

Bible Ballads

Esther

Katie



The Sunday
School Lady



Katie Chew, August 2024. These may be used within the home and shared, but never at a cost

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Esther, a little orphan,
Lived with Cousin Mordecai
In Susa during the exile,
After both her parents died.

In that time the King was Xerxes,
And Vashti was the Queen.
And so begins the story
Of a sickly, twisted scheme.

Xerxes threw a party,
Demanding Vashti in her crown.
But to the royal court's dismay,
Queen Vashti turned him down.

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And so the King deposed her,
Then he searched for a new bride.
After years of beauty treatment,
Queen Esther took his side.

Eshter was of Israel,
But that news she kept hidden,
Mordecai had warned her,
And she did as she was bidden.

One day Mordecai uncovered
A great conspiracy.
A plot to kill King Xerxes—
So he went and told the Queen.

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King Xerxes' life was saved,
All thanks to Cousin Mordecai.
The story was documented,
And time went by and by.

Over time, a man named Haman
Grew in might and power,
A man with bad intentions,
And a heart blackened and dour.

All bowed down to honor him,
All save Cousin Mordecai,
He'd only bow to God and King;
He refused to comply.

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Haman, in his fury,
Cooked up a monstrous, evil plot,
To kill the Jewish people
On the day he chose by lot.

Agreed to by King Xerxes—
And proclaimed throughout the land,
Could anyone now save the Jews
From Haman's mighty hand?

The Jews wept and wailed in ashes
Nearby King Xerxes gate,
And Esther learned from Mordecai
Her people's cruel fate.

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He begged the Queen to go,
And for the King's mercy to plead.
This task would not be easy,
For all knew where it could lead.

Approach the King without a call?
Esther could lose her life.
Unless the King extended
His gold scepter to his wife.

Mordecai encouraged,
"You're Queen for such a time as this."
She said, "Fast and pray three days,
"If I perish, I perish."

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Boldly she approached the King,
His scepter he extended.
She asked him to a banquet—
He and Haman attended.

There the King asked Queen Esther,
“What petition do you bring?”
She spoke: “Come dine tomorrow,
And I’ll answer you, my King.”

Haman left Esther’s banquet
With his spirit soaring high,
But that soon changed to rage
When he saw the man Mordecai.

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So Haman built a pole,
That Mordecai be put to death,
But God, in perfect timing,
Did what he did not expect.

When Xerxes could not sleep,
He had the notes read of his reign,
And came across how Mordecai
Kept him from being slain.

The King then asked Haman,
"To honor one, what should I do?"
He answered thinking of himself—
Not Mordecai the Jew!

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And so paraded through the street
On a horse in royal robe,
Haman shouted glory and praise
For Mordecai, his foe!

Ashamed and disgusted,
Seething with ferocious malice,
Haman came unto the Feast
Of Esther at the Palace.

The King again asked Esther
To give a voice unto her plea.
Up to half of his Kingdom,
He would grant to meet her need.

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Begging, she implored, him
Save my people from certain death!
Angry the King asked, "Who would dare?"
While Haman held his breath.

Bold and bravely stood the Queen,
With a strong and steady hand,
She pointed straight at Haman,
"Right there! That is the vile man!"

The King left in fury,
With Haman begging for his life,
When he returned, he saw Haman
Falling upon his wife.

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Haman's fate sealed then and there,
He was sentenced to his death.
Then King Xerxes set about
Honoring the Queen's request.

A new edict was sealed,
The Jews could fight back and defend,
The day on which the lot was cast
For them to meet their end.

Sent out to all the people,
In every land and province.
Henceforth the day of Purim,
Celebrated ever since.

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To celebrate such bravery
And selfless sacrifice
Of a Queen who, for her people,
Would risk her very life.

But better still the story
Of a Savior who did die,
To save a fallen world,
He let himself be crucified.

But then he rose up from the grave,
Death conquered by the Lord,
And those that come to know Jesus,
Face perishing no more.