

# ESTHER

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

**Title: Sent into Darkness**

**July 18, 2021**

**Key Scripture: Esther 1:1-2:4**

1) All humanity **dwells amidst darkness.**

Ephesians 2:1–3 ... *"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind."*

2) We are **called out of darkness and sent into darkness.**

Ephesians 5:8 ... *"for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light"*

3) God is **present and at work in the darkness.**

John 1:4–5 ... *"In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*

# Memory Verse for 2021

“that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

**Philippians 3:11–14**

## Scripture to Pray

**Psalm 121:1-6**

*"I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night."*

## From the Resources

“Although God is not referred to explicitly, the author presupposed divine providence ... The most pervasive teaching in the entire book is the importance and extent of God’s providence-his sovereignty over nature, nations, and individuals.”

- *New American Commentary*  
By: Marvin Breneman