

## **God Prevails When Satan Attacks As Seen in the Book of Esther**

### **I. Introduction To Esther**

1. Fits between Ezra 6 & 7 – about 57yrs.  
10 yr. period – 483 to 473 B.C.  
Reign of Ahasuerus (known as Xerxes)
2. Author – Unknown  
Some suggest Ezra but no proof of authorship
3. Theme – The Providence of God  
God's name not mentioned but He is at work  
God protects and provides for His people  
Enemy seeks to destroy the people of Israel  
God providentially brings victory out of defeat

### **II. A Chapter in a Warfare**

1. More than a fairytale-like story  
Beautiful story of a girl in exile who saves her people
2. Needs to be seen in light of all Scripture  
Conflict that continues between God & Satan
3. Began in the Garden after Creation  
When humans sinned death & sorrow entered  
Conflict is predicted with ultimate victory  
Genesis 3:15 - Between Satan & woman's seed
4. Satan's attack focused on the Seed line  
Corruption of Seed line brought flood – Gen. 6
5. God chose Abraham & promised Seed  
Gen. 12:1–3 Seed would bless all families  
Jesus Christ is the promised Seed – Gal. 3:16  
Satan focuses on Israel & the Seed line
6. Satan used nations to attack Israel  
Nations began to resist God's King – Psalm 2  
Key nations are involved in this attack
7. Pictured as 7 headed beast in Revelation  
Described in Rev. 13:1-4 & 17:7-11  
Beast was, and is not, is about to rise from the pit  
7 kings – 5 fallen, 1 is (present), 1 not yet come
8. Helps in Identifying the 7 heads -
  - 1 "is" (present in John's time) Rome  
Herod tried to kill baby Jesus  
Pilate crucified Him – but God raised Him
  - 5 "fallen" (past) found in Old Testament  
Rev. 13:2 links with 3 identified in Daniel 7  
"Like a leopard" – Daniel 7:6 – Greece  
Antiochus Epiphanes desecrated worship  
"Feet were like a bear's – Daniel 7:5 – Medo-Persia  
King Ahasuerus enacted law to kill Jews - Esther  
"Mouth like a lion's mouth" – Dan 7:4 – Babylon  
Babylon took Judah into exile – 2 Chron. 36:17-21
  - 2 Kingdoms prior to Daniel not in his prophecy  
Assyria took 10 tribes into exile – 2 Kings 17:4-6  
Egypt sought to kill all male babies – Exodus 1
  - 1 "yet to come" – one called "antichrist"  
Will blaspheme God & oppose Christ's return –  
Rev. 19-19

### **III. Conflict in Esther**

1. Ahasuerus, King of Persian Empire – 1:1-2  
Authorizes Haman to enact law to kill Jews  
All Jews are included in this unchangeable edict
2. Satan is undoubtedly behind this  
Daniel describes this spiritual conflict  
Daniel 11:12-14; 20-21
3. God & His angels work to thwart Satan  
Thus the promised Seed line is preserved  
God will set His Son upon the throne  
Jesus came as the conquering Seed