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THE PRESENCE OF GOD **A Commentary on the Book of Esther**

*Esther reads like a chess match between God and Satan...
and it looks like Satan is about to win.*

Cannon Beach Bible Church announced today the release of **“The Presence of God”** a new book by Cannon Beach author Steve Hudgik.

The Old Testament book of Esther never mentions God. Not only that, it doesn't talk about prayer, the temple, scripture, nor sacrifices. Neither God nor anything religious is mentioned in Esther. This appears to be a secular book inserted into the Old Testament. Is God AWOL? Not if you know the rest of the story. Esther is a powerful drama about God. It is a story packed with royal palace intrigue, deception, and the plans of a clever and powerful evil villain... with the survival of humanity hanging in the balance. God isn't mentioned, but the hand of God can be seen outmaneuvering Satan and bringing salvation to the Jews and mankind in a most unexpected way.

“People tend to ignore Esther,” author Steve Hudgik states.. “They treat it as a nice story about a beautiful queen who saves her fellow Jews from extermination. But, once you know the background, you'll see this story is not about Esther, it is about God. It is a story that spans over 500 years as God and Satan play out a “chess match” in which the survival of mankind hangs in the balance.”

About 170 pages in length, **The Presence of God** is an easy-to-read, fast-paced commentary that brings the book of Esther to life. Based on historical facts it reveals the motivations of the principle characters, bringing depth to the story and showing that God is not only present, He is sovereign and in control... we can trust the God's promises no matter what circumstances we are experiencing.

This is pastor Hudgik's fourth Christian book and the second in Cannon Beach Bible Church's **Quick Commentary** series. Steve has had a home in Cannon Beach since 1987 and is currently serving as a church planting missionary at Cannon Beach Bible Church. More information is available on the church's web site at: www.CBBC.us.

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