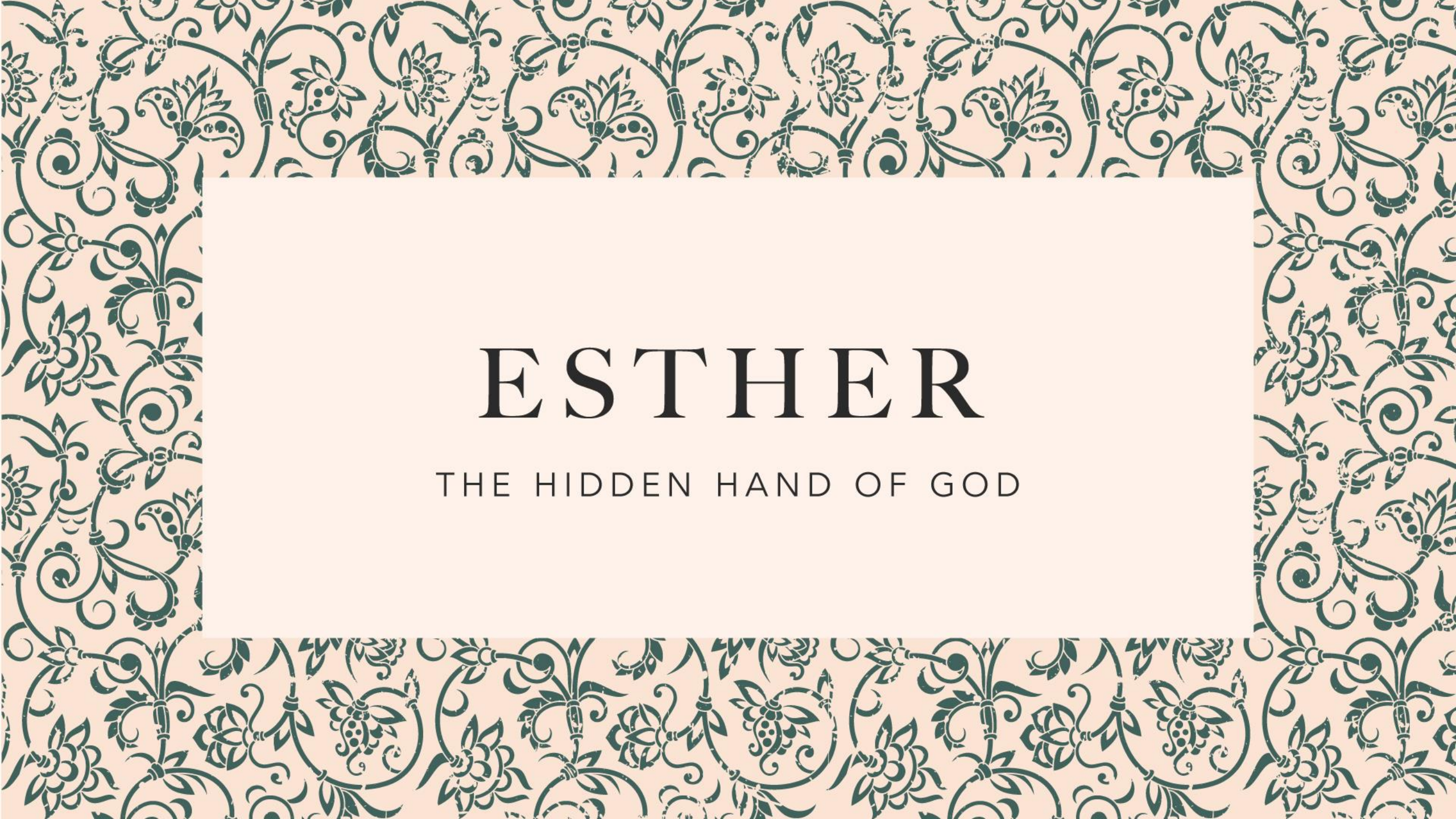




ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 5:7



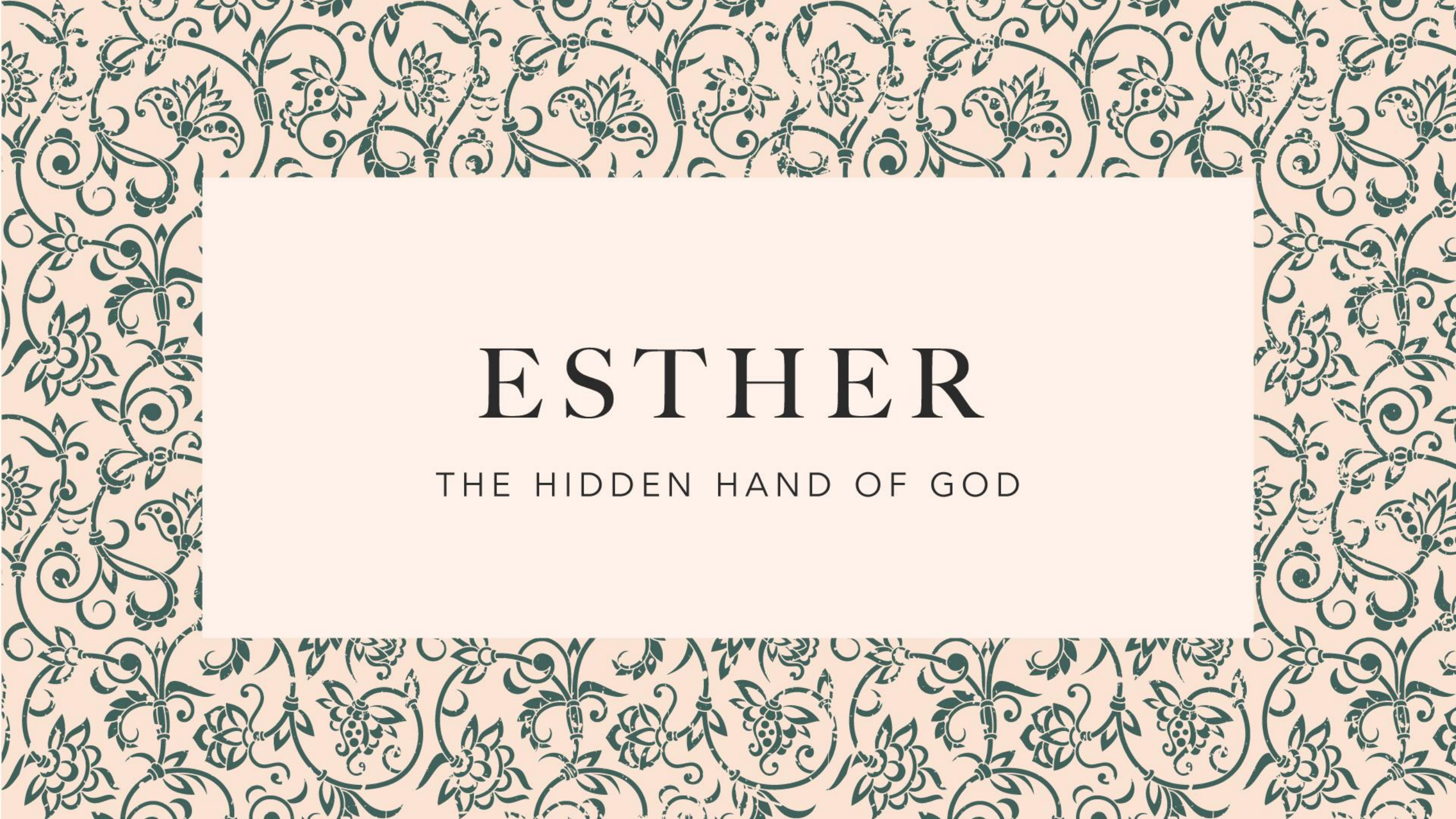
ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

Show me a sign of your favor...

Psalms 86:17





ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28





ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

Esther Basics

- Author
- Setting







THE PERSIAN EMPIRE (CA. 538-332 B.C.E.)





