

¹ So the king and Haman went to Queen Esther's banquet, ² and as they were drinking wine on the second day, the king again asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."
³ Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. ⁴ For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king." ...

Esther 7 : 1 - 10, 9 : 20 - 22

⁵ King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, “Who is he? Where is he—the man who has dared to do such a thing?” ⁶ Esther said, “An adversary and enemy! This vile Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and queen. ⁷ The king got up in a rage, left his wine and went out into the palace garden. But Haman, realizing that the king had already decided his fate, stayed behind to beg Queen Esther for his life. ⁸ Just as the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was reclining. ...

Esther 7 : 1 - 10, 9 : 20 - 22

The king exclaimed, "Will he even molest the queen while she is with me in the house?" As soon as the word left the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.⁹ Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs attending the king, said, "A pole reaching to a height of fifty cubits stands by Haman's house. He had it set up for Mordecai, who spoke up to help the king." The king said, "Impale him on it!"¹⁰ So they impaled Haman on the pole he had set up for Mordecai. Then the king's fury subsided. ...

Esther 7 : 1 - 10, 9 : 20 - 22

²⁰ Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far, ²¹ to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar ²² as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

Esther 7 : 1 - 10, 9 : 20 - 22

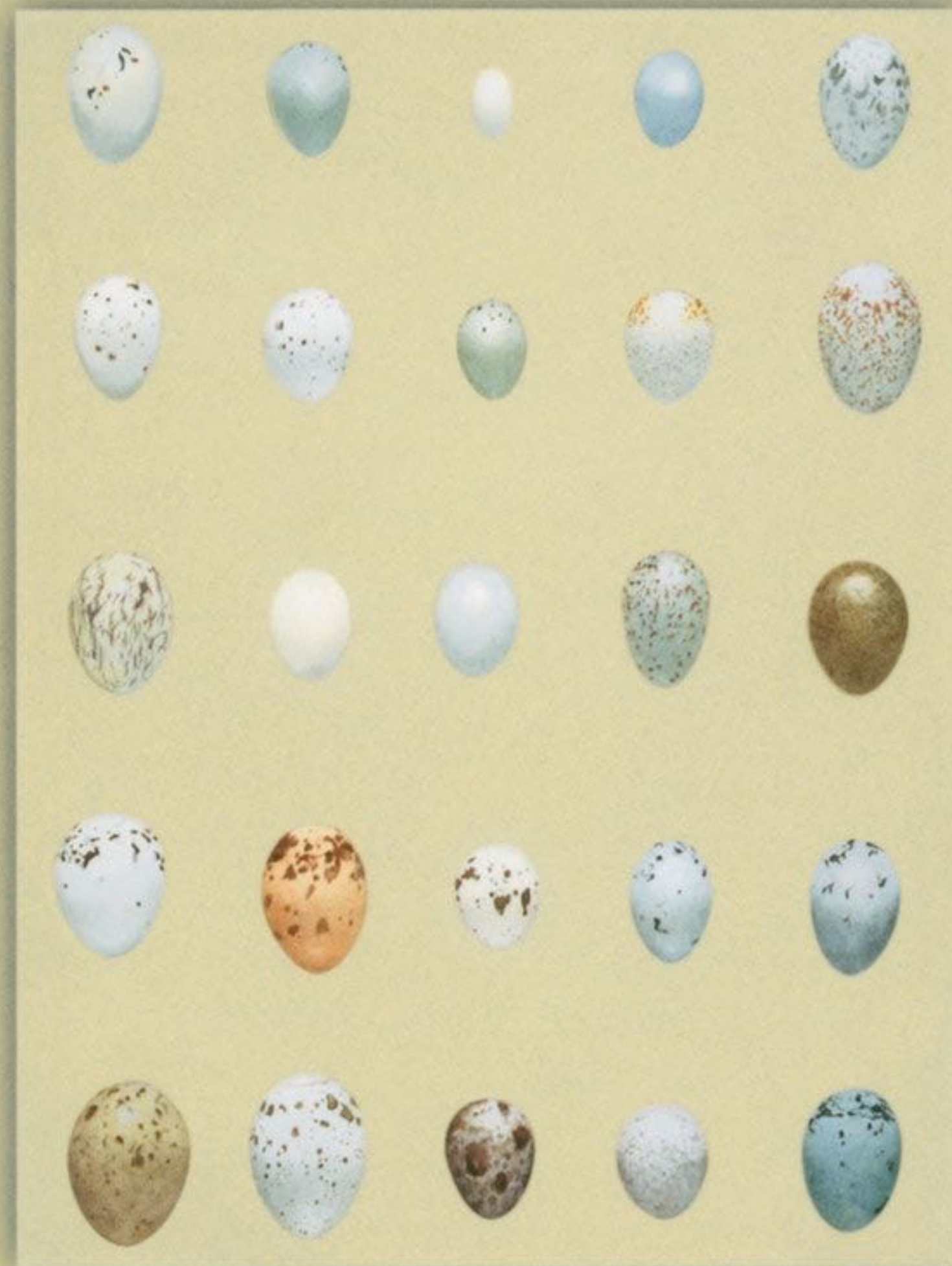
There's a Reversal of Real Beauty

“...if I perish, I perish!”

Esther 4 : 16

We're being show
what true beauty is

E L A I N E S C A R R Y



On Beauty
AND BEING JUST



“There are stories we simply have to continue to refute and to resist. And there are some stories we have to learn to tell and to keep telling, until they become the new truth. Our stories, like beauty, can be salvific.”

