

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Proclamation

Ezra 1

¹ Now in the **first year of Cyrus king of Persia [539BC]**, that the **Word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled**, the LORD stirred up the spirit of **Cyrus king of Persia**, that he **made a proclamation** throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

Daniel 9

¹ In the **first year of Darius** the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

² In the **first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years**, whereof the **Word of the LORD came to Jeremiah** the prophet, that **he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.**

Isaiah 44

²⁸ That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

Isaiah 45

¹ Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

² I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

³ And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

⁴ For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, **I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.**

Note: God surnamed Cyrus 147 years before he was king of Persia and 159 years before He called Cyrus to release the remnant in 538BC.

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² Thus saith **Cyrus king of Persia**, **The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth**; and He hath charged me to **build Him an house at Jerusalem**, which is in Judah.

³ Who is there among you of all **His people? his God be with him**, and let him go up to **Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (He is the God,)** which is in Jerusalem.

⁴ And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.

⁵ Then **rose up the chief of the fathers** of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all them whose spirit God had raised, to go up to **build the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem.**

Authorization

Ezra 5

¹ Then the prophets, **Haggai** the prophet, and **Zechariah** the son of Iddo, **prophesied** unto the Jews that were in Judah and Jerusalem **in the name of the God** of Israel, even unto them.

² **Then rose up Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, and **Jeshua** the son of Jozadak, and **began to build the house of God which is at Jerusalem**: and with them were the **prophets of God helping them.**

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Oposition

Ezra 4

¹ Now when the **adversaries of Judah and Benjamin** heard that the **children of the captivity builded the temple** unto the LORD God of Israel;

² Then **they came to Zerubbabel**, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, **Let us build with you: for we seek your God**, as ye do; and **we do sacrifice unto him** since the days of **Esarhaddon king of Assur**, which brought us up hither.

2 Kings 19

³² Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it.

³³ By the way that he came, by the same shall he return, and shall not come into this city, saith the LORD.

³⁴ For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

³⁵ And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the **LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians** an hundred fourscore and five thousand [185,000]: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

³⁶ So **Sennacherib king of Assyria departed**, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.

³⁷ And it came to pass, as he was **worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god**, that **Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword**: and they **escaped into the land of Armenia**. And **Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead**.

Note: Esarhaddon, (681-669 BC) conquered Egypt. Although he was a younger son, Esarhaddon had already been proclaimed successor to the throne by his father, Sennacherib, who had appointed him governor of Babylon some time after Sennacherib sacked that city in 689BC. Sennacherib was murdered in 682BC by one or more of **Esarhaddon's brothers Adrammelech and Sharezer**, apparently in an attempt to seize the throne. Marching quickly from the west, Esarhaddon encountered the rebel forces in Hanigalbat (western Assyria), where most of them deserted to him, and their leaders fled. **Esarhaddon continued on to Nineveh**, where he **claimed the throne without opposition**.

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Separation

Ezra 4

³ But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, **Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us.**

⁴ Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building,

⁵ And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, **all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.**

Accusation

Ezra 4

⁶ And in the reign of Ahasuerus [Darius], in the beginning of his reign, wrote they unto him an **accusation** against the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem.

⁷ And in the days of Artaxerxes wrote Bishlam, Mithredath, Tabeel, and the rest of their companions, **unto Artaxerxes king of Persia**; and the writing of the letter was written in the Syrian tongue, and interpreted in the Syrian tongue.

⁸ **Rehum the chancellor and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king in this sort:**

In a letter

Ezra 4

¹² **Be it known** unto the king [Ahasuerus], that the Jews which came up from thee to us are come unto Jerusalem, **building the rebellious and the bad city**, and have **set up the walls** thereof, and **joined the foundations**.

¹³ **Be it known** now unto the king, that, if this **city be builded**, and the **walls set up again**, then will they **not pay toll, tribute, and custom**, and so thou shalt **endamage the revenue** of the kings.

¹⁴ Now because we have **maintenance from the king's palace**, and it was **not meet for us to see the king's dishonour**, therefore have we **sent and certified the king**:

¹⁵ That search may be made in the book of the records of thy fathers: so shalt thou **find in the book of the records, and know that this city is a rebellious city, and hurtful** unto kings and provinces, and that they have **moved sedition** within the same of old time: **for which cause was this city destroyed**.

¹⁶ **We certify the king that, if this city be builded again, and the walls thereof set up, by this means thou shalt have no portion on this side the river.**

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Artaxerxes response:

Ezra 4

¹⁷ Then sent the king an answer unto **Rehum** the chancellor, and to **Shimshai** the scribe, and to the **rest of their companions** that dwell in Samaria, and unto the **rest beyond the river, Peace, and at such a time.**

¹⁸ The letter which ye sent unto us hath been plainly read before me.

¹⁹ And **I commanded, and search** hath been made, and **it is found that this city of old time hath made insurrection [rebellion] against kings, and that rebellion [revolution] and sedition [troublemaking]** have been made therein.

²⁰ There have been **mighty kings also over Jerusalem, which have ruled over all countries beyond the river; and toll, tribute, and custom, was paid unto them.**

²¹ Give ye now commandment to **cause these men to cease**, and that **this city be not builded**, until another commandment shall be given from me.

²² **Take heed now that ye fail not to do this:** why should damage grow to the hurt of the kings?

²³ Now when the **copy of king Artaxerxes' letter was read before Rehum, and Shimshai the scribe, and their companions, they went up in haste to Jerusalem unto the Jews, and made them to cease by force and power.**

²⁴ Then ceased the work of the house of God which is at Jerusalem. So it **ceased unto the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.**

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Foundation

Ezra 3

⁸ Now in the **second year** of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, **began Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, and **Jeshua** the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the **priests and the Levites**, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to **set forward the work of the house of the LORD**.

⁹ Then stood **Jeshua** with his sons and his brethren, **Kadmiel** and his sons, the **sons of Judah**, together, to **set forward the workmen in the house of God**: the sons of **Henadad**, with their sons and their brethren the Levites.

¹⁰ And when the **builders laid the foundation** of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to **praise the LORD**, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

¹¹ And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because **He is good, for His mercy endureth for ever toward Israel**. And **all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid**.

