

P

Lots of... **Parties**

- By Xerxes for his nobles (1:3-4)
- By Xerxes for the men of Susa (1:5-8)
- By Vashti for the women of the court (1:9)
- By Xerxes for Esther (2:18)
- By Esther for Xerxes and Haman (5:4-5)
- By Esther for Xerxes and Haman (5:8,12, 14; 7:1-2)
- By Xerxes for Esther and Mordecai (8:17)
- Throughout empire (Feast of Purim) (9:17,19)
- City of Susa (second day of Purim) (9:18)

U

Full of... **Unknowns**

- Why Esther hid her Jewishness and orphan status? (2:10-14)
- If the virgins were young and beautiful, why did they have to receive beauty treatments? (2:1-4)
- Why did Esther send clothes to Mordecai? (4:4)
- Why did Esther ask for a second banquet? (5:7-8)
- Why did Esther want Haman's dead sons hung on poles? (9:13)



R

Then there are... **Rescues**

- Orphaned Hadassah (Esther) rescued by Mordecai (2:5-7)
- Mordecai rescued Xerxes from an assassination plot (2:19-21)
- Esther rescues the Jewish people in Persia (8:1-9:19)
- God rescued his chosen people through an orphan Jewish girl (**book of Esther**)



I

O, yes the... **Ironies**

- A Jew at the king's gate saves the king from two guards whose duty it was to protect the king's life (2:21)
- The Jews death decree issued the day before the Feast of Passover picturing God saving the people (3:12)
- Haman at his highest point compared to Jews at their lowest point (5:9)
- Haman came to hang Mordecai and the king wanted to honor Mordecai (6:6)
- Instead of the Jews dying, Haman and his sons die (**book of Esther**)

M

Precious... **Moments**

- Mordecai telling Esther that she was chosen "for such a time as this" (4:13-14)
- Esther acknowledging her possible fate, "If I perish, I perish!" (4:16)
- Esther approaches the king unannounced (5:1-5)
- Xerxes' insomnia and his opening the chronicle to the very page where Mordecai saved his life (6:1-2)
- Esther exposes Haman's evil plan and the king supporting her (7:3-6)
- Jews victorious and enemies defeated (9:5-10)

B O O K O F E S T H E R