

What is Your Shadow Mission?

Daniel Duda

**TED Treasury Advisory
Hotel Splendid, Montenegro**

27 November 2019

This is what happened during the time of Xerxes, the Xerxes who ruled over 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush. At that time King Xerxes reigned from his royal throne in the citadel of Susa, and in the third year of his reign he gave a banquet for all his nobles and officials. The military leaders of Persia and Media, the princes, and the nobles of the provinces were present.

For a full 180 days he displayed the vast wealth of his kingdom and the splendor and glory of his majesty.

When these days were over, the King gave a banquet, lasting seven days, in the enclosed garden of the King's palace, for all the people from the least to the greatest, who were in the citadel of Susa. The garden had hangings of white and blue linen, fastened with cords of white linen and purple material to silver rings on marble pillars. There were couches of gold and silver on a mosaic pavement of porphyry, marble, mother-of-pearl and other costly stones.

Wine was served in goblets of gold, each one different from the other, and the royal wine was abundant, in keeping with the King's liberality. By the King's command each guest was allowed to drink in his own way, for the King instructed all the wine stewards to serve each man what he wished.

**Queen Vashti also gave a banquet for the women in the royal palace of King Xerxes.
(Esther 1: 1-9)**

On the seventh day, when King Xerxes was in high spirits from wine, he commanded the seven eunuchs who served him—Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, Abagtha, Zethar and Karkas— 11 to bring before him Queen Vashti, wearing her royal crown, in order to display her beauty to the people and nobles, for she was lovely to look at.

12 But when the attendants delivered the king's command, Queen Vashti refused to come.

Then the king became furious and burned with anger.

(Esther 1:10-12)

13 Since it was customary for the king to consult experts in matters of law and justice, he spoke with the wise men who understood the times and were closest to the king...

19 “Therefore, if it pleases the king, let him issue a royal decree and let it be written in the laws of Persia and Media, which cannot be repealed, that Vashti is never again to enter the presence of King Xerxes. Also let the king give her royal position to someone else who is better than she. 20 Then when the king’s edict is proclaimed throughout all his vast realm, all the women will respect their husbands, from the least to the greatest.”

Before a young woman's turn came to go in to King Xerxes, she had to complete twelve months of beauty treatments prescribed for the women, six months with oil of myrrh and six with perfumes and cosmetics. (Esther 1:12)

After these events, King Xerxes honored Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, elevating him and giving him a seat of honor higher than that of all the other nobles. All the royal officials at the King's gate knelt down and paid honor to Haman, for the King had commanded this concerning him. But Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor. (Esther 3:1-2)

When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged. Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes. (vs. 5)

When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly. (Esther 4:1)

All the King's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the King in the inner court without being summoned the King has but one law: that he be put to death.

But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king.” (Esther 4:11)

When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: “Do not think that because you are in the King's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place...

but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?”

(Esther 4:12-14)

When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.” (Esther 4:16)

1) What is your shadow mission?

Your shadow mission is very similar to the real mission you are in this world for. Your true mission but twisted by your ego and taken over by the pain you have experienced, becomes your shadow mission.

- 1) What is your shadow mission?**
- 2) Who is Mordecai in your life?**
- 3) And to whom are you a Mordecai?**

**“What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom. It will be given to you.”
(Esther 5:3)**

“Now what is your petition? Ask and it will be given to you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom and it will be granted?”

(5:6)

Esther replied, “My petition and my request is this: If the King regards me with favor and if it pleases the King to grant my petition and my request, then let the King and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the King's question.”

(5:7)

Haman went out that day happy and in high spirits. But when he saw Mordecai at the King's gate and observed that he neither rose nor showed fear in his presence, he was filled with rage against Mordecai. Nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home.

Calling together his friends and Zeresh, his wife, Haman boasted to them about his vast wealth, his many sons, and all the ways the King had honored him and how he had elevated him above the other nobles and officials.

(5:9-13)

"And that's not all," Haman added. "I'm the only person Queen Esther invited to accompany the King to the banquet she gave. And she has invited me along with the King tomorrow.

But all this gives me no satisfaction as long as I see that Jew Mordecai sitting at the King's gate." (Esther 5:9-13)

**For the man the King delights to honor,
have them bring a royal robe the King has
worn and a horse that the King has ridden,
one with a royal crest placed on its head.**

**Then let the robe and horse be entrusted to
one of the King's most noble princes. Let
them robe the man the King delights to
honor, and lead him on the horse through
the city streets, proclaiming before him,
“This is what is done for the man the King
delights to honor!”** (Esther 5:7-9)

Now write another decree in the King's name on behalf of the Jews as seems best to you, and seal it with the King's signet ring. (Esther 8:8)

**“Time and time again the temptation came to Jesus from many directions to choose some less costly way of fulfilling His calling than the way of suffering and death. But He resisted it.”
(F. F. Bruce)**

**You can be Messiah, you can fulfill your mission
without hunger—turn these stones into
bread;**

**without pain—throw yourself down and the
angels will rescue you;**

**without opposition—bow before me and all
the kingdoms of this earth I will give to you.**

**“Father, let this cup of suffering pass from me.
Nevertheless, not My will, but Thine be done.”
(Matthew 26:39)**

It just so happens that...

- there is a vacancy for a queen**
- Esther, a Jew, enters a beauty contest and of all women she wins the competition**
- Her uncle, Mordecai of all the people discovers a plot against the king and saves his life**
- He is not rewarded**
- The king cannot sleep the very night before Hamman wants to kill Mordecai and has the gallows built for him**
- Of all the places of the chronicles, the king is read the very section mentioning Mordecai's brave deed.**
- Hamman comes in the morning when the King wants to honour Mordecai**
- Mordecai instead of becoming a victim of Hamman, he becomes his successor**
- the ring that Hamman used to have ends up with Mordecai**

**Just like in the book of
Esther, God is still at work.
God is at work for you.**

**Therefore who knows,
but maybe you have come
to your position
for such a time as this?**

**And because God is at work
for you...**

**...you don't need to get
seduced**

by your shadow mission!