¹² But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were **ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy**:

Construction

Ezra 5

² Then rose up **Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, and **Jeshua** the son of Jozadak, and **began to build the house of God** which is at Jerusalem: and with them were the **prophets of God helping them**.

Zechariah 4

⁶ Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the **Word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel**, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the LORD of hosts**.

⁷ Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

⁸ Moreover the **Word of the LORD** came unto me, saying,

⁹ **The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it**; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

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¹⁰ For who hath despised the day of small things? for **they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.**

Inspiration

Haggai 1

¹ In the **second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, in the first day of the month**, came the **Word of the LORD** by Haggai the prophet unto **Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, **governor of Judah**, and to **Joshua** the son of Josedech, the high priest, saying,

² Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, **This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD's house should be built.**

³ Then came the **Word of the LORD** by Haggai the prophet, saying,

⁴ **Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled [cover, roof, fig. reserve] houses, and this house lie waste?**

Consideration

Haggai 1

⁵ Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; **Consider your ways.**

⁶ Ye have **sown much**, and **bring in little**; ye **eat**, but ye have **not enough**; ye **drink**, but ye are **not filled** with drink; ye **clothe** you, but there is **none warm**; and he that earneth wages **earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.**

⁷ Thus saith the LORD of hosts; **Consider your ways.**

⁸ **Go up to the mountain**, and **bring wood**, and **build the house**; and **I will take pleasure in it**, and **I will be glorified**, saith the LORD.

⁹ Ye **looked for much**, and, **lo it came to little**; and when ye **brought it home**, I did **blow upon it**. Why? saith the LORD of hosts. **Because of mine house that is waste**, and ye **run every man unto his own house.**

¹⁰ Therefore the heaven over you is **stayed from dew**, and the earth is **stayed from her fruit.**

¹¹ And **I called for a drought upon the land**, and upon the **mountains**, and upon the **corn**, and upon the new **wine**, and upon the **oil**, and upon that which the **ground** bringeth forth, and upon **men**, and upon **cattle**, and upon all the **labour of the hands.**

¹² Then **Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, and **Joshua** the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, **obeyed the voice of the LORD their God**, and the **Words of Haggai** the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, and the **people did fear** before the LORD.

¹³ Then spake **Haggai** the LORD's messenger in the **LORD's message unto the people**, saying, **I am with you**, saith the LORD.

¹⁴ And the LORD stirred up the **Spirit of Zerubbabel** the son of Shealtiel, **governor of Judah**, and the **Spirit of Joshua** the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the

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Spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and **did work in the house** of the LORD of hosts, their God,

¹⁵ **In the four and twentieth day [23 days pass] of the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.**

Communication

Ezra 5

⁵ **But the eye of their God was upon the elders of the Jews, that they could not cause them to cease, till the matter came to Darius: and then they returned answer** by letter concerning this matter.

⁶ **The copy of the letter that Tatnai, governor on this side the river, and Shetharboznai and his companions the Apharsachites, which were on this side the river, sent unto Darius the king:**

⁷ **They sent a letter unto him, wherein was written thus; Unto Darius the king, all peace.**

⁸ **Be it known unto the king, that we went into the province of Judea, to the house of the great God, which is builded with great stones, and timber is laid in the walls, and this work goeth fast on, and prospereth in their hands.**

⁹ **Then asked we those elders, and said unto them thus, Who commanded you to build this house, and to make up these walls?**

¹⁰ **We asked their names also, to certify thee, that we might write the names of the men that were the chief of them.**

Ezra 5

¹¹ **And thus they returned us answer, saying, We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and build the house that was builded these many years ago, which a great king of Israel builded and set up.**

¹² **But after that our fathers had provoked the God of heaven unto wrath, he gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, who destroyed this house, and carried the people away into Babylon.**

¹³ **But in the first year of Cyrus the king of Babylon the same king Cyrus made a decree to build this house of God.**

¹⁴ **And the vessels also of gold and silver of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that was in Jerusalem, and brought them into the temple of Babylon, those did Cyrus the king take out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered unto one, whose name was Sheshbazzar [Zerubbabel], whom he had made governor;**

¹⁵ **And said unto him, Take these vessels, go, carry them into the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be builded in his place.**

¹⁶ **Then came the same Sheshbazzar [Zerubbabel], and laid the foundation of the house of God which is in Jerusalem: and since that time even until now hath it been in building, and yet it is not finished.**

¹⁷ **Now therefore, if it seem good to the king, let there be search made in the king's treasure house, which is there at Babylon, whether it be so, that a decree was made of Cyrus**

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the king to build this house of God at Jerusalem, and let the king send his pleasure to us concerning this matter.

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Declaration

Ezra 6

¹ Then **Darius the king made a decree**, and search was made in the house of the rolls, where the **treasures were laid up in Babylon**.

² And there was found at Achmetha, in the palace that is in the province of the Medes, a roll, and therein was a record thus written:

³ In the **first year of Cyrus the king the same Cyrus the king made a decree concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, Let the house be builded**, the place where they offered sacrifices, and **let the foundations thereof be strongly laid**; the **height thereof threescore cubits**, and the **breadth thereof threescore cubits**;

⁴ With three rows of **great stones**, and a row of **new timber**: and **let the expenses be given out of the king's house**:

⁵ And also let the **golden and silver vessels** of the house of God, which **Nebuchadnezzar took** forth out of the temple which is at Jerusalem, and brought unto Babylon, be **restored, and brought again unto the temple which is at Jerusalem**, every one to his place, and place them in the house of God.

⁶ Now therefore, Tatnai, governor beyond the river, Shetharboznai, and your companions the Apharsachites, which are beyond the river, be ye far from thence:

⁷ **Let the work of this house of God alone**; let the governor of the Jews [Zerubbabel] and the **elders of the Jews build this house of God in his place**.

⁸ Moreover **I make a decree what ye shall do to the elders of these Jews for the building of this house of God**: that of the king's goods, even of the tribute beyond the river, forthwith expenses be given unto these men, that they be not hindered.

