

Compass Bearing # 6

Devotions to Navigate the Coronavirus Pandemic

**“The Power of the IF”**

Saturday, April 4, 2020

**By Pastor Jeremy Duncan**

*Esther 4:12-14 (MSG)*

*<sup>12-14</sup> When Hathach told Mordecai what Esther had said, Mordecai sent her this message: “Don’t think that just because you live in the king’s house you’re the one Jew who will get out of this alive. If you persist in staying silent at a time like this, help and deliverance will arrive for the Jews from someplace else; but you and your family will be wiped out. Who knows? Maybe you were made queen for just such a time as this.”*

We’ve all had moments when we are faced with what seems like an immovable mountain in front of us. When I think back upon my life, there are so many occasions when I thought to myself, “There is no way I can get through this” or “This giant in front of me is just too big”. Maybe you are facing this right now. Maybe the Coronavirus is staring you in the face, causing you fear and anxiety, as it is many of those in the world today.

I’m sure Esther felt the same way at this moment of her life. The wise Mordecai is encouraging her to bravely risk her life by pleading the case of the Jews before King Xerxes, saying, “If you persist in staying silent at a time like this, help and deliverance will arrive for the Jews from someplace else; but you and your family will be wiped out. Who knows? Maybe you were made queen for just such a time as this.”

It seems that Mordecai is certain that relief will come to the Jews, sooner or later. But, the fate of Esther and her family depends on the free decision she has to make in this moment in time. He says that it may be that God has raised her up in this circumstance to be the means by which He brings relief to the Jewish people. Yet, even God’s plans, to some degree, hang upon the “if” of our personal decisions.

The sort-of Reader’s Digest ending of Esther’s story is that this orphan girl from no means finds favor with the King and ultimately saves her people from mass genocide. Pretty cool, right? And, all because she believed that she was made for the moment. All because she grabbed ahold of the power of the “if” in her life.

What IF we were created for these moments of our lives? What IF you, (insert name), were created for greatness in this time of uncertainty? What IF you, (insert name), were created to rise up and help others in their time of need?

Spend some time with God today reflecting on the below words that He may be speaking to you:

*“My beloved son or daughter,*

*You were created for this moment in time. We have been training for a very long time together. You and I. Waiting. Talking with one another. Listening. Studying and searching for truth together.*

*This has not happened by accident and it certainly hasn’t happened overnight. This is a life’s worth of training. You are equipped and prepared for this very moment in time.*

*My child, you are known by your fruit. The fruit that has grown from the mustard seed of faith that has been planted within you. When you water it, it grows and produces fruit. What kind of fruit will you choose bear in this season? Fear or faith? Frustration or peace? Self-reliance or trust? You have options. You have the power of the “if” within you.*

*Now is the time. Now is the season for the fruit to grow ripe. Now is the time for my people to rise up. Now is the moment when the light outshines the darkness. This is what you were created for. Seize the moment.*

*The world will be different IF you choose to act.*