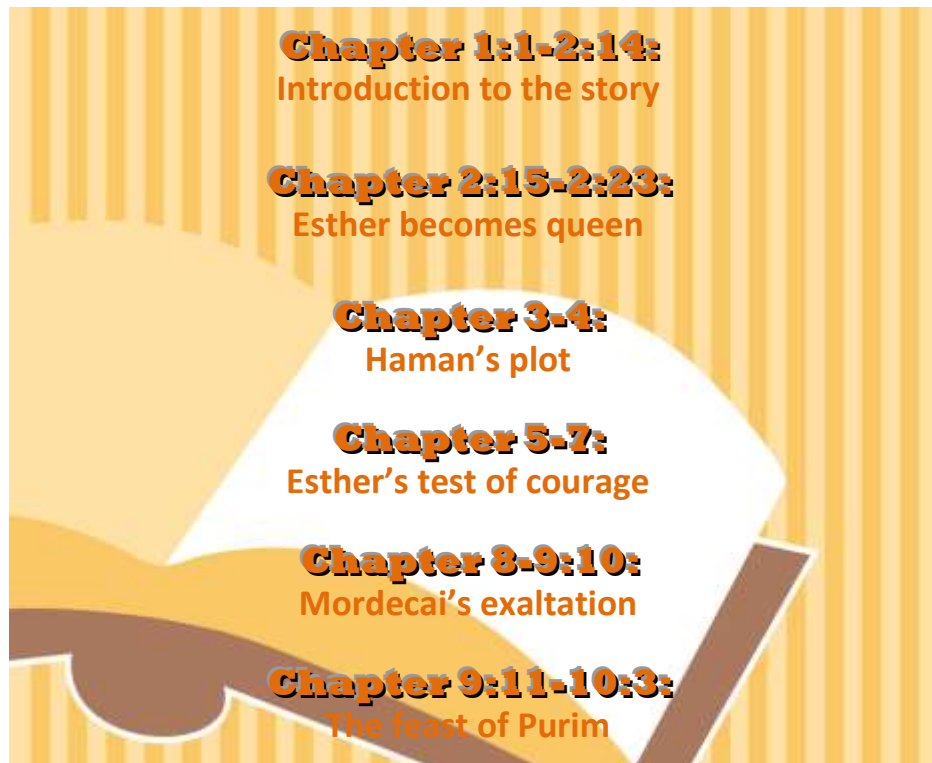


The Book of Esther

"And Esther obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her." Esther 2:15



How it started: The events of the book of Esther take place in the time of King Ahasueros, who in secular history is referred to as Xerxes I. He reigned from 485-64 BC.

Some years before his reign, in 538 BC, the Persian monarch Cyrus had given permission to the deported Jews to return to their land and to rebuild the temple.

Do you remember? That was the subject of the book of Ezra. The book of Esther deals with those who had stayed in the Persian empire. The writer of this book especially mentions two people: Mordecai and Esther. Their experiences are extremely dramatic!

What it is all about: You can read the book of Esther from various perspectives:

1. Historical:

God works in secret, but effectively: He prevents the planned annihilation of the Jews and allows them to triumph over their enemies. As a reminder, the feast of Purim is instituted.

2. Typical:

The people and their experiences have a symbolical (and prophetic) significance. Two examples: Esther points to the Jewish remnant who, in the future, will go through a great tribulation. And Mordecai speaks of the Lord Jesus, who will free the faithful Jews and will reign in peace over the earth.

3. Practical:

It is helpful to know that in your day to day life you will get into similar situations as the people in the book of Esther: You will also meet enemy attacks, critical situations, clear guidance of God and much more. The Lightkeeper concentrates on this perspective.

How about today? It's really true: This story, though 2500 years old, speaks directly into your Christian life. It's fascinating how many practical lessons you can learn from this book of the Bible. The Lightkeeper has to restrict itself to only some. Be motivated to further study!