⁹ And **that which they have need of**, both young bullocks, and rams, and lambs, for the burnt offerings of the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, and oil, according to the appointment of the priests which are at Jerusalem, let **it be given them day by day without fail**:

¹⁰ That they may **offer sacrifices** of sweet savours unto the God of heaven, and **pray for the life of the king, and of his sons**.

¹¹ Also **I have made a decree**, that **whosoever shall alter this word, let timber be pulled down from his house**, and being set up, **let him be hanged thereon**; and **let his house be made a dunghill for this**.

¹² And the God that hath caused his name to dwell there **destroy all kings and people, that shall put to their hand to alter and to destroy this house of God which is at Jerusalem. I Darius have made a decree**; let it be done with speed.

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Esther 1

¹ Now it came to pass **in the days of Ahasuerus**, (this is **Ahasuerus which reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia**, over an **hundred and seven and twenty provinces**;))

² That in those days, when the **king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom**, which was **in Shushan the palace**,

³ In the **third year of his reign**, he **made a feast unto all his princes and his servants**; the power of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

⁴ When he **shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom** and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore [180] days.

⁵ And when these days were expired, the **king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace**, both unto great [older] and small [younger], seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace;

⁶ Where were white, green, and blue, hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black, marble.

⁷ And they gave them **drink in vessels of gold**, (the vessels being diverse one from another,) and **royal wine in abundance**, according to the state of the king.

⁸ And the **drinking was according to the law; none did compel**: for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should **do according to every man's pleasure**.

⁹ Also **Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house** which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

¹⁰ On the **seventh day**, when the **heart of the king was merry with wine**, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that served in the presence of Ahasuerus the king,

¹¹ To **bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty**: for she was fair to look on.

¹² But the **queen Vashti refused** to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains: therefore was the **king very wroth, and his anger burned in him**.

¹³ Then the **king said to the wise men, which knew the times**, (for so was the king's manner toward all that **knew law and judgment**;

¹⁴ And the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the **seven princes of Persia and Media, which saw the king's face, and which sat the first in the kingdom**;))

¹⁵ **What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus** by the chamberlains?

¹⁶ And Memucan answered before the king and the princes, **Vashti the queen hath not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the people that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus**.

¹⁷ For this **deed of the queen** shall come abroad unto all women, so that **they shall despise their husbands in their eyes**, when it shall be reported, The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not.

¹⁸ Likewise shall the **ladies of Persia and Media say this day unto all the king's princes**, which have heard of the deed of the queen. **Thus shall there arise too much contempt and wrath**.

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Esther 1

¹⁹ If it please the king, let there go a **royal commandment** from him, and let it be **written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes**, that it be **not altered**, That Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and **let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she**.

²⁰ And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his empire, (for it is great,) all the **wives shall give to their husbands honour**, both to **great and small**.

²¹ And **the saying pleased the king and the princes**; and **the king did according to the word of Memucan**:

²² For he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that **every man should bear rule in his own house, and that it should be published according to the language of every people**.

Esther 2

¹ After these things, when the wrath of **king Ahasuerus was appeased**, he **remembered Vashti**, and **what she had done**, and **what was decreed against her**.

² Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, **Let there be fair young virgins sought for the king**:

³ And **let the king appoint officers** in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may **gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan** the palace, to the **house of the women**, unto the custody of **Hegai the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women**; and **let their things for purification be given them**:

⁴ And **let the maiden which pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti**. And **the thing pleased the king**; and he did so.

⁵ Now in Shushan the palace there was a **certain Jew**, whose name was **Mordecai**, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, **a Benjamite**;

⁶ Who had been **carried away from Jerusalem** with the captivity which had been **carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah**, whom **Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away**.

⁷ And he brought up **Hadassah, that is, Esther**, his uncle's daughter: for she **had neither father nor mother**, and **the maid was fair and beautiful**; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, **took for his own daughter**.

⁸ So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was heard, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the palace, to the custody of Hegai, that **Esther was brought also unto the king's house**, to the custody of **Hegai, keeper of the women**.

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Esther 2

⁹ And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her things for purification, with such things as belonged to her, and seven maidens, which were meet to be given her, out of the king's house: and he preferred her and her maids unto the best place of the house of the women.

¹⁰ Esther had not shewed her people nor her kindred: for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it.

Ezra 2

² Which came with Zerubbabel: Jeshua, Nehemiah, Seraiah, Reelaiah, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mizpar, Bigvai, Rehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel:

Nehemiah 7

⁷ Who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number, I say, of the men of the people of Israel was this;

Esther 2

¹¹ And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her.

¹² Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their purifications accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odours, and with other things for the purifying of the women;)

¹³ Then thus came every maiden unto the king; whatsoever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women unto the king's house.

¹⁴ In the evening she [a maiden] went, and on the morrow she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, which kept the concubines: she came in unto the king no more, except the king delighted in her, and that she were called by name.

Esther 1

¹⁵ Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

¹⁶ So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh [7th] year of his reign.

¹⁷ And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

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Esther 2

¹⁸ Then the **king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants**, even Esther's feast; and he **made a release to the provinces**, and **gave gifts**, according to the state of the king.

¹⁹ And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, then **Mordecai sat in the king's gate**.

²⁰ **Esther had not yet shewed her kindred nor her people**; as **Mordecai had charged her: for Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him**.

²¹ In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, **two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh**, of those which **kept the door**, were **wroth**, and **sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus**.

²² And the thing was **known to Mordecai**, who **told it unto Esther the queen**; and **Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name**.

²³ And when **inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out**; therefore they were **both hanged on a tree**: and it was written in the book of the chronicles **before the king**.

Esther 3

¹ After these things did **king Ahasuerus promote Haman** the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and **advanced him**, and **set his seat above all the princes** that were with him.

² And all the **king's servants**, that were **in the king's gate**, **bowed**, and **reverenced Haman**: for the king had so commanded concerning him. But **Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence**.

³ Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, **Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?**

Esther 3

⁴ Now it came to pass, when they spake daily unto him, and he **hearkened not unto them**, that **they told Haman**, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: for **he had told them that he was a Jew**.

⁵ And when **Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence**, then was **Haman full of wrath**.

⁶ And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore **Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai**.

