

DARE TO LEAD

“The Courageous Leader”

Being courageous can often be difficult, or maybe even scary.

⁸ Then Haman approached King Xerxes and said, “There is a certain race of people scattered through all the provinces of your empire who keep themselves separate from everyone else. Their laws are different from those of any other people, and they **refuse to obey the laws of the king**. So it is not in the king’s interest to let them live.

Esther 3:8 (NLT)

¹¹ “All the king’s officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned **the king has but one law: that he be put to death**. The only exception to this is for the king to extend the gold scepter to him and spare his life. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.”

Esther 4:11 (NIV)

¹² When Esther’s words were reported to Mordecai, ¹³ he sent back this answer: “Do not think that because you are in the king’s house you alone of all the Jews will escape.

Esther 4:12-13 (NIV)

¹⁴ For **if you remain silent at this time**, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position **for such a time as this?**”

Esther 4:14 (NIV)

¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ “Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. **And if I perish, I perish.**”

Esther 4:15-16 (NIV)

¹ *On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the palace, in front of the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance.* ² *When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and **held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand.** So Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter.* ³ *Then the king asked, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you."* **Esther 5:1-3 (NIV)**

SOMETIMES THE HARDEST THING TO DO AND THE RIGHT THING TO DO ARE THE SAME THING.

⁹ *Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous.** Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, **for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.**"* **Joshua 1:9 (ESV)**

⁶ ***"Be strong. Take courage.** Don't be intimidated. Don't give them a second thought because God, is striding ahead of you. He's right there with you. He won't let you down; he won't leave you."* **Deuteronomy 31:6 (MSG)**