

# The Memorial of Vashti

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Mark 14 : 3 – 9

At the house of Simon, Jesus is anointed

The attitude of the disciples?

“...indignation...”

‘aganakteo’ – to be greatly afflicted; be very displeased

Jesus’ attitude?

“Let her alone...”

“She...anoint My body for burial.”

“...what...done...a memorial to her.”

‘mnemosunon’ – a reminder, that is, record; a memorial (that by which the memory of any person or thing is preserved)

# The Memorial of Vashti

## Hebrews 11 : 4

“By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice...”

His reward?

“...the LORD respected Abel and his offering,” Genesis 4 : 4

“...he obtained witness that he was righteous...”

‘martureo’ – to be a witness, that is, testify

Why was he righteous?

Because of his “...gifts...”

‘doron’ - specifically a sacrifice; gifts offered in expression of honor

“...and through it he being dead still speaks.”

# The Memorial of Vashti

## Esther 1

“...the king...commanded...to bring Queen Vashti before the king, wearing her royal crown, in order to show her beauty to the people and the officials, for she was beautiful to behold.”

The meaning of the name Vashti is uncertain. As a modern Persian name it is understood to mean "goodness" but most likely it originated from the reconstructed Old Persian \*vaištī, related to the superlative adjective vahišta- "best, excellent" found in the Avesta, with the feminine termination -ī; hence "excellent woman, best of women".

Although the text does not say exactly how she is to appear, the assumption has often been that Vashti was commanded to show herself in the nude – wearing only her crown.

# The Memorial of Vashti

## Esther 1

Why did Vashti need to be removed?

"Queen Vashti has not only wronged the king, but also all the princes, and all the people...the queen's behavior will become known to all women, so that they will despise their husbands...there will be excessive contempt and wrath."

“What shall we do...?”

“...let a royal decree go out...Vashti shall come no more...let the king give her royal position to another...”

Vashti is banished, however, according to rabbinic tradition Vashti loses her life.

# The Memorial of Vashti

## Esther 1

The memorial is set by the King:

Her banishment will send two messages:

Wives, noble ladies, all women will not despise nor reject the wishes of their husbands.

Each man should be master in his own house.

This memorial is over – they are all dead.

Another memorial is seen:

Esther 1: 13 – 15; 4 : 11

Queen Vashti risked everything to not be paraded about as a token of pleasure for men.

Where are the children of Vashti today?

# The Memorial of Vashti

Where have the children of Vashti gone?

Society has made sin acceptable!

Jeremiah 6 : 15 (8 : 12)

“Were they ashamed...No!...not at all...nor did they...blush.”

‘boosh’ (h) - properly to pale, that is, by implication to be ashamed; be disappointed

‘kalam’ - properly to wound; be humiliated

I Timothy 4 : 1 – 3

“...have their own conscience seared with a hot iron...”

‘suneidesis’ - co-perception, that is, moral consciousness

‘kauteriazō’ - to brand (“cauterize”), that is, (by implication) to render unsensitive

# The Memorial of Vashti

Where have the children of Vashti gone?

We just don't listen anymore!

II Timothy 4 : 1 – 4

“...for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine...”

‘anechomai’ – to hold oneself up against

‘hugiaino’ – to have sound health, that is, be well

‘didaskalia’ – instruction

James 1 : 22 – 24

“...for if anyone is a hearer...he is...a man observing...and immediately forgets...”

‘katanoeo’ – to observe fully

‘epilanthanomai’ – to lose out of mind; to forget