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Division

Esther 3

⁷ In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the **twelfth year of king Ahasuerus**, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

⁸ And **Haman said unto king Ahasuerus**, There is a **certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them.**

⁹ If it please the king, **let it be written that they may be destroyed:** and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.

Coalition

Esther 3

¹⁰ And the **king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman** the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, **the Jews' enemy.**

¹¹ And the king said unto Haman, **The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.**

Esther 3

¹² Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and **there was written according to all that Haman** had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring.

¹³ And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

¹⁴ The **copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published** unto all people, that they should be ready against that day.

¹⁵ The **posts went out, being hastened** by the king's commandment, and **the decree was given** in Shushan the palace. And the **king and Haman sat down to drink;** but the city **Shushan was perplexed.**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Esther 5

¹ Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

² And it was so, when the **king saw Esther the queen standing in the court**, that **she obtained favour in his sight**: and the **king held out to Esther the golden sceptre** that was in his hand. So **Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre**.

³ Then said the king unto her, **What wilt thou, queen Esther?** and **what is thy request?** it shall **be even given thee to the half of the kingdom**.

⁴ And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, **let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him**.

⁵ Then the king said, **Cause Haman to make haste**, that he may do as Esther hath said. **So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared**.

⁶ And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? **even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed**.

⁷ Then answered Esther, and said, **My petition and my request is**;

⁸ If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, **let the king and Haman come to the banquet** that I shall prepare for them, and **I will do to morrow** as the king hath said.

Indignation

Prideful

⁹ Then went **Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart**: but when **Haman saw Mordecai** in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was **full of indignation against Mordecai**.

Boastful

¹⁰ Nevertheless **Haman refrained himself**: and when **he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife**.

¹¹ And **Haman told them of the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king**.

¹² Haman said moreover, Yea, **Esther the queen did let no man come in** with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared **but myself**; and to morrow **am I invited unto her also with the king**.

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Hateful

¹³ **Yet all this availeth me nothing**, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

¹⁴ Then said **Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him**, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to morrow speak thou unto the king that **Mordecai may be hanged thereon**: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

Anticipation

Esther 6

¹ On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.

² And it was found written, that **Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh**, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

³ And the king said, **What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this?** Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, **There is nothing done for him.**

Expectation

Esther 6

⁴ And the king said, Who is in the court? Now **Haman was come** into the outward court of the king's house, **to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.**

⁵ And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, **Haman standeth in the court.** And the king said, Let him come in.

⁶ So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, **What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour?** Now **Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?**

⁷ And Haman answered the king, **For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,**

⁸ **Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:**

⁹ **And let this apparel and horse be delivered** to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and **bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Esther 6

¹⁰ Then the king said to Haman, **Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse**, as thou hast said, and **do even so to Mordecai the Jew**, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

¹¹ Then took **Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai**, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, **Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.**

¹² And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house mourning, and having his head covered.

¹³ And **Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him.** Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, **If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.**

¹⁴ And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Petition

Esther 7

¹ So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

² And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine, **What is thy petition, queen Esther?** and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

³ Then Esther the queen answered and said, If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, **let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:**

⁴ For **we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.**

⁵ Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, **Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?**

⁶ And Esther said, **The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman.** Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen.

⁷ And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for **he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Execution

Esther 7

⁸ Then **the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was.** Then said the king, **Will he force the queen also before me in the house?** As the word went out of king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

⁹ And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, **Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman.** Then the king said, **Hang him thereon.**

¹⁰ So **they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai.** Then was **the king's wrath pacified.**

Justification

Esther 9

¹ Now in the **twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day** of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in **the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them,** (though it was turned to the contrary, that the **Jews had rule over them that hated them;**)

² The **Jews gathered themselves together** in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt: and **no man could withstand them;** for the fear of them fell upon all people.

³ And **all the rulers** of the provinces, and the lieutenants, and the deputies, and officers of the king, **helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them.**

⁴ For **Mordecai was great in the king's house,** and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

⁵ Thus **the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them.**

⁶ And in Shushan the palace the **Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men.**

⁷ And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha,

⁸ And Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha,

⁹ And Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vajezatha,

¹⁰ The **ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, slew they; but on the spoil laid they not their hand.**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Annihilation

Esther 9

¹¹ On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the palace was brought before the king.

¹² And the king said unto Esther the queen, **The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the palace, and the ten sons of Haman;** what have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? now what is thy petition? and **it shall be granted thee: or what is thy request further? and it shall be done.**

¹³ Then said Esther, If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews which are in Shushan to do to morrow also according unto this day's decree, and **let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.**

¹⁴ And the king commanded it so to be done: and the decree was given at Shushan; and **they hanged Haman's ten sons.**

¹⁵ For the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men at Shushan; but on the prey they laid not their hand.

¹⁶ But the other Jews that were in the king's provinces **gathered themselves** together, and **stood for their lives, and had rest from their enemies, and slew of their foes seventy and five thousand, but they laid not their hands on the prey,**

Jubilation

¹⁷ On the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the **fourteenth day of the same rested** they, and **made it a day of feasting and gladness.**

¹⁸ But the **Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.**

¹⁹ Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the unwalled towns, made the fourteenth day of the **month Adar a day of gladness and feasting,** and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.

Esther 9

²⁰ And **Mordecai wrote** these things, and **sent letters unto all the Jews** that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, both nigh and far,

²¹ To stablish this among them, that they should **keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,**

²² As the **days wherein the Jews rested from their enemies,** and the month which was **turned unto them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day:** that they should make them days of **feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.**

²³ And the **Jews undertook to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them;**

²⁴ Because **Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to consume them, and to destroy them;**

²⁵ But when **Esther came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he devised against the Jews, should return**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

Esther 9

²⁶ Wherefore they called these **days Purim** after the name of Pur. Therefore for all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and which had come unto them,

²⁷ **The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to their writing, and according to their appointed time every year;**

²⁸ And that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these **days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.**

²⁹ Then **Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim.**

³⁰ And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the **hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,**

³¹ To confirm these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as **Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry.**

³² And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

Promotion

Esther 10

¹ And the **king Ahasuerus** laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

² And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the **declaration of the greatness of Mordecai**, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not **written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?**

³ For **Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Ezra 7

¹² **Artaxerxes, king of kings, unto Ezra the priest**, a scribe of the law of the God of heaven, perfect peace, and at such a time.