The Cyrus Cylinder
- The British Museum

ESTHER

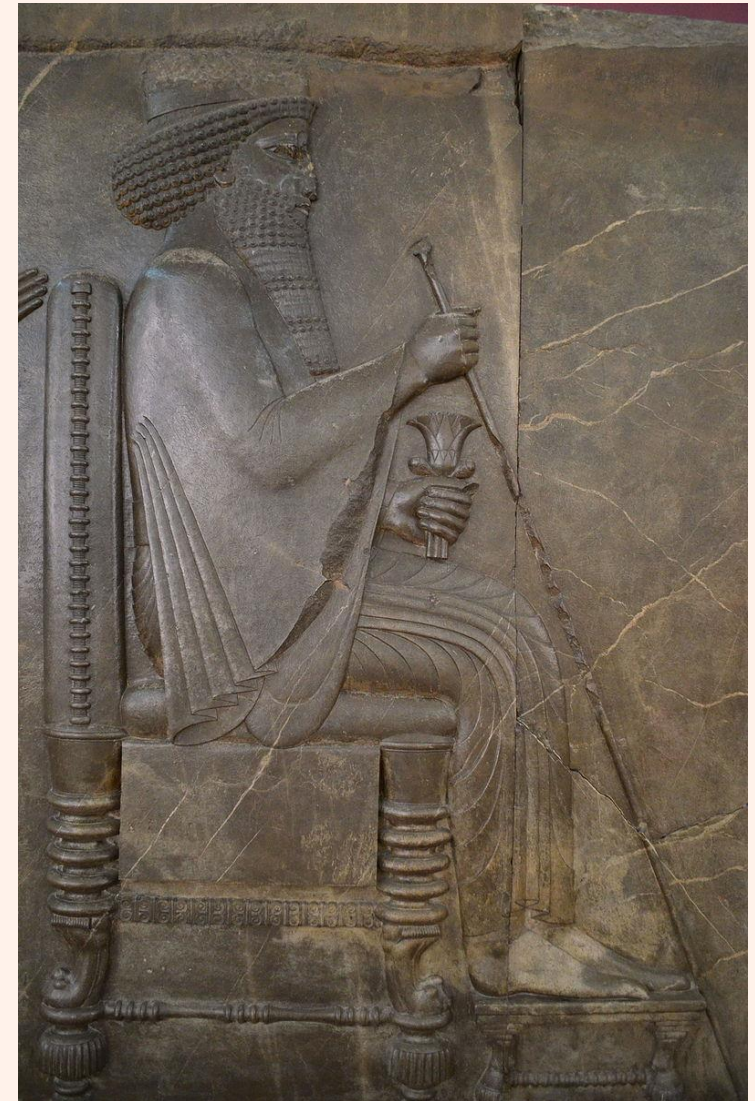
THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

I. Drunkenness

Ahasuerus (Hebrew)

Khshayarshan (Persian)

Xerxes (Greek)

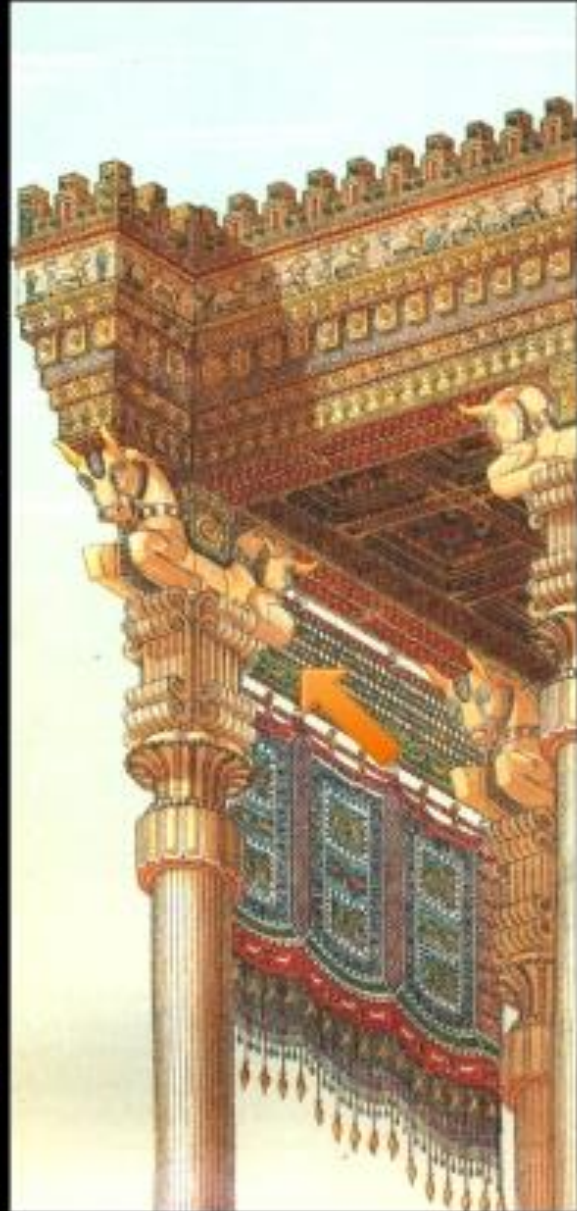


ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD



Susa



Corner capital from one of the buildings in Susa

- Louvre - Paris

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD



ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

“Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor and you will have treasures in heaven; and come, follow me.”

Luke 18:22



II. Defiance

Vashti, was possibly the historical Persian queen,
Amestris



A cylinder seal showing an Ancient Persian Queen
meeting with a young girl and noble woman
- Encyclopaedia Iranica

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

When the ego is pricked, it releases a powerful poison that makes people do all sorts of things they'd never do if they were humble and submitted to the Lord.

