



THE PRIVILEGE OF KNOWING HIM

King Ahasuerus had a queen whose name was Vashti (Esther 1:9). Queen Vashti had the privilege of knowing the king. She lived in the king's palace along with the king. Vashti provides us on one hand a picture of the Israelites who had the privilege of knowing God as their Lord. She also typifies on the other hand, the modern day church that has the privilege of knowing the Lord.

Vashti didn't appreciate the great privilege she had as the queen of the land. She neglected her great calling. She was not really living according to the King's desires and will. We read, in Esther 1:9, that queen Vashti, had a great feast for the women of the palace. Although the king had prepared a feast for all the people (verse 5), yet Vashti decided to have a separate feast (verse 9) for the women. She wanted to walk in her own ways and do her own things. Queen Vashti didn't do what was expected of her as the queen; she neglected her calling to be the queen; she made her calling to be of scant importance.

The king desired that the beauty of his queen be shown to the people; he was eager that princes and the people see him in all his glory. The queen was a part of his glory. But queen Vashti refused to come before the king at the feast. She disobeyed his orders and didn't celebrate the king's praise and glory before other people. She failed to respond to this calling upon her life. Here Vashti provides a picture of Israelites disobeying the commandments of God and walking in their own ways. Vashti



VERSE

"On the seventh day of the feast when the heart of the king was merry he asked his chamberlains to fetch the queen to show the people and princes her beauty, for she was fair to look on. But queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by

also provides a picture of a believer in the church who desires not to walk in the ways of God, but prefers, instead, to walk in his own ways. In the Bible the church is always depicted as a woman. Vashti, therefore, gives us two fitting pictures for comparison. Even in this day, the King of kings desires that the glorious beauty of His church be seen by one and all. She is to worship Him and know Him as her Lord. Every believer needs to praise the King amidst all the people.

Psalm 45 depicts the great beauty of the children of God. The Lord desires to show forth His glory and His, beauty and majesty through His people.

“Hearken O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear, forget also thine own people, and thy father’s house. So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty; for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him. She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needle work; the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee. I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations; therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.” (Psalms 45:10, 11, 14, and 17).

The Apostle Paul writes that a believer in Christ is called forth “to the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved” (Ephesians 1:6). He adds that we should “be to the praise of His glory, who first trusted in Christ” (Ephesians 1:12). We are to show forth the glory and praise of our King.

There are many believers who have the privilege of knowing the Lord, but unfortunately, like Vashti, they are busy in various activities of their own making. They have forgotten the calling of God upon their lives. They have disregarded the commands of their King. They are not able to appreciate His high calling upon their lives, which is to bring forth His beauty, His excellence and His glory before all the people of this earth. Beloved, we are to be an obedient people, showing forth His praise.

*his chamberlain~
therefore was the
king very wroth,
and his anger
burned in him.”*

(Esther 1:11, 12).

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