

Pathways

Lessons from Esther

“From Providence to Purpose”

“The Security of Sovereignty”

10 On the seventh day when the king was drunk on wine, he ordered Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven eunuchs who served under King Xerxes,

11 to bring Queen Vashti in front of the king, wearing her royal crown. He wanted to show the people, especially the officials, her beauty, because she was very attractive.

12 But Queen Vashti refused the king's command that the eunuchs delivered to her. As a result, the king became very angry, and his rage burned inside him.

Esther 1:10-12, GWT

16 Then Memucan spoke up in the presence of the king and the officials, "Queen Vashti has done wrong, not only against the king but also against all the officials and all the people in every province of King Xerxes.

17 The news of what the queen has done will spread to all women, and they will despise their husbands. They will say, 'King Ahasuerus ordered Queen Vashti to be brought to him, but she would not come.'

18 Today the wives of the officials in Persia and Media who have heard what the queen did will talk back to all the king's officials. There will be contempt and short tempers."

Esther 1:16-18, GWT

19 “If it pleases you, Your Majesty, issue a royal decree. It should be recorded in the decrees of the Persians and Medes, never to be repealed, that Vashti may never again appear in front of King Ahasuerus.

Furthermore, Your Majesty, you should give her royal position to another woman who is more worthy than she.

20 When you issue your decree, your whole kingdom, great as it is, will hear it. Then all the wives will honor their husbands, regardless of their status.”

Esther 1:19-20, GWT

8 So it was, when the king's command and decree were heard, and when many young women were gathered at Shushan the citadel, under the custody of Hegai, that Esther also was taken to the king's palace, into the care of Hegai the custodian of the women.

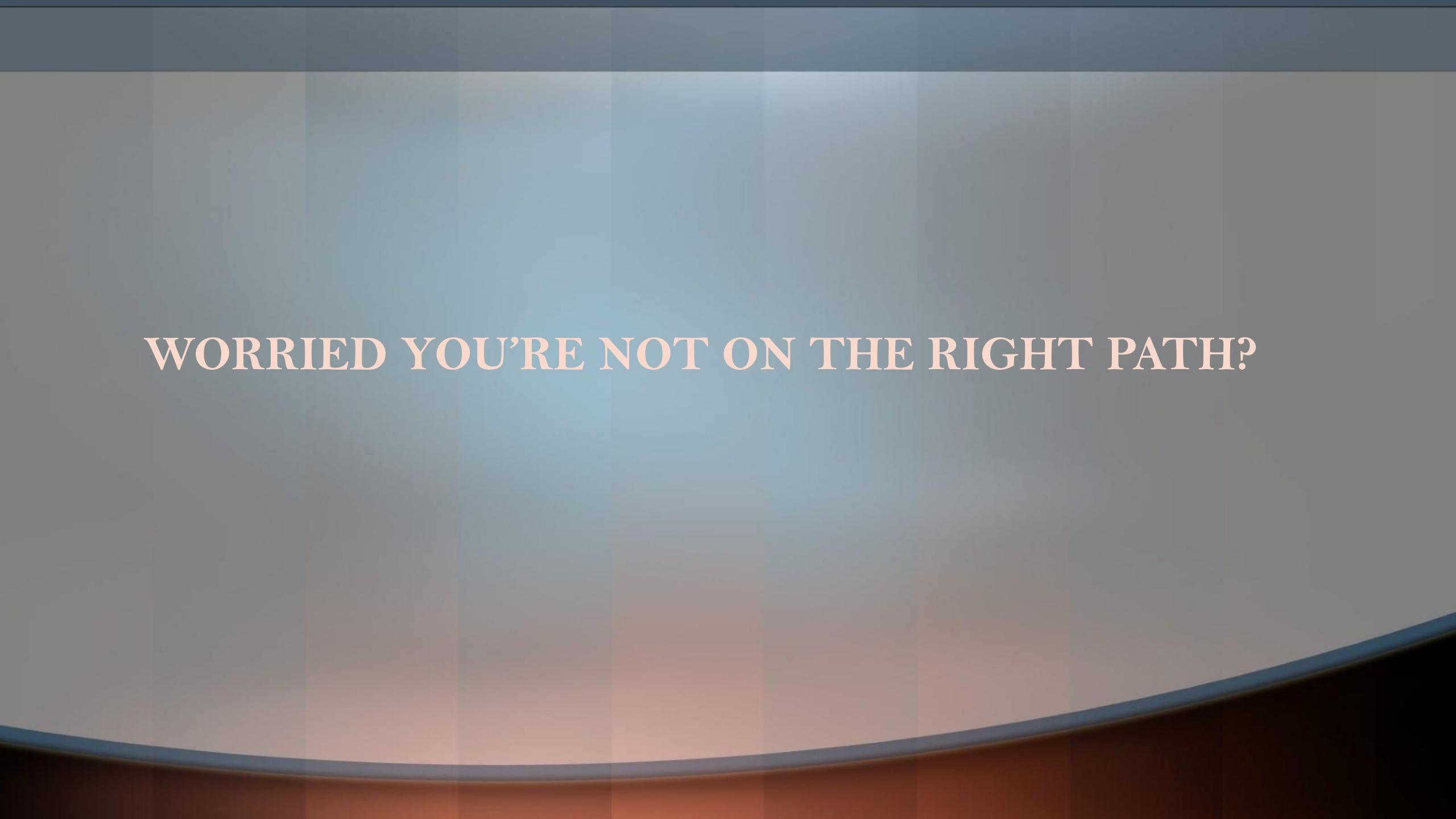
9 Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance. Then seven choice maidservants were provided for her from the king's palace, and he moved her and her maidservants to the best place in the house of the women.

Esther 2:8-9, NKJV

“Providence is a subcategory of sovereignty. In other words, one way God exercises His sovereignty is by His providence. The providence of God is the miraculous, mysterious way He intersects and interconnects events in order to bring about His sovereign rule of the universe.

God’s sovereignty is what He wants to happen. God’s providence is the way He orders and connects events to bring about His will.”

Tony Evans

A blurred background image of a landscape with a road curving through a field.

WORRIED YOU'RE NOT ON THE RIGHT PATH?

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will...

Ephesians 1:11, NKJ

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:36, NKJV

“LET GO
OF THE WHEEL”



Nothing is too difficult for God.

When we ***choose*** to worry or ***inadvertently*** allow
worry to enter our thoughts and actions,
we're questioning His sovereign control.

**"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh.
Is there anything too hard for Me?"**

Jeremiah 32:27, NKJV

“Anything that competes with, negates, or minimizes God’s glory exists in a perpetual state of natural and Spiritual misalignment.”

Unless the Lord builds the house,
They labor in vain who build it;
Unless the Lord guards the city,
The watchman stays awake in vain.

Psalm 127:1, NKJV

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5, NKJV