



1 This is what happened during the time of Xerxes, the Xerxes who ruled over 127 provinces from India to Cush: 2 At that time King Xerxes reigned from his citadel of Susa, 3 and in the third year he gave a banquet for all his nobles and officials, the princes, and the great men of the kingdom, and he sent the letters to all the provinces of his kingdom, 4 For a full 180 days, the king gave a banquet, lasting seven days, in the enclosed garden of the king's palace, for all the people from the least to the greatest, who

Who is Esther?





A Time Like This

Esther is a beautiful woman of the Jewish exile living in the Persian Capitol of Susa with her uncle Mordecai

OT History

PATRIARCHS
(Moses' Books)

Abraham

Isaac

Jacob

PRE
KINGDOM

Joshua

Judges

Ruth

KINGDOM

Samuel

Kings

Chronicles

David

POST
KINGDOM

Ezra

Nehemiah

Esther

TIME LINE



The Captivity of God's People

North Kingdom
(Israel)

South Kingdom
(Judah)

South Kingdom²
(Judah)

Assyria

Babylon

Babylon /
Medo-Persians

(Shalmaneser)

(Nabopolasser)

(Nebuchadnezzar)

Cyrus

721 BC

605 BC

586 BC

536 BC



Xerxes Persian Empire



Events in Esther's Story

Xerxes' Party &
Vashti Deposed

Esther Chosen
New Queen

Haman Plots
Against the Jews

483 BC

479 BC

474 BC

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3



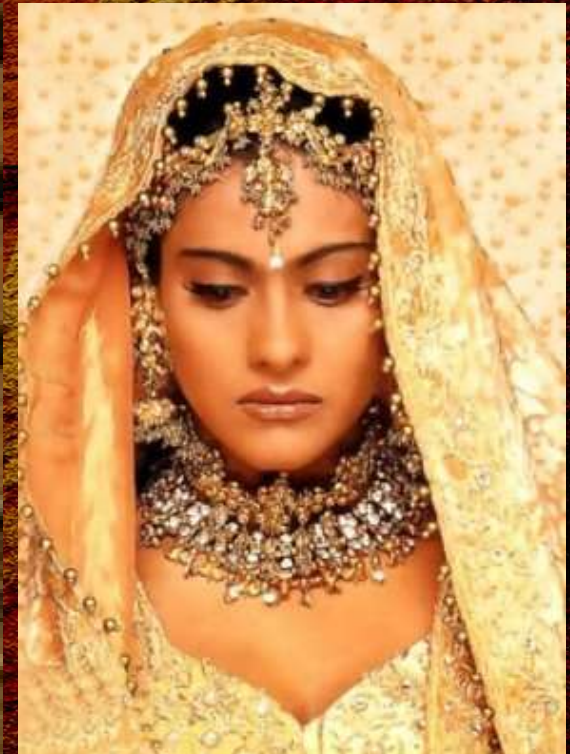
Contrast in Character



Mordecai



Haman



Esther



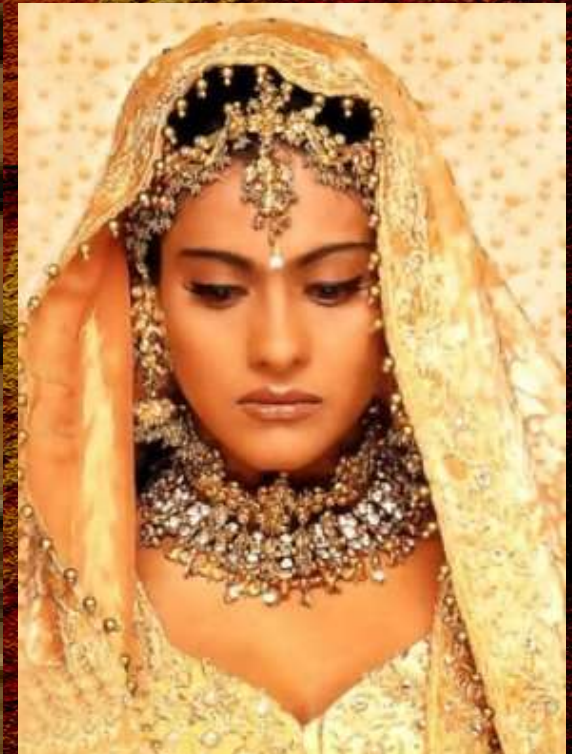
Contrast in Character



Mordecai



Haman



Esther



Mordecai

A Champion of the Jews
and a Courageous Man



Contrast in Character



Haman

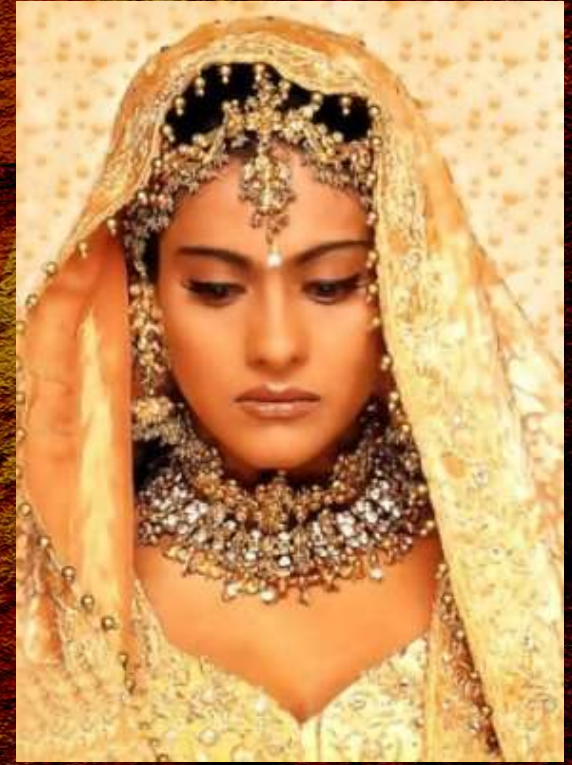


Haman

An Enemy of the Jews
and an arrogant man



Contrast in Character



Esther



Esther

A Model of Faith
Prayer and Obedience



A Time Like This

God uses each person
according to their character
in accomplishing His will.



KEY VERSE

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.



KEY VERSE

Esther 4:14

And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”



A Time Like This

God uses each person
according to their character
in accomplishing His will.



ESTHER