

PREPARING TO BE ACCEPTED

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The book of Esther shares a story with us of two ladies, two queens. One was already queen; the other would soon replace her. One lost favor with the king; the other obtained his favor. Why was it that Vashti lost her position as queen? The answer is simple. She refused to come at the King's bidding. There is speculation as to why she didn't come but what reason she had was not reason enough for the king. Because of her refusal to obey his command, she lost her prestige's position.

The king in the story of Esther could represent the Lord and the two ladies could represent the world and the church. The King has summonsed us to come to Him and while some prepare themselves, others balk, and make excuse as to why they're not doing what it is that the King is asking them to do.

It only took one night with the King to turn a peasant into a princess, but what needs to be realized is that before Esther went to see the king, she had prepared herself to be accepted.

How long was her preparation? One full year. One full year was spent preparing for one night.

Esther realized the importance of preparation. She knew she had to be ready. She could not stay as she was, she had to change.

There has to be change in our lives as well. We don't just waltz into the presence of the King without making preparation.

Preparation for us starts with repentance. Our carnal nature has to be dealt with. The blemishes and spots and wrinkles, the sin, the bad habits, the mindset of the world, has to be removed. There has to be a cleansing and purification, sanctification in preparation for our appearance before the King.

The Bible says, "There is no matter hid from the King." When we stand before Him, our preparation or our lack of preparation is going to be revealed.

Are you preparing to be accepted? Are you willing to pay the price that must be paid?

The Bible lets us know that our King is coming back for a bride who has made herself ready.

God is coming back for a "glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

Do you want to be accepted? Then you must be willing to prepare. You must prepare to be accepted.