

## Character

Esther 2:19-3:5

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Esther+2%3A19-3%3A5&version=NIV>

***“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.” (2)***

Mordecai is a man of godly character. Though God is not mentioned in Esther, we see God through the character and action of Mordecai. In today’s reading we see two examples of the Godly character of Mordecai. First Moredecai, as he is present to check on his adopted daughter, Esther, overhears a conspiracy against the King and he makes the information known. Second, Mordecai refuses to kneel and pay honor to a human being (namely Haman). Much like Daniel and his friends who refused to bow to a statue, Mordecai refuses to bow and honor a human being. As a Jew, to bow before this man would be to break the command of God-“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them” (Exodus 20:3-4a).

Mordecai’s character and actions are evidence of the living God dwelling within him. Mordecai helps to point to the character of the God that he serves. A God who is righteous and just. A God who is so powerful, so mighty, so wonderful, that this God alone is worthy of worship, honor, and trust. When I read of Mordecai’s actions, it causes me to reflect on whether or not my character and my actions point to the character of Christ whom I serve. Do I stand up for the things that matter to Christ? Do I act in such a way that even if I don’t mention the name of Jesus, my actions clearly point to Jesus? In some moments, I am confident that I can answer “yes” with boldness. In other moments, it is painfully obvious that I fail to represent my God. As you walk through this week, reflect on