- Warren Wiersbe



III. Divine Providence

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

*Husbands, love your wives, as Christ
loved the church and gave Himself up
for her.*

Ephesians 5:25



The king's heart is a stream of water
in the hand of the Lord;
he turns it wherever he will.

Proverbs 21:1 ESV



ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

As you study, watch for:

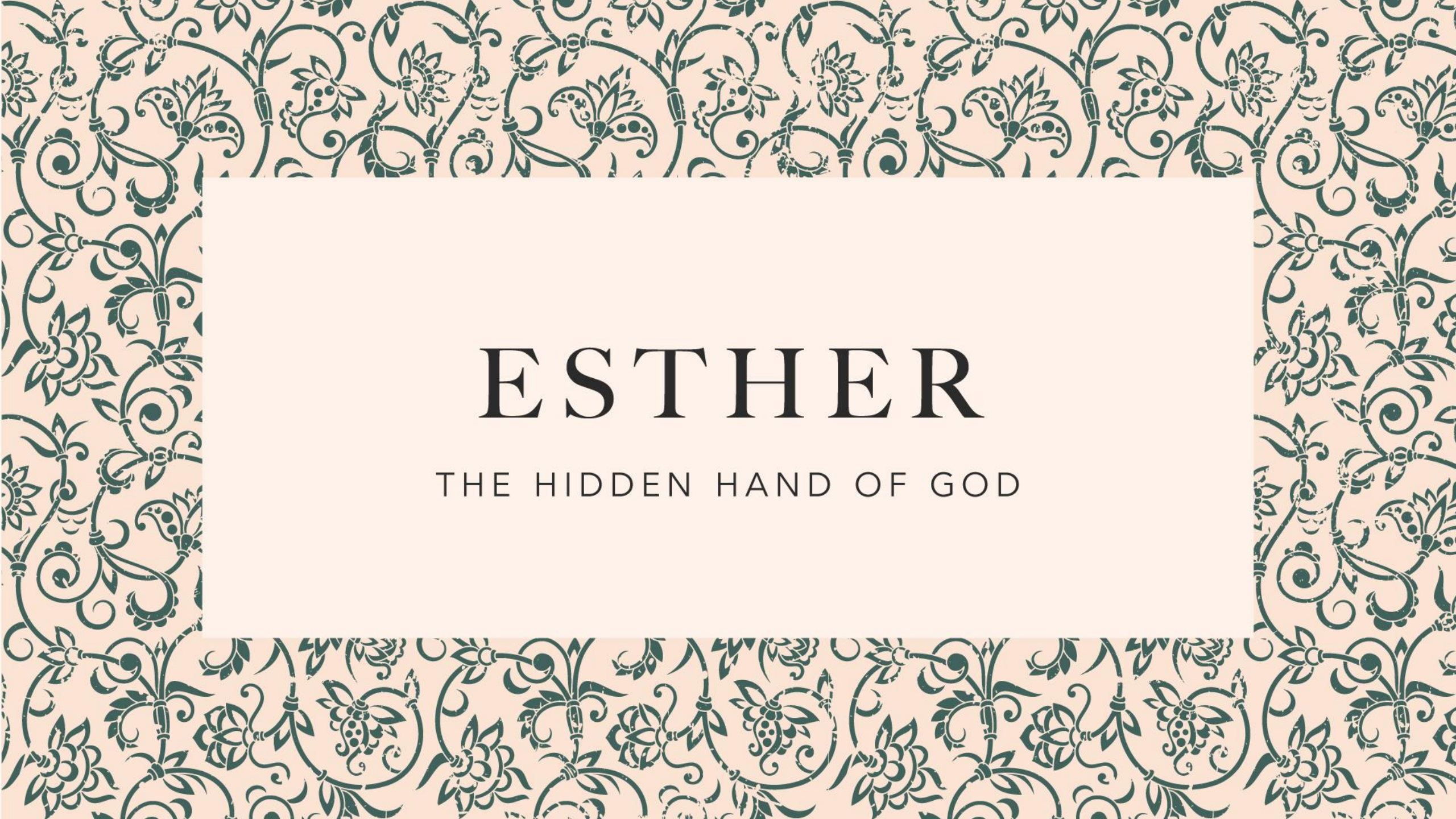
- Characters: the King, Mordecai, Esther and Haman
- Banquets or feasting
- Superficiality
- Reversals



A photograph showing the backs of three women wearing colorful, patterned headscarves. They are looking upwards towards a branch of cherry blossoms with pink flowers against a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

”Despite the intense persecution of believers, Iran has the fastest growing church in the world...





ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD



ESTHER

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD