

Esther 5:9-14 (ESV)

And Haman went out that day joyful and glad of heart. But when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was filled with wrath against Mordecai. 10 Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home, and he sent and brought his friends and his wife Zeresh.



Esther 5:9-14 (ESV)

11 And Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the servants of the king. 12 Then Haman said, "Even Queen Esther let no one but me come with the king to the feast she prepared. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king."



Esther 5:9-14 (ESV)

13 Yet all this is worth nothing to me, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.” 14 Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, “Let a gallows fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hanged upon it. Then go joyfully with the king to the feast.” This idea pleased Haman, and he had the gallows made.



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

On that night the king could not sleep. And he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds, the chronicles, and they were read before the king. 2 And it was found written how Mordecai had told about Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, and who had sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

3 And the king said, “What honor or distinction has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?” The king's young men who attended him said, “Nothing has been done for him.”



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

4 And the king said, "Who is in the court?" Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king's palace to speak to the king about having Mordecai hanged on the gallows that he had prepared for him. 5 And the king's young men told him, "Haman is there, standing in the court." And the king said, "Let him come in."



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

6 So Haman came in, and the king said to him, "What should be done to the man whom the king delights to honor?" And Haman said to himself, "Whom would the king delight to honor more than me?"

7 And Haman said to the king, "For the man whom the king delights to honor,

8 let royal robes be brought, which the king has worn, and the horse that the king has ridden, and on whose head a royal crown is set.



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

9 And let the robes and the horse be handed over to one of the king's most noble officials. Let them dress the man whom the king delights to honor, and let them lead him on the horse through the square of the city, proclaiming before him: 'Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor.'"



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

10 Then the king said to Haman, "Hurry; take the robes and the horse, as you have said, and do so to Mordecai the Jew, who sits at the king's gate. Leave out nothing that you have mentioned."



Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

11 So Haman took the robes and the horse, and he dressed Mordecai and led him through the square of the city, proclaiming before him, "Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor."

