

CONVICTION = a strong certainty; firmly held belief or opinion; fully persuaded

Can convictions control circumstances? Only SOMETIMES.

• Even if Mordecai had been convicted that it was wrong for Esther to enter the "queen contest", there was nothing he could do about it.

• As for himself (bowing down to Haman), Mordecai could control that circumstance.

CONVICTION

- a) I believe in something
- b) I stand up for that something
- c) I <u>refuse</u> to contradict myself by allowing what is opposed to that something.

To be a person of conviction is **REWARDING**

I am not ashamed because I know whom I have believed and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. (II Timothy 1:12) To be a person of conviction is **RELAXING**

These are the kind [of people] who are always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth. (II Timothy 3:7)

To be a person of conviction is **<u>RISKY</u>**

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead This is my gospel for which I am suffering and chained like a criminal. (II Timothy 2:8)

Mordecai – cared MORE about what was <u>right</u> - cared LESS about <u>consequences</u>

I CANNOT STOP YOU, BUT I DO NOT HAVE TO JOIN YOU!

This power of personal choice is given by God to **every** person

It is often **ignored** because of a lack/absence of deep convictions

Where Does Conviction Come From?

Trust in source of information

Exercise of reason, logic, "common sense"

Personal **observation** and **experience**