¹³ **I make a decree, that all they of the people of Israel, and of his priests and Levites, in my realm, which are minded of their own freewill to go up to Jerusalem, go with thee.**

¹⁴ Forasmuch as thou art sent of the king, and of his seven counsellors, to enquire concerning Judah and Jerusalem, according to the law of thy God which is in thine hand;

¹⁵ And to carry the silver and gold, which the king and his counsellors have **freely offered** unto the God of Israel, whose habitation is in Jerusalem,

¹⁶ And all the silver and gold that thou canst find in all the province of Babylon, with the **freewill offering** of the people, and of the priests, **offering willingly** for the house of their God which is in Jerusalem:

¹⁷ That thou mayest **buy speedily with this money** bullocks, rams, lambs, with their meat offerings and their drink offerings, and **offer them upon the altar** of the house of your God which is in Jerusalem.

¹⁸ And **whatsoever shall seem good to thee**, and to thy brethren, to do with the rest of the silver and the gold, that do after the will of your God.

¹⁹ The vessels also that are **given thee for the service of the house of thy God**, those deliver thou before the God of Jerusalem.

²⁰ And **whatsoever more shall be needful for the house of thy God**, which thou shalt have occasion to bestow, bestow it out of the king's treasure house.

²¹ And I, even **I Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily,**

²² Unto an hundred talents of silver, and to an hundred measures of wheat, and to an hundred baths of wine, and to an hundred baths of oil, and salt without prescribing how much.

²³ **Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven**, let it be **diligently done** for the house of the God of heaven: for **why should there be wrath against the realm of the king and his sons?**

²⁴ Also **we certify you, that touching any of the priests and Levites, singers, porters, Nethinims, or ministers of this house of God, it shall not be lawful to impose toll, tribute, or custom, upon them.**

²⁵ And thou, **Ezra, after the wisdom of thy God**, that is in thine hand, set magistrates and judges, which may judge all the people that are beyond the river, all such as know the laws of thy God; and teach ye them that know them not.

²⁶ And **whosoever will not do the law of thy God, and the law of the king, let judgment be executed speedily upon him, whether it be unto death, or to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment.**

Esther – The Promotion of Mordecai

Beautification

Ezra 7

²⁷ Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, which hath put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem:

²⁸ And hath extended mercy unto me before the king, and his counsellors, and before all the king's mighty princes. And I was strengthened as the hand of the LORD my God was upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel chief men to go up with me.

Mordecai was promoted to accompany chief men who stood, as MEN OF GOD, for the Only One King of Kings and LORD of Lords the Saviour, the Deliverer, the Redeemer who would accomplish His desire for His people...

Do we see in the mirror our reflection of the world's depravity or the LORD's beauty? Are you promoted by the LORD or the World?

...So the LORD glorifies Himself by those He alone promotes to beautify the house of the LORD.

Glory to the LORD! AMEN

Esther 1

Esther 1:1-22

All the world could offer

Esther 1

¹ Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus, (this is Ahasuerus which reigned, **from India even unto Ethiopia**, over an hundred and seven and twenty provinces:) **127 provinces**

Esther 1

² That in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in **Shushan the palace**,

Shushan - Shuwshan (shoo-shan'); the same as OT:7799; Shushan, a place in Persia: From shuwshan (shoo-shan'); or showshan (sho-shawn'); or shoshan (shoshawn'); and (feminine) showshannah (sho-shan-naw'); from OT:7797; **a lily** (from its whiteness), as a flower of arch. ornament; also a (straight) trumpet (from the tubular shape): lily, Shoshannim.

Esther 1

³ In the **third year of his reign**, he **made a feast** unto all his princes and his servants; the power of **Persia [Iran]** and **Media [central Asia]**, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him:

Esther 1

⁴ When he shewed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty many days, even an hundred and fourscore days.

Glorious – kabowd (kaw-bode'); rarely kabod (kaw-bode'); from OT:3513; properly, weight, but only figuratively in a good sense, splendor or copiousness: -glorious (-ly), glory, honour (-able). Honour – yeqar (yek-awr'); from OT:3365; value, i.e. (concretely) wealth; abstractly, costliness, dignity:

KJV - honour, precious (things), price.

Majesty – geduwlah (ghed-oo-law'); or (shortened) gedullah (ghed-ool-law'); or (less accurately) geduwillah (ghed-ool-law'); feminine of OT:1419; greatness; (concretely) mighty acts:

KJV - dignity, great things (-ness), majesty.

Esther 1

⁵ And when these days were expired, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the palace, both unto great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace;

Expired – male' (maw-lay'); or mala' (Est 7:5) (maw-law'); a primitive root, **to fill** or (intransitively) be **full of**, in a wide application (literally and figuratively):

KJV - **accomplish**, confirm, + consecrate, be at an end, be expired, be fenced, fill, fulfil, (be, become, X draw, give in, go) full (-ly, -ly set, tale), [over-] flow, fulness, furnish, gather (selves, together), presume, replenish, satisfy, set, space, take a [hand-] full, + have wholly.

Esther 1

⁶ Where were white, green, and blue, hangings, fastened with cords of fine linen and purple to silver rings and pillars of marble: the beds were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of red, and blue, and white, and black, marble.

Esther 1

⁷ And they gave them drink in vessels of gold, (the vessels being diverse one from another,) and royal wine in abundance, according to the state of the king.

Esther 1

⁸ And the **drinking was according to the law; none did compel**: for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that **they should do according to every man's pleasure. [Unless it was against the king's request]**

Pleasure – ratsown (raw-tsone'); or ratson (raw-tsone'); from OT:7521; delight (especially as shown):

KJV - (be) acceptable (-ance, -ed), delight, desire, favour, (good) pleasure, (oneself,, voluntary) will, as ... (what) would.

Esther 1

⁹ Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

Esther 1

¹⁰ On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that served in the presence of Ahasuerus the king,

One of the Kings possessions...Vashti

Esther 1

¹¹ To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty: for she was fair to look on.

