



## Esther did not <u>ask</u>, <u>anticipate</u>, or <u>desire</u> this position. With God's opportunity came danger.

## REQUEST. RELUCTANCE. REPROOF.

Talk to the King! I could die! If you do not step up, you will die anyway!

### This moment is your opportunity.

This is not about my side or the King's side. Will you be on **God's side**?

## **<u>RESOLVE</u>**! You fast/pray. I will <u>ignore</u> the <u>danger</u> and go to the king.

#### Courage [etymology] = <u>heart</u>

For dangerous work/activity we use strategy, caution, and trust God.

- God has not given us the spirit of fear but of love, power, and "common sense." (II Timothy 1:7)
- I can do all things [dangerous or difficult] through the one who empowers me. (Philippians 4:13)

For Esther and those Jewish people, the source of danger was not a physical item which could be avoided. Their [physical] danger emerged from a spiritual source ... EVIL ... which rebels against God by destroying his children.

The thief [Satan] comes to kill, steal, and destroy. I have come that you may have life ... (John 10:10)

#### REALIZATION: This is not <u>Xerxes</u> vs. Esther but rather <u>Haman</u> vs. <u>God</u>.

DETERMINATION: I will not withhold my witness because of the threat of danger. The issue is not which <u>danger I face</u> but which <u>side I'm on</u>!

# Millions of Christians live under persecution today. Why? Because **DARKNESS HATES LIGHT**.

This is the verdict. Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light so that it may be plainly seen that what he has done has been done through God. (John 3:19-21)