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**586 BC – Babylonians Conquer Judah**

**539 BC – Medes-Persian Empire Conquer Babylonians**

**50 Years later, 486 BC, Esther Times**

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**Providence**

**The work of God, where he integrates and orders events in the universe to fulfill his original purpose & plan.**

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**Esther 4:8**

**Mordecai gave Hathach a copy of the decree issued in Susa that called for the death of all Jews. He asked Hathach to show it to Esther and explain the situation to her.**

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**Esther 4:8**

**He also asked Hathach to direct her to go to the king to beg for mercy and plead for her people.**

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**Esther 4:9-10**

**So Hathach returned to Esther with Mordecai's message. Then Esther told Hathach to go back and relay this message to Mordecai:**

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**Esther 4:11**

**"All the king's officials and even the people in the provinces know that anyone who appears before the king in his inner court without being invited is doomed to die unless the king holds out his gold scepter."**

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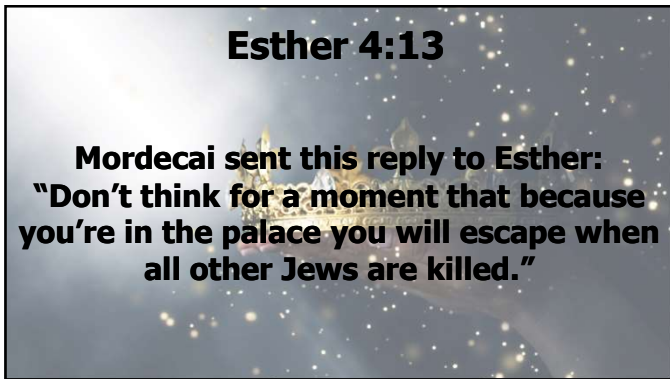
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**Esther 4:14**

**"If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die."**

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**Esther 4:14**

**"Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just a time as this?"**

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**Risk**

**When has fear made the risk to follow God's lead seem too great?**

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