Hab 2:15-16 – Woe to them that give their neighbor drink....

[it is a perverse thing]

Esther 1

¹² But the queen **Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment** by his chamberlains: therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

Esther 1

¹³ Then the king said to the wise men, which knew the times, (for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment:

Esther 1

¹⁴ And the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, which saw the king's face, and which sat the first in the kingdom;)

Esther 1

¹⁵ **What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law**, because she hath not performed the commandment of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?

The indictment ...

Esther 1

¹⁶ And Memucan answered before the king and the princes, Vashti the queen hath not **done wrong to the king** only, but also to all the princes, **and to all the people** that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus.

Esther 1

¹⁷ For this deed of the queen shall come abroad unto all women, so that they [**women**] **shall despise their husbands in their eyes**, when it shall be reported, The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not.

Esther 1

¹⁸ Likewise shall the ladies of Persia and Media say this day unto all the king's princes, which have heard of the deed of the queen. **Thus shall there arise too much contempt and wrath.**

The Sentence

Esther 1

¹⁹ If it please the king, let there go a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, That **Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she.**

Esther 1

²⁰ And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be **published throughout all his empire**, (for it is great,) all the **wives shall give to their husbands honour**, both to great and small.

Esther 1

²¹ And the saying pleased the king and the princes; and the **king did according to the word of Memucan:**

Esther 1

²² For he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house, and that it should be published according to the language of every people.

Esther 2

Esther 2:1-20

The bride to be

Psalm 127

⁴ As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

Esther 2

¹ After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was appeased, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

Appeased – shakak (shaw-kak'); a primitive root; to weave (i.e. lay) a trap; figuratively, (through the idea of secreting) **to allay** (passions; physically, abate a flood):

KJV - appease, assuage, make to cease, pacify, set

Remembered – zakar (zaw-kar'); a primitive root; properly, to mark (so as to be recognized), i.e. to remember; **by implication, to mention**; also (as denominative from OT:2145) to be male:

KJV - X burn [incense], X earnestly, be male, (make) mention (of), be mindful, recount, record (-er), remember, make to be remembered, bring (call, come, keep, put) to (in) remembrance, X still, think on, X well.

Esther 2

² Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, Let there be fair young virgins sought for the king:

Esther 2

³ And let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the palace, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Hege the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women; and let their things for purification be given them:

Esther 2

⁴ And let the maiden which pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti. And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.

Esther 2

⁵ Now in Shushan the palace there was a **certain Jew, whose name was Mordecai**, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite;

The name of Mordecai –

Jair – Ya'iy (yaw-ere'); from OT:215; enlightener; Jair, the name of four Israelites:

Shimei – Shim`iy (shim-ee'); from OT:8088; famous; Shimi, the name of twenty Israelites:

Kish – Qiysh (keesh); from OT:6983; a bow; Kish, the name of five Israelites:

Esther 2

⁶ Who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captivity which had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.

Esther 2

Esther 2

⁷ And he brought up Hadassah, that is, **Esther, his uncle's daughter: [Mordecai and Esther were cousins]** for she had neither father nor mother, and the maid was fair and beautiful; whom Mordecai, when her father and mother were dead, took for his own daughter.

Esther 2

⁸ So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was heard, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the palace, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was brought also unto the king's house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women.

Esther 2

⁹ And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her things for purification, with such things as belonged to her, and seven maidens, which were meet to be given her, out of the king's house: and he preferred her and her maids unto the best place of the house of the women.

Esther 2

¹⁰ **Esther had not shewed her people nor her kindred: for Mordecai had charged her that she should not shew it.**

Esther 2

¹¹ And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what should become of her.

Esther 2

¹² Now when every maid's turn was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that she had been twelve months, according to the manner of the women, (for so were the days of their purifications accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with sweet odours, and with other things for the purifying of the women;)

Esther 2

¹³ Then thus came every maiden unto the king; whatsoever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women unto the king's house.

Esther 2

¹⁴ In the evening she went, and on the morrow she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, which kept the concubines: she came in unto the king no more, except the king delighted in her, and that she were called by name.

Esther 2

¹⁵ Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

Esther 2

Esther 2

¹⁶ So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

Esther made to be Queen

Esther 2

¹⁷ And the **king loved Esther above all the women**, and **she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.**

Esther 2

¹⁸ Then the king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants, even Esther's feast; and he made a release to the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the state of the king.

Esther 2:19-23

The man of God Mordecai

Esther 2

¹⁹ And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, then Mordecai **sat in the king's gate.**

Sit in the Kings gate – yashab (yaw-shab'); a primitive root; properly, to **sit down (specifically as judge. in ambush, in quiet)**; by implication, to **dwell**, to remain; **causatively, to settle**, to marry: KJV - (make to) abide (-ing), continue, (cause to, make to) dwell (-ing), easeself, endure, establish, X fail, habitation, haunt, (make to) inhabit (-ant), make to keep [house], lurking, X marry (-ing), (bring again to) place, remain, return, seat, set (-tle), (down-) sit (-down, still, -ting down, -ting [place] -uate), take, tarry.

Esther 2

²⁰ **[Still] Esther had not yet shewed her kindred nor her people**; as Mordecai had charged her: for Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him.

Esther 2

²¹ In those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, **Bigthan and Teresh**, of those which kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus.

Esther 2

²² And the thing was known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther certified the king thereof in Mordecai's name.

Esther 2

²³ And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were **both hanged** on a tree: and **it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.**

Esther 3

Esther 3:1-15

The world promoted

Esther 3

¹ After these things did king Ahasuerus **promote Haman** the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and **advanced him**, and set **his seat above all** the princes that were with him.

Esther 3

² And all the **king's servants**, that were in the king's gate, **bowed, and revered Haman**: for the king had so commanded concerning him. But **Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence**.

Esther 3

³ Then the king's servants, which were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai, Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?

Esther 3

⁴ Now it came to pass, when they spake daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that **they told Haman, to see whether Mordecai's matters would stand: for he had told them that he was a Jew**.

Esther 3

⁵ And when **Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not**, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath.

