

# SERMON OUTLINE

Speaker: Eld Ho Yew Kee

**Text** : **Esther 1: 1 - 22; Psalm 90**

**Title** : **Fingerprints of a Silent God**

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## Introduction

- Book of Esther (The Expositors Bible Commentary – Frank E. Gaebelein)
  - Authorship
  - Purpose : Theological value of Esther
  - Literary form and text
  - Place in the Canon
  - Special problems:
    - Absence of God’s name
    - Moral and ethical practices (hidden identity and vindictiveness)
    - Too neat a story line (too novel or fairytale like)
    - Alleged historical inaccuracies and impossibilities
      - ✓ Description of Persian courts and customs
      - ✓ Number of provinces
      - ✓ Length of feast
      - ✓ Identity of Xerxes Queen (Vashti and Esther)
      - ✓ Age of Mordecai and his rise to power as a foreigner
      - ✓ Orders to exterminate the Jews and the counter-defence (75,000 died)
      - ✓ Decree in multiple languages
      - ✓ Original of Purim
      - ✓ Parallelism to ancient myths

## 1. Events under the Sun in Esther 1

- a. Kingdoms come and go (1:1-4)
- b. The excesses of life (1:5-9)
- c. The pride of life (1:10-22)

## 2. How is God involved in the ordinary/ daily events under the Sun? (Psalm 90)

## 3. How is God relevant in our daily lives?

## Conclusion