

ESTHER

**The God Who
Preserves His People**

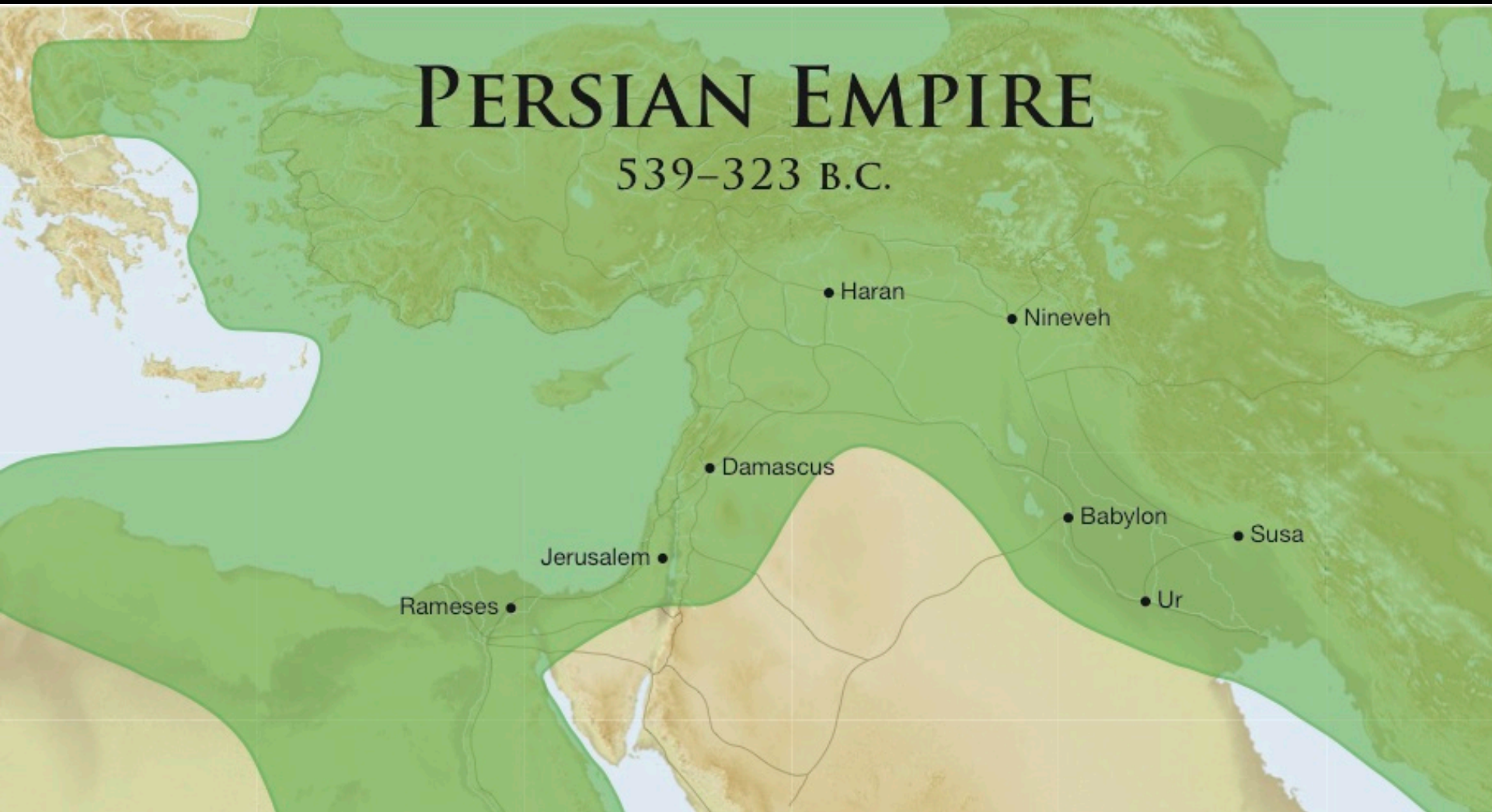
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ESTHER at a Glance

I. The Setting for God's Providential Preservation of His People	1:1–2:18
II. The Experience of God's Providential Preservation of His People	2:19–9:32
IV. Epilogue: Mordecai Honored	10:1–3

PERSIAN EMPIRE

539–323 B.C.



