

540BC-----490BC-----480-----470-----460-----450

- 537 BC - Cyrus, Persian King sends approx.48,000 Jews to Jerusalem for temple building.
- 486 BC - Ahasuerus, 36 yo when crowned, reigns in Persia 21 years
- 483 BC - Feasting for 180 days
- 480 BC -After preparing for three years, Ahasuerus launched a campaign against Greece to avenge his father and the defeat of the Persian forces at Marathon.
- 478 BC - Esther becomes queen
- 474 - 473 BC - Decrees and conflicts
- 465 BC - King Ahasuerus assassinated at 57 y.o.
- 445 BC - Nehemiah arrives in Jerusalem (sent by Artaxerxes) for wall building

Queen Vashti	Queen Esther
<p><b>Refused to enter king's presence when summoned:</b>  <b>Strong will</b>  <b>No evidence of seeking/receiving advice</b>  <b>Acted on own</b>                      vs.12 But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command brought by his eunuchs;...                      Pr. 22:1 A good name is to be chosen rather than riches.</p>	<p><b>Entered king's presence uninvited:</b>  <b>Strong will</b>  <b>Accepted advice</b>  <b>Reached out to others for support</b></p>
<p><b>Would not wear royal clothing/crown</b>                      Pr.31:25 Strength &amp; honor are her clothing.</p>	<p><b>Clothed herself in full royal attire</b></p>
<p><b>Humiliated king</b>                      vs. 16 Queen Vashti has not only wronged the king, but also all the princes, and all the people who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus.</p>	<p><b>Honored king</b></p>
<p><b>Influence of dishonor toward husbands was assumed to extend to all the kingdom</b>                      vs.17,18 For the queen's behavior will become known to all women, so that they will despise their husbands in their eyes...Thus there will be excessive contempt and wrath.</p>	<p><b>Influenced action that saved the Jews in the kingdom</b></p>

King Ahasuerus (Xerxes) - flesh	Holy Spirit filled king
<p><b>Pride</b></p> <p>- Showed splendor of his kingdom to all; fine linen, marble pillars, pavement of alabaster, turquoise, marble, golden vessels</p> <p>- Show off Vashti's beauty to the people</p> <p>Prov. 11:2 When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble is wisdom.</p> <p>Prov.29:23 A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor.</p> <p>-Pride separates us from God and destroys relationships.</p>	<p><b>Humble</b></p> <p>Ja.4:6,7 God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.</p> <p>Is.29:19 The humble also shall increase their joy in the Lord.</p> <p>- The humble person exalts God and understands that he has been created and is loved by his Maker. He seeks wisdom from the Lord and does not rely on his own understanding.</p>
<p><b>Intoxicated</b></p> <p>Gen.9:21 Then he (Noah) drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent.</p> <p>2 Sa.11:13..when David called him (Uriah), he ate and drank before him; and he made him drunk.</p> <p>Eph.5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit...</p> <p>- Drunkenness leads to folly, regrets, all sorts or evil as the ability to reason is impaired.</p>	<p><b>Sound mind</b></p> <p>Titus 2:2...that the older men be sober... (abstaining from wine either entirely or at least from immoderate use)</p> <p>1 Pet.5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.</p> <p>- The ability to discern, to rationally approach life's realities can only be made with a sober mind.</p>
<p><b>Anger - burning, furious</b></p> <p>Gen.4:5...but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry...</p> <p>Pr.22:24 Make no friendship with an angry man, and with a furious man do not go...</p> <p>Ps.4:4 Be angry, and do not sin.</p> <p>- Anger destroys relationships, breaks the spirit of those subject to the angry person, causes deep scars and dishonors God.</p>	<p><b>Slow to anger, patient</b></p> <p>Matt.5:22...whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.</p> <p>Eph.4:26 "Be angry, and do not sin" do not let the sun go down on your wrath nor give place to the devil.</p> <p>- We can learn to control anger! We do not need to be enslaved to anger.</p>
<p><b>Deposed his wife</b></p> <p>Mal.2:16 For the Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce.</p> <p>Matt.19:8...Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.</p> <p>- A man who loves his wife as Christ loved the church does not cast her away.</p>	<p><b>Died for His bride, will return for her</b></p> <p>Mark 2:19..."Can the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? ...But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them..."</p> <p>Rev.22:20 "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!</p> <p>- The Father gave His Son, gave His best to suffer in our place so we can be reunited with Him eternally!</p>