

## Esther 4:13-16

<sup>13</sup>Then Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not imagine that you in the king's palace can escape any more than all the Jews. <sup>14</sup>For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?"

<sup>15</sup>Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai, <sup>16</sup>"Go, assemble all the Jews who are found in Susa, and fast for me; do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maidens also will fast in the same way. And thus I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish."

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### SERMON NOTES

July 3, 2016

T. Don Guthrie, preaching

## Recovering Faith

Esther 4:13-16

Acts 3:19 "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

Post-Jewish Persia

Moral decay

Old questions. Ancient answers.

- PROVIDENCE (v. 14)

Placement

"Accept your life, and you might survive it. If you hold back from it, insisting that this is not your life, not where you were meant to be, life will pass you by. You may not die from such foolishness, but you might as well be dead for all the good your life will do you or anyone else."

--Robin Hobb

- PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY (v. 16)

"I will go to the King"

"I don't believe in a fate that falls on men however they act. I do believe in a fate that falls on them unless they act."

--G.K. Chesterton

- PRAYER v 16

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Not perfect people, but a gracious God.