



## ***“Esther Becomes Queen of Persia”***

**Esther 1:1-2:23**

**Sermon Date: August 15th, 2010**

### **Prayer:**

“In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will” (Eph. 1:11). God works everything according to his will. Spend some time this week thanking the Lord that He is Sovereign, that He is in control of all things and is working them together according to His will.

### **Scripture:**

Read Esther 1:1-2:23 and summarize the events that take place in each of the sections below.

Esther 1:1-9 –

Esther 1:10-22–

Esther 2:1-18 –

Esther 2:19-23 –

### **Study Questions:**

What do we learn about King Ahasuerus, Mordecai, and Esther from the two opening chapters? Who were they as people and what is their role so far in the unfolding story?

In what ways do we see God working all things together for His purposes right from the very beginning of this story?

Read Proverbs 21:1 and note how clearly the truth of this verse is seen in the life of King Ahasuerus. Does God guide everyone’s life as a stream in which He turns it where He wills? Describe how you have seen this to be true in your own life.

Esther seemingly comes out of nowhere to take over as Queen of Persia. In what other stories in the Old Testament do we see God raise up a leader in similar fashion? How is this consistent with the manner in which Christ came to this earth (Luke 2:1-7, Matthew 20:27-28)?

*“While there is no name of God, and no mention of the Hebrew religion anywhere, no one reads this book (Esther) without being conscious of God.”*

*G. Campbell Morgan*