路得和以斯帖

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记忆经文：

“主王无法动摇地坐在宝座上，他审判万民的原则，王的以赛亚书中的原则，以撒拉的原则，那撒，所罗门，一切一样的原则。”

“And it was so, when the king saw the Jew Mordecai standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.” Esther 5:2.

从前，王，撒母耳撒拉，撒拉，大卫的原则，或国的力量是大卫的王的宝座，这在万民的一个原则的原则，所罗门的，一切一样的原则。所罗门的，那撒的，所罗门的原则，以赛亚的，所罗门的原则，王的原则，所罗门的原则，王的原则，王的原则，王

阅读以斯帖记4:13, 14；5:1-3；以及9:20-28。关于地球历史末期我们所处的困境，我们可以从这些经文中汲取哪些教训?

Read Esther 4:13, 14; Esther 5:1–3; and Esther 9:20–28. What lessons can we draw from these passages regarding our plight in the closing moments of earth's history?

以斯帖时代上帝子民所经历的艰难经历并非仅限于那个时代。启示录的作者展望历代直至末世，宣告说："龙向妇人发怒，去与她其余的儿女争战，这儿女就是那守上帝诫命、为耶稣作见证的。"（启示录12:17）今日生活在世上的一些人将会看到这些话的应验。过去时代那导致人们逼迫真教会的精神，将来也必导致对那些保持对上帝的忠诚的人采取同样的手段。现在，人们正在为这最后的大斗争做准备。PK 605.1

最终针对上帝余民的法令，将与亚哈随鲁王针对犹太人颁布的法令非常相似。今日真教会的敌人，将那一小群遵守安息日诫命的人，视为城门口的末底改。上帝子民对祂律法的敬畏，是对那些抛弃敬畏耶和华、践踏祂安息日之人的持续谴责。PK 605.2

撒但会煽动那些拒绝接受大众习俗和传统的少数人的愤怒。权贵名流会与不法之徒和恶棍联手，商议反对上帝的子民。财富、天才和学识会联合起来，用蔑视来掩盖他们。迫害他们的统治者、牧师和教会成员会密谋反对他们。他们会用言语和文字，用夸张、威胁和嘲讽来推翻他们的信仰。他们会用虚假的陈述和愤怒的呼吁来煽动民众的情绪。由于没有"圣经如此说"来反驳圣经安息日的拥护者，他们会诉诸压迫性的法令来弥补不足。为了博取民心和支持，立法者会屈从于星期日法的要求。但敬畏上帝的人不会接受一个违反十诫的制度。真理与谬误之争的最后大决战将在这个战场上展开。而我们对最终结果毫无疑问。今日，正如以斯帖和末底改的日子一样，主必证明祂的真理和祂的子民。" PK 605.3

"The trying experiences that came to God's people in the days of Esther were not peculiar to that age alone. The revelator, looking down the ages to the close of time, has declared, "The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17. Some who today are living on the earth will see these words fulfilled. The same spirit that in ages past led men to persecute the true church, will in the future lead to the pursuance of a similar course toward those who maintain their loyalty to God. Even now preparations are being made for this last great conflict. PK 605.1

"The decree that will finally go forth against the remnant people of God will be very similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews. Today the enemies of the true church see in the little company keeping the Sabbath commandment, a Mordecai at the gate. The reverence of God's people for His law is a constant rebuke to those who have cast off the fear of the Lord and are trampling on His Sabbath. PK 605.2

"Satan will arouse indignation against the minority who refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God. Wealth, genius, education, will combine to cover them with contempt. Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them. With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals, men will stir up the passions of the people. Not having a "Thus saith the Scriptures" to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to oppressive enactments to supply the lack. To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for Sunday laws. But those who fear God, cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the Decalogue. On this battlefield will be fought the last great conflict in the controversy between truth and error. And we are not left in doubt as to the issue. Today, as in the days of Esther and Mordecai, the Lord will vindicate His truth and His people." PK 605.3

6月13日星期五

进一步的思考

在古时，主曾奇妙地借着献身的妇女，与祂拣选作祂代表的男子联合，成就祂的圣工。祂使用妇女取得重大而决定性的胜利。在危急时刻，祂不止一次地将她们带到前线，借着她们拯救了许多人的生命。主借着王后以斯帖，为祂的子民成就了伟大的拯救。在看似无力拯救他们的时候，以斯帖和与她同在的妇女们，借着禁食、祷告和迅速的行动，克服了困难，为她们的同胞带来了救恩。 YRP 270.2

研究旧约时代妇女在上帝圣工中的作用，将使我们获得教训，使我们能够应对今日圣工中的紧急情况。我们或许不像以斯帖时代的上帝子民那样，被带到如此关键和显赫的地位；但归正的妇女往往能在更卑微的岗位上发挥重要作用。许多人一直在这样做，并且仍然愿意这样做。妇女的责任是与丈夫一同管教和训练她的儿女，使他们归正，并将他们的才能献给上帝。许多人有能力与丈夫一起在疗养院工作，为病人提供治疗，并向他人提供劝告和鼓励。有些人应该寻求教育，使自己适合担任医生的职责。——《特别证言》B辑 15:1, 2。" YRP 270.3

"In ancient times the Lord worked in a wonderful way through consecrated women who united in His work with men whom He had chosen to stand as His representatives. He used women to gain great and decisive victories. More than once, in times of emergency, He brought them to the front and worked through them for the salvation of many lives. Through Esther the queen, the Lord accomplished a mighty deliverance for His people. At a time when it seemed that no power could save them, Esther and the women associated with her, by fasting and prayer and prompt action, met the issue, and brought salvation to their people. YRP 270.2

"A study of women's work in connection with the cause of God in Old Testament times will teach us lessons that will enable us to meet emergencies in the work today. We may not be brought into such a critical and prominent place as were the people of God in the time of Esther; but often converted women can act an important part in more humble positions. This many have been doing, and are still ready to do. It is a woman's duty to unite with her husband in the disciplining and training of her sons and daughters, that they may be converted, and their powers consecrated to the service of God. There are many who have ability to stand with their husbands in sanitarium work, to give treatments to the sick and to speak words of counsel and encouragement to others. There are those who should seek an education that will fit them to act the part of physicians.—Special Testimonies, Series B 15:1, 2." YRP 270.3

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