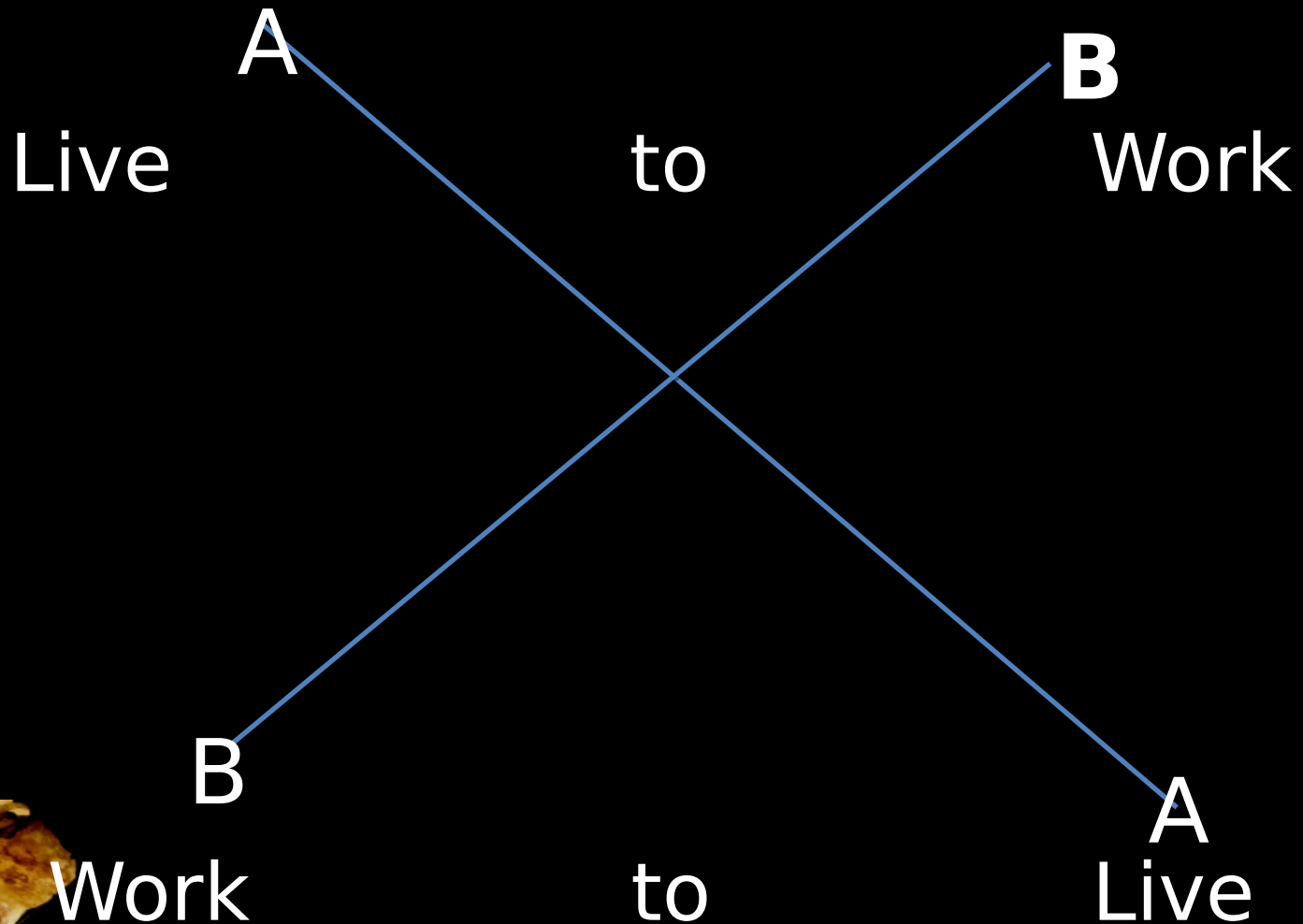


Esther 6:1-13 (ESV)

12 Then Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman hurried to his house, mourning and with his head covered. 13 And Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and his wife Zeresh said to him, "If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of the Jewish people, you will not overcome him but will surely fall before him."