Enuma Okoro
Blackness and Beauty

There's a Reversal of Real Beauty

There's a Reversal of the Truest Law

“because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.”

Romans 8 : 2

By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

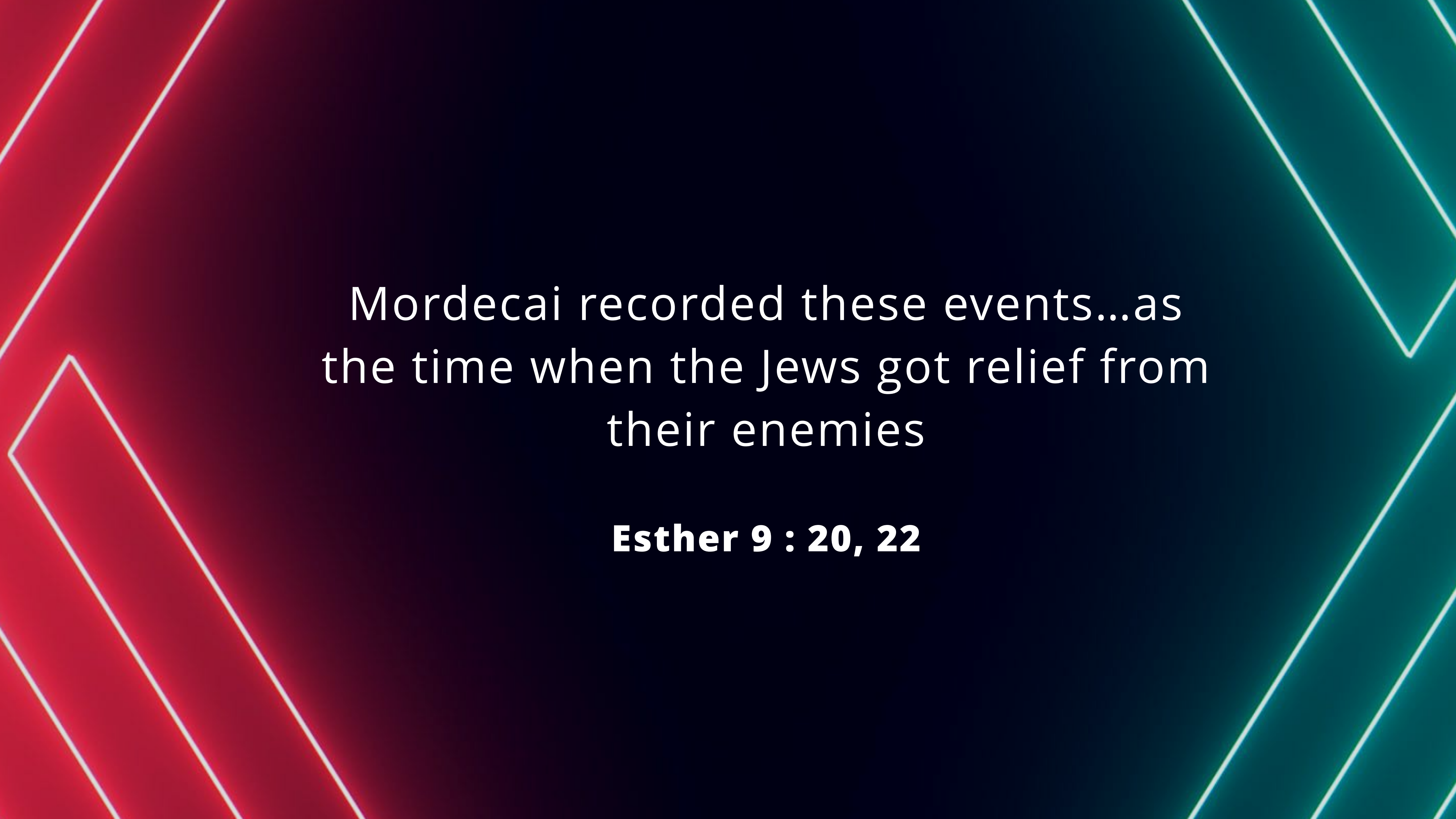
1 John 3 : 10



There's a Reversal of Real Beauty

There's a Reversal of the Truest Law

There's a Reversal of Ultimate Rest



Mordecai recorded these events...as
the time when the Jews got relief from
their enemies

Esther 9 : 20, 22

“When Jean Valjean left the bishop’s house, he felt he knew the pardon of this priest was the hardest assault and the most formidable attack which he had ever sustained on his heart.”

He knew suddenly that his hardness of heart would be complete if he resisted this kindness. He knew, therefore, that he must conquer or be conquered. There was no longer a middle course for him. He looked. He wept long and bitterly, with more weakness than a woman, with more terror than a child. ...

Victor Hugo

Les Miserables

But while he wept, a light grew brighter in his mind, a light at once both transporting and terrible. He beheld his life and soul, and it seemed to him horrible and frightful. And then he realized it was a soft light upon that life and upon that soul, he realized that he was looking upon Satan by the light of paradise. How long did he weep thus? What did he do after weeping? Where did he go? Nobody knew. It was just only known this, that on that very night the stage driver who drove the Grenoble Route about 3 am in the morning saw a man in the attitude of prayer kneeling on the pavement in the shadows before the door of the bishop's house.

Victor Hugo

Les Miserables



SUCH A TIME
AS THIS