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The Book of Esther

The book of Esther is about the life of Esther, Mordecai, and Haman. It also involves King Xerxes because at the time he was the highest royalty person in the citadel of Susa. Esther, Mordecai, and Haman play a huge role in the book of Esther because it shows the differences and similarities from each other. Esther and Mordecai are very similar but Haman is completely different from both of them.

In the book of Esther, Haman was honored the Agagite, which gave him a higher seat of honor (NIV, Esther 3:1). Since it was Haman's day to be honored everyone had to kneel down for him but Mordecai did not want to. I am guessing Mordecai did not like Haman and maybe he thought that Haman did not deserve a higher seat of honor. This action made Haman think that Mordecai was disrespecting him and Haman thought it was because he was a Jew. Haman did not like Mordecai, so he felt the need to tell the King that he wanted to get rid of all the Jews. The King allowed Haman to go through with this plan and "order to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the Jews" (NIV, Esther 3:13). Haman was not a good guy, one person's action does not determine the rest of the Jewish people's fate. Thanks to Esther, Haman could not go through with his intentions of killing all the Jews, which saved the life of Mordecai.

Mordecai is a Jew, who took Esther as his own daughter because she had no mother or father. Mordecai was a kind man with a big heart. He cared for Esther more than anything and

always had her back. Mordecai did not like Haman, so he did not kneel down for him. It might have been wrong of Mordecai when he did not kneel down for Haman but he was a man that stood for what he believed in. Mordecai was always worried about Esther's future so one day he had heard that two officers, who worked for King Xerxes, were planning for the King's assassination, so he immediately told Esther and she told the King (NIV, Esther 2:21-23). "He worked for the good of his people and spoke up for the welfare of all the Jews" (NIV, Esther 10:1). Mordecai is a man of his word and a man that creates power for what he thinks is right.

Esther is known to be a virgin who is beautiful and lovely. She was a Jew, who hid her true nationality because it could have kept her away from becoming the queen of King Xerxes. She was always on Mordecai's side because he was the one who gave her the opportunity to be the queen. Esther was told by Mordecai that she could not tell people that she was a Jew but the situation between Haman and Mordecai was becoming too intense she needed to fix it. The way she fixed it was by telling King Xerxes about it because she knew that the King would do anything to satisfy her. The King found out and decided that Haman was not doing good for the people, so he decided to impale him on the same pole that he had built to impale Mordecai (NIV, Esther 7:9-10). Esther did this because Mordecai was a father figure to her and she could not let him die nor the Jewish people.

In this story, I think the hero is Esther because without her Mordecai would have been dead and Haman would have had so much power in the city of Susa. Stopping Haman from killing all the Jews saved her nationality. At the same time, if it was not for Mordecai she would not have been the queen and there would not have been a way for her to save Mordecai. Haman was definitely the enemy in this story because he was willing to kill all of the Jewish people because

of one guy who did not want to kneel down to him. I feel like God was not in Haman because all his actions were evil. In Mordecai and Esther, God was there the entire time. He gave them the strength to fight for what they believed in and helped get ut of the harsh situation that was going to happen to Mordecai.

Work Cited

Keener, Craig S., and John H. Walton. NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible: Bringing to Life the Ancient World of Scripture. Zondervan, 2016.