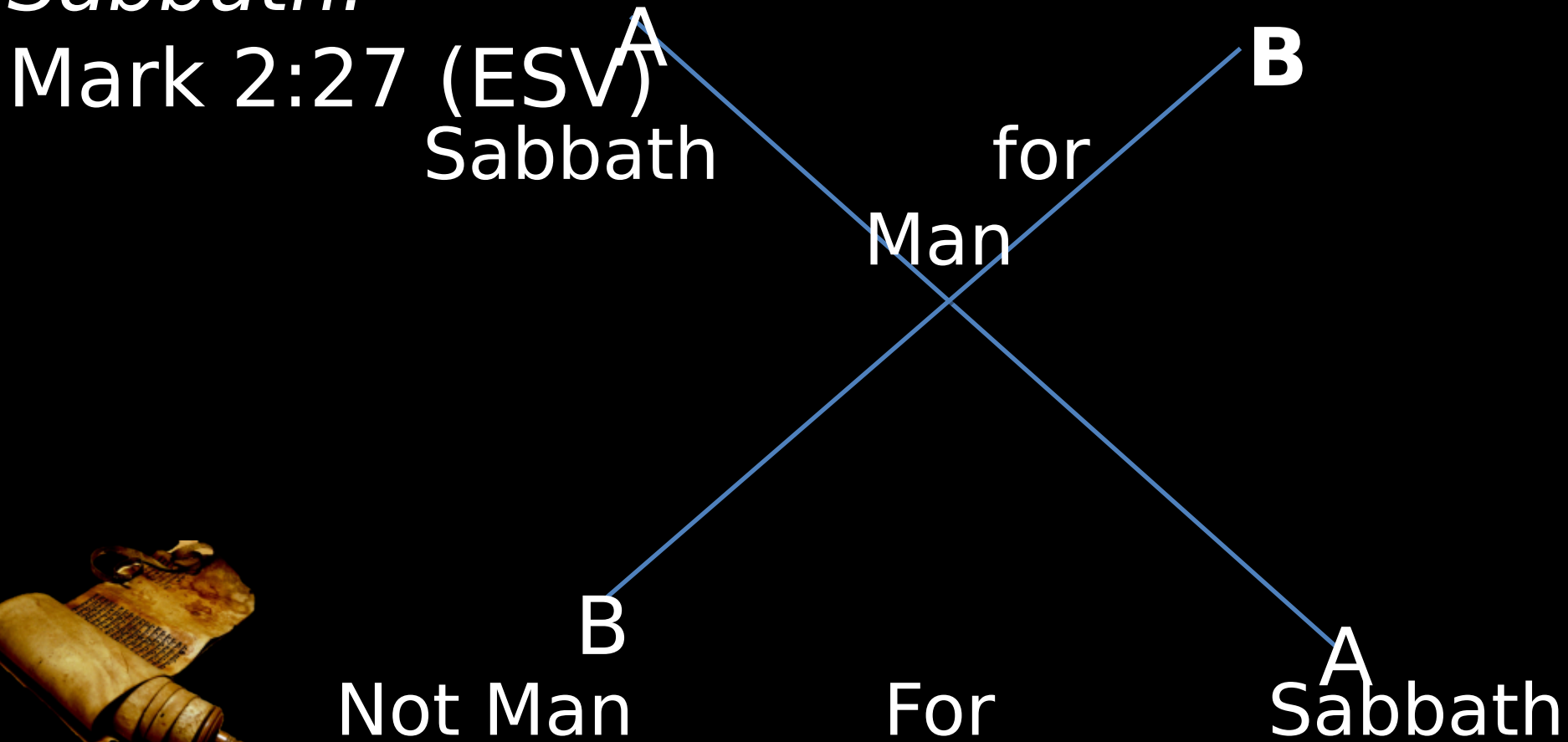


Chiastic Form



Chiastic Form

And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."



Chiastic Form

Whoever exalts himself will be
humbled, and whoever humbles himself
will be exalted.

Matthew 23:12 (ESV)

