

## Intro

1. The Jews of Judah and Jerusalem were carried into exile by the Babylonian king \_\_\_\_\_ when he sacked the city and burnt the temple in 586 B.C.
2. What does Deuteronomy 28:15, 36, 64 tell us is the reason behind Israel's captivity?
3. Who was the King who allowed the Jews to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem? (Ezra 1:1-4)

## Esther Chapter 1 Questions

1. Who are the main characters in Esther chapter 1? Describe these characters.
2. What is happening? (Main events)
3. In one or two sentences, summarize the paragraphs in Esther chapter 1. This helps in finding out the theme of the paragraph.  
1:1-4 (example: During the third year of his reign, King Ahasuerus displayed his riches and power by giving a banquet for all his princes, officers, and nobles.)  
1:5-9  
  
1:10-12  
  
1:13-20  
  
1:21-22

4. One comforting theme of the book of Esther is the providence of God. How do you see this in chapter 1? Give specific examples from the text.
  
5. Though God is not mentioned in the book of Esther, it is evident that His loving hand was providentially working behind the scenes to bring about His good purpose. How has God's providence been displayed in the details of your life?
  
6. Read Romans 12:1-2, Psalm 105:1-7 What should your response to God be for His care for you?

### **Food for thought**

Read and meditate on Psalm 104. What does this Psalm say about God's providence?