Rameses •

Jerusalem •

Damascus •

Haran •

Nineveh •

Babylon •

Susa •

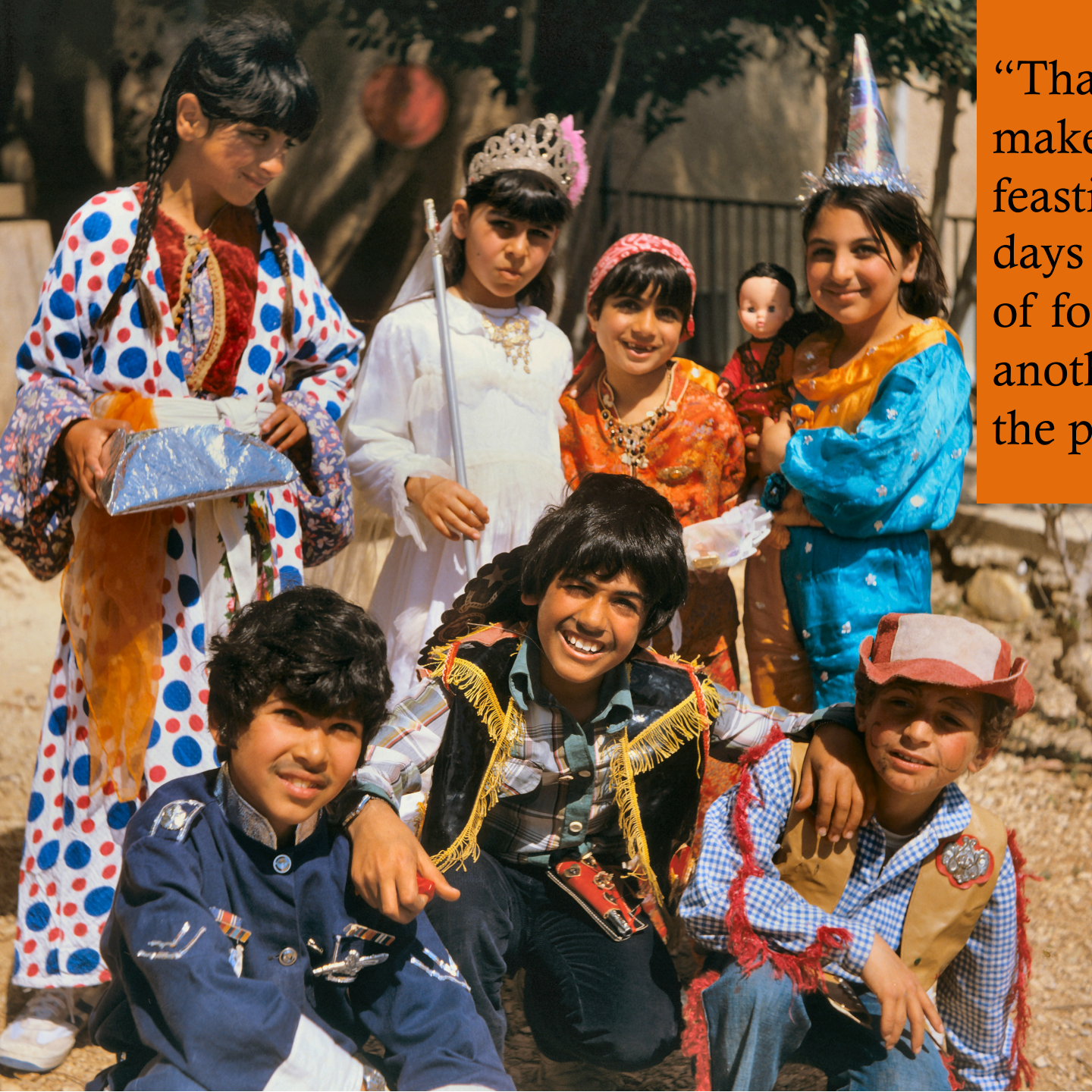
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The Setting for God's Providential Preservation of His People (1:1–2:18)

- ◆ The king with only apparent authority (1:1–22)
- ◆ A new queen of Persia (2:1–18)

The Experience of God's Providential Preservation of His People (2:19–9:32)

- ◆ **Plots against the king and the Jews (2:19–3:15)**
- ◆ **Esther bravely intercedes while Haman plots (4:1–5:14)**
- ◆ **The king rewards Mordecai and executes Haman (6:1–7:10)**
- ◆ **The Jews defeat their enemies and celebrate (8:1–9:19)**
- ◆ **Mordecai establishes the feast of Purim (9:20–32)**



“That they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor” (Esth 9:22).

Epilogue: Mordecai Is Honored (10:1–3)

The Lasting Message

- ◆ **God is ever present and will preserve his own to the end (4:14).**
- ◆ **God will punish the wicked who stand against his people.**
- ◆ **The Messiah in the line of Judah will bring ultimate joy.**

Summary

God discreetly and sovereignly preserves his people from Haman's extermination by honoring Esther over Queen Vashti and Mordechai over Haman resulting in his people's joy in order to foreshadow the Messiah's future work.