Exalts himself will be
humbled

B

Humbles himself

will be

A
exalted



Feasts in Esther

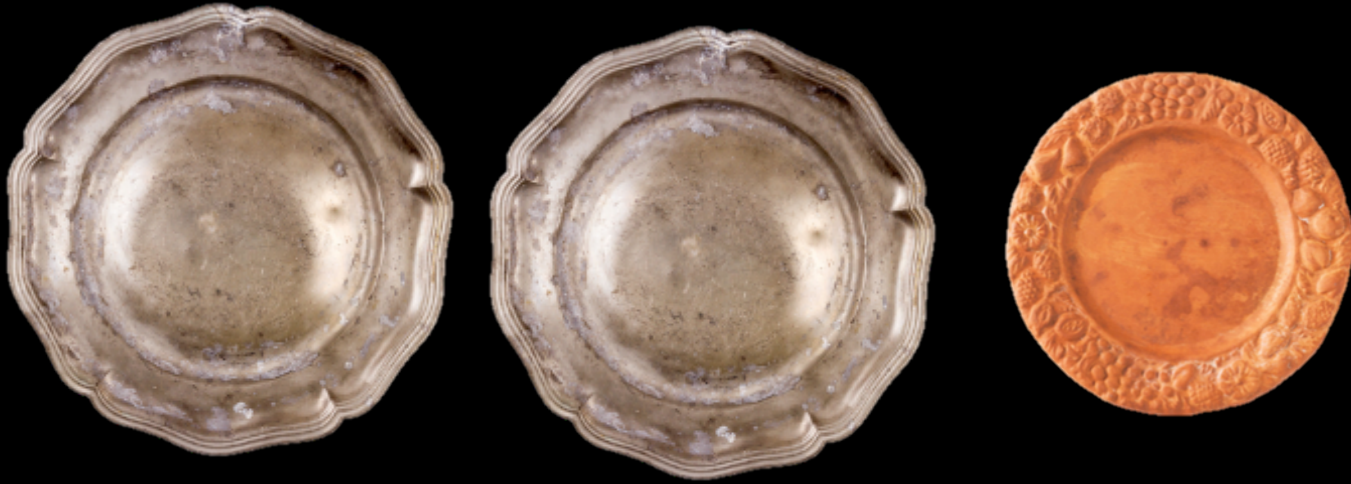


1. The king's banquet to begin the 180 day display of his wealth and power.
2. The king's seven day banquet at the end of the 180 day display of wealth and power.

Esther 1:1-8



Feasts in Esther



The private banquet between Haman and the king at the signing of the decree to kill all the Jews.

Esther 3:15



Feasts in Esther



4. The first banquet Esther gave for the king and Haman.
Esther 5:4-8



5. The second banquet Esther gave for the king and Haman during which she denounces Haman. Esther 6:14

Feasts in Esther



6. The public banquet given to elevate Mordecai to the rank of second only to the king



Feasts in Esther



7. The banquet celebrating Jewish victory
in the provinces.
Esther 9:20-32

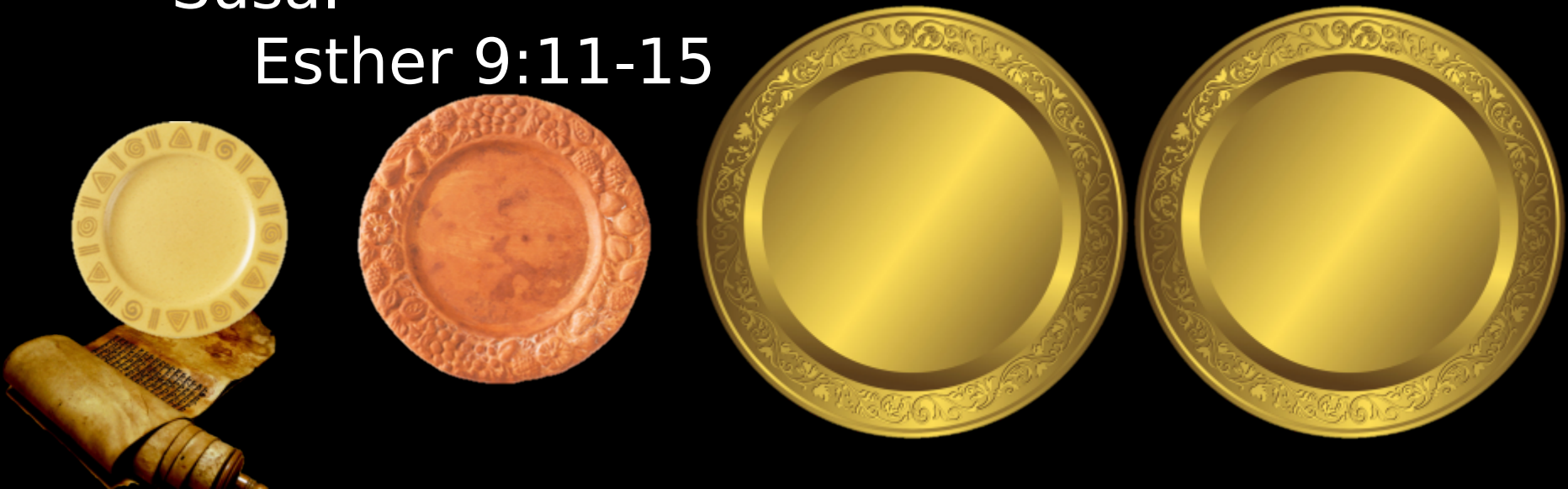


Feasts in Esther



8. The banquet celebrating Jewish victory in Susa.

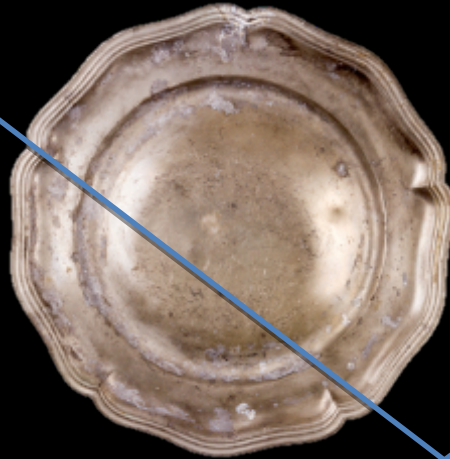
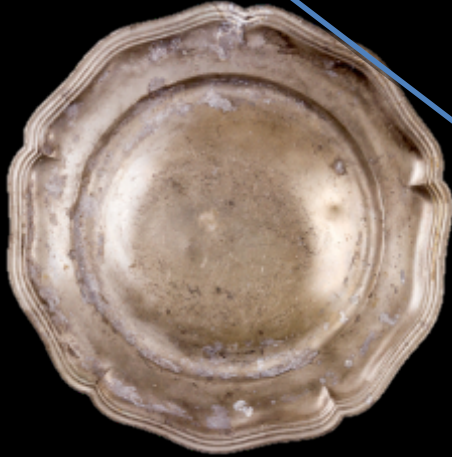
Esther 9:11-15



Feasts in Esther

A

B

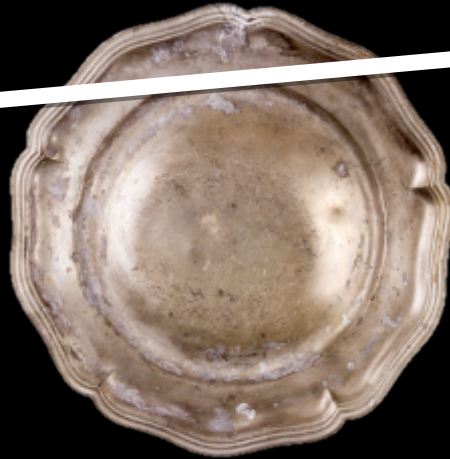
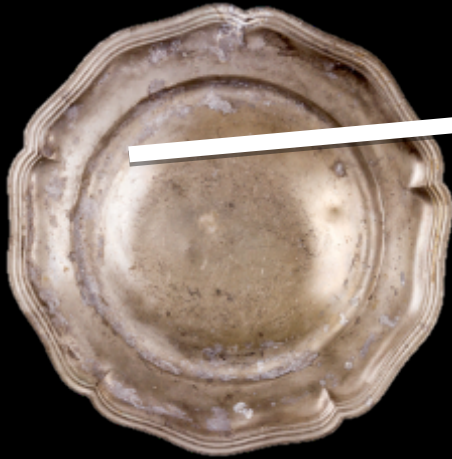


B

A



~~Feasts in Esther~~



The Book of Esther Hinges on Xerxes Insomnia And That Was a God Thing!



What do we learn?

Esther Made the Big Decision
To Seek God's Will

Esther 4:15-16

Esther Lived Out the Decision
to Follow God

In Each of Her Additional
Decisions

Esther 5-7



Discernment is...

...an increasing capacity to recognize and respond to the Presence of God – both in the ordinary moments of our lives and in the major decisions we make along the way

- Ruth Haley Barton



We Make Kingdom Decisions
In the Major Issues
and the Ordinary Issues of Life

Kingdom Decisions Reflect
The Intersection of God's Rule
(Will)
and The Presence of Christ
in Our Heart.



Personal Discernment Practice:

That God-granted ability to distinguish/discriminate between the good (something 'of God;' which draws us toward God) and the evil (something not 'of God;' drawing us away from God) when making decisions.