Esther 3

⁶ And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for **they had shewed him [Haman] the people of Mordecai**: wherefore **Haman sought to destroy all the Jews** that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

Alone – bad (bad); from OT:909; properly, separation; by implication, a part of the body, branch of a tree, bar for carrying; figuratively, chief of a city; especially (with prepositional prefix) as an adverb, apart, only, besides:

KJV - alone, apart, bar, besides, branch, byself, of each alike, except, only, part, staff, strength.

Esther 3

⁷ In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast Pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar.

⁸ And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus, There is a **certain people** scattered abroad and dispersed among the people in all the provinces of thy kingdom; and their laws are diverse from all people; **neither keep they the king's laws: therefore it is not for the king's profit to suffer them**.

Certain - 'echad (ekh-awd'); a numeral from OT:258; properly, united, i.e. one; or (as an ordinal) first:

KJV - a, alike, alone, altogether, and, any (-thing), apiece, a certain, [daily-], each (one), + eleven, every, few, first, + highway, a man, once, one, only, other, some, together,

Esther 3

Esther 3

⁹ If it please the king, **let it be written that they may be destroyed**: and **I will pay** ten thousand talents of silver to the hands of those that have the charge of the business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.

Esther 3

¹⁰ And the **king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman** the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy.

Business – mela'kah (mel-aw-kaw'); from the same as OT:4397; properly, deputyship, i.e. ministry; generally, employment (never servile) or work (abstractly or concretely); also property (as the result of labor):

KJV - business, + cattle, + industrious, occupation, (+-pied), + officer, thing (made), use, (manner of) work ([-man], -manship).

Esther 3

¹¹ And the king said unto Haman, The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.

Esther 3

¹² Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and **sealed with the king's ring**.

Esther 3

¹³ And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to **destroy**, to **kill**, and to cause to **perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day**, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

Esther 3

¹⁴ The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, that they should be ready against that day.

Esther 3

¹⁵ The posts went out, being hastened by the king's commandment, and **the decree** was given in Shushan the palace. And the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city Shushan was perplexed.

Esther 4

Esther 4:1-17

Esther's predicament

Esther 4

¹ When **Mordecai perceived [came to know] all that was done**, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

Esther 4

² And came even before the king's gate: for none might enter into the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. [There was a dress code!]

Esther 4

³ And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was **great mourning among the Jews**, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

Esther 4

⁴ So Esther's maids and her chamberlains came and told it [that Mordecai was improperly dressed] her. [Apparently, Esther didn't read the papers] Then was the queen exceedingly grieved; and she **sent raiment** to clothe Mordecai, and to take away his sackcloth from him: but he received it not. [**Mordecai was not going to allow Esther to cloak the problem**]

Esther 4

⁵ Then called Esther for Hatach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had ap **Esther 4** pointed to attend upon her, and gave him a commandment to Mordecai, to know what it was, and why it was.

Esther 4

⁶ So Hatach went forth to Mordecai unto the street of the city, which was before the king's gate.

Esther 4

⁷ And **Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money** that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.

Esther 4

⁸ Also he **gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them**, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people.

Esther 4

Esther 4

⁹ And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

Esther 4

¹⁰ Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai;

Esther attempts to shun a responsibility to God and her people...by repeating the original decree which brought the demise of Queen Vashti]

Esther 4

¹¹ *All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or women, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.*

Esther 4

¹² And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

Esther 4

¹³ Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, **Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. -[The world is not a friend of God or to his]**

Esther 4

Mordecai's answer **OUR RESPONSIBILITY**

¹⁴ For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there **enlargement** and **deliverance** arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and **who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?** Enlargement – revach (reh'-vakh); from OT:7304; room, literally (an interval) or figuratively (deliverance):

KJV - enlargement, space.

Deliverance – hatsalah (hats-tsaw-law'); from OT:5337; rescue:

Arise – `amad (aw-mad'); a primitive root; to stand, in various relations (literal and figurative, intransitive and transitive):

KJV - abide (behind), appoint, arise, cease, confirm, continue, dwell, be employed, endure, establish, leave, make, ordain, be [over], place, (be) present (self), raise up, remain, repair, + serve, set (forth, over, -tle, up), (make to, make to be at a, with-) stand (by, fast, firm, still, up), (be at a) stay (up), tarry.

Esther 4

¹⁵ Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer,

Esther 4

Esther 4

¹⁶ Go, **gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan**, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and **if I perish, I perish**.

are present – matsa' (maw-tsaw'); a primitive root; properly, to come forth to, i.e. appear or exist; transitively, to attain, i.e. find or acquire; figuratively, to occur, meet or be present:

KJV - + be able, befall, being, catch, X certainly, (cause to) come (on, to, to hand), deliver, be enough (cause to) find (-ing, occasion, out), get (hold upon), X have (here), be here, hit, be left, light (up-) on, meet (with), X occasion serve, (be) present, ready, speed, suffice, take hold on.

Esther 4

¹⁷ So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

Esther 5

Esther 5:1

Esther becomes the object of king's affection

Esther 5

¹ Now it came to pass on the third day, that **Esther put on her royal apparel**, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house.

Esther 5

² And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that **she obtained favour in his sight**: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

Esther 5

³ Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, queen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom.

Esther 5:4-8

Invitation to dinner

Esther 5

⁴ And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.

Esther 5

⁵ Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Esther 5

⁶ And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed.

Esther 5

⁷ Then answered Esther, and said, My petition and my request is;

Esther 5

⁸ If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to morrow as the king hath said.

Esther 5

Esther 5:9-13

Dinner invitation accepted

Esther 5

⁹ Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of indignation against Mordecai.

Esther 5

¹⁰ Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife.

Esther 5

¹¹ And Haman told them of the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king.

Esther 5

¹² Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to morrow am I invited unto her also with the king.

Esther 5

¹³ Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.

Esther 5:14

Dinner show planned

Esther 5

¹⁴ Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him, Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and to morrow speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be hanged thereon: then go thou in merrily with the king unto the banquet. And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

Esther 6

Esther 6:1

God moves all men

Esther 6

¹ **On that night could not the king sleep**, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king. [**So he thought he would do a little light reading**]

Esther 6:2-4

King reviews the works record

Esther 6

² And **it was found written**, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on the king Ahasuerus.

