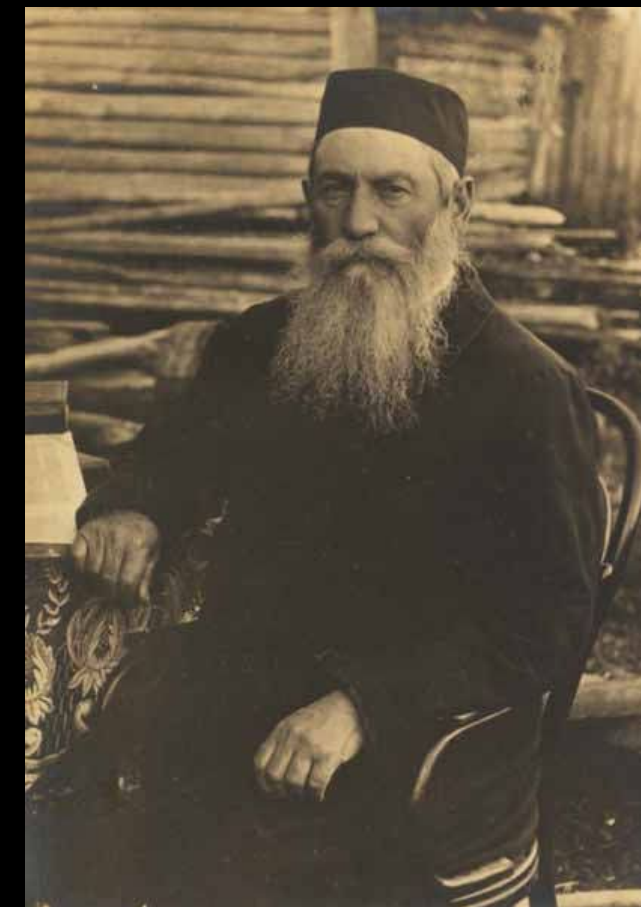


WHAT ARE WE TO DO IN TIMES SUCH
AS THESE?

Esther 4



Haman,
2nd in command to
Xerxes, the King

Queen Esther
(Jewish)

Mordecai (Jewish)
Raised Esther as his
daughter

THE CONTEXT AND PROGRESSION OF THE STORY.

1. **Queen Vashti refuses to dance** before the King and is deposed. 1:12, 19
2. Search undertaken for a new queen (2:2):
 - **Esther is honored for her beauty.** 2:8. She is brought to the harem for 12 months of beauty treatments. 2:12.
 - **She pleases the King and is made Queen.** 2:17
3. **Mordecai refuses to bow before Haman.** 3:5
 - Edict (cannot be revoked) is **written to annihilate Jewish people** at Haman's hand. 3:13

NEXT STEPS.

1. Have a family conference to talk about fear. Process the circumstances together and pray God into the circumstances.
2. Look for opportunities during the week to share Jesus, the spiritual answer to the crisis of our times.
3. Overcome your fear to share by believing God has a plan and purpose of your sharing.