

# A Defining Moment

**As you think back on your life, what are some defining moments that come to mind?**

## **I. Mordecai's sadness (vs. 1-3)**

tearing clothes/sackcloth/ashes

**Joel 2:12-13**

## **II. Esther's concern (vs. 4-5)**

A. Confusion - She is unaware of the decree. She wonders why Mordecai is tearing his clothes

B. Concern -

1) his actions could jeopardize her identity as a Jew

2) his life was in danger

## **III. Mordecai informs Esther (vs. 6-8)**

Esther must make known her Jewishness, and risk her very life!

**In the community of faith, we must support one another in making difficult decisions.**

## **IV. Esther's dilemma (vs. 9-11)**

A. Law – entering without being summoned could lead to death

B. Relationship – “30 days since I was called”

**As believers, we never have to fear going into the presence of our King**  
**Hebrews 4:16**

## **V. Mordecai's insistence (vs. 12-14)**

“relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place” (2 views)

1) a threat – Esther, if you don't do it, someone else with royal connections, like myself, will do it

2) a euphemism for God – a covert reference to God

“for such a time as this” -

**God promotes us or puts us in a place for a reason.**

## **VI. Esther's courage (vs. 15-17)**

Is prayer inferred here with the fasting?

“And if I perish, I perish”

**Luke 9:51**

**Jesus is a better mediator than Esther** – He didn't just risk

His life to save us; He gave His life to save us

**Romans 6:23**

## **Conclusion**

- “I want them to be godly”; “I need them to be godly”
- Our defining moment – when we hear the gospel and decide how to respond to it
- Jesus uses His proximity to the throne of God to intercede for us

**1 John 2:1-2**