



# Esther

THE UNSEEN SOVEREIGN



# Queen No More

*Esther*

# Why Esther?

*Esther*

## **Esther 1:1-5 (ESV)**

Now in the days of Ahasuerus, the Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia over 127 provinces, <sup>2</sup> in those days when King Ahasuerus sat on his royal throne in Susa, the citadel, <sup>3</sup> in the third year of his reign he gave a feast for all his officials and

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## Esther 1:1-5 (ESV)

<sup>3</sup> servants. The army of Persia and Media and the nobles and governors of the provinces were before him, <sup>4</sup> while he showed the riches of his royal glory and the splendor and pomp of his greatness for many days, 180 days. <sup>5</sup> And when these

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## **Esther 1:1-5 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> days were completed, the king gave for all the people present in Susa the citadel, both great and small, a feast lasting for seven days in the court of the garden of the king's palace.

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## **Esther 1:8 (ESV)**

And drinking was according to this edict: “There is no compulsion.” For the king had given orders to all the staff of his palace to do as each man desired.

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## **Esther 1:11 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> to bring Queen Vashti before the king with her royal crown, in order to show the peoples and the princes her beauty, for she was lovely to look at.

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## **Esther 1:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's command delivered by the eunuchs. At this the king became enraged, and his anger burned within him.

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## **Esther 1:16-22 (ESV)**

Then Memucan said in the presence of the king and the officials, “Not only against the king has Queen Vashti done wrong, but also against all the officials and all the peoples who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus. <sup>17</sup> For the queen’s

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## **Esther 1:16-22 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> behavior will be made known to all women, causing them to look at their husbands with contempt, since they will say, 'King Ahasuerus commanded Queen Vashti to be brought before him, and she did not come.'<sup>18</sup> This very day the noble women of Persia

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## **Esther 1:16-22 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> and Media who have heard of the queen's behavior will say the same to all the king's officials, and there will be contempt and wrath in plenty. <sup>19</sup> If it please the king, let a royal order go out from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and

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## **Esther 1:16-22 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> the Medes so that it may not be repealed, that Vashti is never again to come before King Ahasuerus. And let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she. <sup>20</sup> So when the decree made by the king is proclaimed throughout all his

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## Esther 1:16-22 (ESV)

<sup>20</sup> kingdom, for it is vast, all women will give honor to their husbands, high and low alike.” <sup>21</sup> This advice pleased the king and the princes, and the king did as Memucan proposed. <sup>22</sup> He sent letters to all the royal provinces, to every province in its own script and to

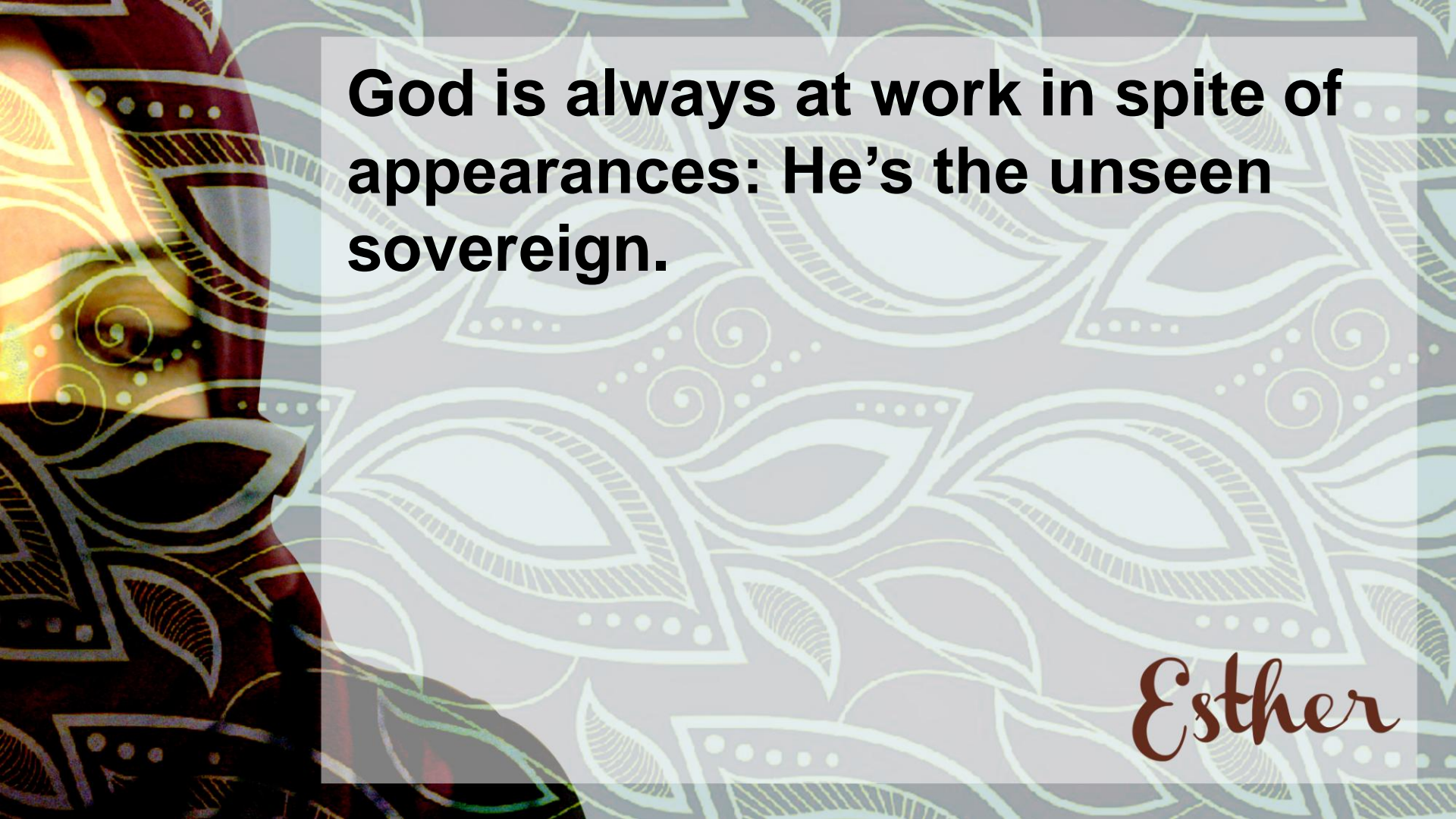
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The background features a complex, layered design. On the left, a glowing orange and yellow orb is partially visible, surrounded by intricate, golden, leaf-like patterns. The rest of the background is a light blue-grey color with a repeating pattern of stylized, white-outlined leaves and floral motifs. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area.

## **Esther 1:16-22 (ESV)**

<sup>22</sup> every people in its own language,  
that every man be master in his own  
household and speak according to  
the language of his people.

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**God is always at work in spite of appearances: He's the unseen sovereign.**

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