

ESTHER - Part One
Reference: **Esther 1:1-22**
Pastor Larry Webb

Author: _____

Date: written no earlier than _____ B.C. (date Ahasuerus died) and no later than _____ B.C. (date Alexander conquered Persia)

Book Timeline: _____ - _____ B.C.

Principle characters:

- **Ahasuerus**...also called _____ I (Greek name)
- **Vashti**...the _____ to Ahasuerus...was a Persian name that meant “the best” and she was a beautiful woman
- **Mordecai**...an honorable _____ man...Esther’s older cousin
- **Esther** (Hebrew Hadassah)...the _____ of this ancient narrative
- **Haman**...an antagonistic, _____ - _____ officer (i.e. prime minister) in Ahasuerus court
- **God**...It’s interesting there are _____ verses in Esther and God is not mentioned one time in those verses.

The **BIG IDEA** of Esther chapter one was that Ahasuerus (Xerxes) didn’t understand the biblical principle of a woman’s _____ in _____.

Reference: **Ephesians 5:21-25**

verse twenty-one, “*submitting to one another in the fear of God.*”

verse twenty-two, “*Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*”

verse twenty-three, “*For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.*”

verse twenty-four, “*Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything .*”

verse twenty-five, “*Husbands, love your wives (how) just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,*”

The Greek word translated as submit and submission is *hupotasso* and meant to *subordinate*, to *arrange* under, to be *brought* under and to _____ underneath someone.

Definition: Submission in marriage is both an **attitude** and **act** of selflessness on the part of the woman as she responds in deference to the headship of the man.

SOME MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT SUBMISSION IN MARRIAGE

MISCONCEPTION: Submission is _____ meaning submission is just for women.
verse twenty-one, “*submitting to one another in the fear of God.*”

MISCONCEPTION: Submission is _____ meaning every woman is to submit to every man.

MISCONCEPTION: Submission is a _____ meaning that a husband has the _____ to demand his wife’s submission.
verse twenty-two, “*Wives, submit to your own husbands...*”

MISCONCEPTION: Submission is _____ meaning that it implies mindless acquiescence.
verse twenty-two, “*Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord*”