

Esther

Summary

Although God's name is not used in this book, His presence is inevitable. Some early church leaders didn't want to include the book in scripture because God's name was not mentioned. This book is the close of the Historical section of the Old Testament.

Author and Date:

Unknown, but could possibly be Mordecai. Some suggest that the author could be Ezra or Nehemiah because of the similarity of writing style in their books. ~470 BC

Audience/ Setting:

People of Israel. Although Esther comes after Nehemiah, its events happened about 30 years before those recorded in the book of Nehemiah. The setting was in the Persian Empire and most of the actions take place in the king's palace in Susa, a Persian capital.

Purpose:

Demonstrate God's sovereignty and His loving care for His people.

Key People:

Esther, Mordecai, King Xerxes I, Haman

Key Places:

King's palace in Susa, Persia

References

NASB MacArthur Study Bible
NLT Life Application Study Bible
Tony Evans Study Bible