Next Morning...

Esther 6

³ And the king said, **What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this?** Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

Esther 6

⁴ And the king said, Who is in the court? Now **Haman** was come into the outward court of the king's house, **to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.**

Esther 6

⁵ And the king's servants said unto him, Behold, Haman standeth in the court. And the king said, Let him come in.

Esther 6:6-9

The World desires that which reserved for Saints...

Esther 6

⁶ So Haman came in. And the king said unto him, **What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour? Now Haman thought in his heart, To whom would the king delight to do honour more than to myself?**

Haman tells the king what the king should do for him...you know the simple stuff:

The clothes of the king and the horse he road in on with an inaugural parade!

Esther 6

⁷ And Haman answered the king, For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

Esther 6

⁸ Let the royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and the crown royal which is set upon his head:

Esther 6

Esther 6

⁹ And let this apparel and horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to honour, and bring him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him, Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

Esther 6

¹⁰ Then the king said to Haman, **Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate:** let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.

Esther 6

¹¹ Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.

Note that the world may honor man but Mordecai did not assume a position in the world, rather, Mordecai returned unto the position God had intended at the kings gate.

Esther 6

¹² And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house mourning, and having his head covered.

Esther 6

¹³ And **Haman told Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him.** Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him, If Mordecai be of the seed of the Jews, before whom thou hast begun to fall, **thou shalt not prevail against him**, but shalt surely fall before him.

Esther 6

¹⁴ And while they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

Esther 7

Esther 7

¹ So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

Esther 7

² And the king said again unto Esther on the **second day** at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition, queen Esther? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? and it shall be performed, even to the half of the kingdom.

Esther 7

³ Then Esther the queen answered and said, **If I have found favour in thy sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request:**

Esther 7

⁴ **For we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my tongue, although the enemy could not countervail the king's damage.**

Esther 7

⁵ Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, **Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?**

Esther 7

⁶ And Esther said, **The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman.** Then Haman was afraid before the king and the queen. [**Haman ran out of the presence of the king**]

Esther 7

⁷ And the king arising from the banquet of wine in his wrath went into the palace garden: and Haman stood up [from hiding] to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king. [**the wicked can run but they cannot hide**]

Esther 7

⁸ Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the bed whereon Esther was. [**Esther having left the banquet waits on God's judgement**] Then said the king, Will he force the queen also before me in the house? As the word went out of king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

Covered chaphah (khaw-faw'); a primitive root (compare OT:2644, OT:2653); to cover; by implication, to veil, to encase, protect:

KJV - ceil, cover, overlay.

Esther 7

⁹ And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, **which Haman had made for Mordecai**, who spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, **Hang him thereon.**

Esther 7

Esther 7

¹⁰ So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified.

Pacified – shakak (shaw-kak'); a primitive root; to weave (i.e. lay) a trap; figuratively, (through the idea of secreting) to allay (passions; physically, abate a flood):

KJV - appease, assuage, make to cease, pacify, set.

Esther 8

Esther 8

¹ On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And **Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.**

Esther 8

² And the **king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordecai.** And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

Esther 8

³ And Esther spake yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to **put away the mischief** of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.

Psalm 10

¹⁴ Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest **mischief** and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.

mischief - ra` (rah); from OT:7489; bad or (as noun) evil (natural or moral):

KJV - adversity, affliction, bad, calamity, + displeas (-ure), distress, evil ([-favouredness], man, thing), + exceedingly, X great, grief (-vous), harm, heavy, hurt (-ful), ill (favoured), + mark, mischief (-vous), misery, naught (-ty), noisome, + not please, sad (-ly), sore, sorrow, trouble, vex, wicked (-ly, -ness, one), worse (-st), wretchedness, wrong. [Incl. feminine ra` ah; as adjective or noun.].

Esther 8

⁴ Then the king held out the golden sceptre toward Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king,

Esther 8

⁵ And said, If it please the king, and if I have favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, **let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews which are in all the king's provinces:**

Esther 8

⁶ **For how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?**

Esther 8

⁷ Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.

Esther 8

⁸ **Write ye also for the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring: for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.**

Esther 8

Esther 8

⁹ Then were the king's scribes called at that time in the third month, that is, the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded unto the Jews, and to the lieutenants, and the deputies and rulers of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, an hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.

Esther 8

¹⁰ And he wrote in the king Ahasuerus' name, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, and riders on mules, camels, and young dromedaries:

Esther 8

¹¹ Wherein the king granted the Jews which were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, to slay and to cause to perish, all the power of the people and province that would assault them, both little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey,

Esther 8

¹² Upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

Esther 8

¹³ The copy of the writing for a commandment to be given in every province was published unto all people, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

Esther 8

¹⁴ So the posts that rode upon mules and camels went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. And **the decree was given at Shushan the palace.**

¹⁵ And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the **city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.**

Esther 8

¹⁶ **The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.**

Esther 8

¹⁷ And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a good day. **And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them.**
became – yahad (yaw-had'); denominative from a form corresponding to OT:3061; to Judaize, i.e. become Jewish: KJV - become Jews.

Esther 9

The Story has not ended there as so often... we see in the lives of newly saved. There that is done, now I go back to living...but God intends for us to carry out the promise unto the end... There is no retirement to the saint.

Esther 9

¹ Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, **in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have power over them**, (though it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them;)

Esther 9

² The Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt: and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all people.

Esther 9

³ And all the rulers of the provinces, and the lieutenants, and the deputies, and officers of the king, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai fell upon them.

Esther 9

⁴ For **Mordecai was great in the king's house**, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

510 in Shushan and Haman's sons hanged.

Esther 9

⁵ Thus the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and slaughter, and destruction, and did what they would unto those that hated them.

Esther 9

⁶ And **in Shushan the palace the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men.**

Esther 9

⁷ And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha,

Esther 9

⁸ And Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha,

Esther 9

⁹ And Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vajezatha,

Esther 9

¹⁰ The ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, slew they; but on the spoil laid they not their hand.

Esther 9

Esther 9

¹¹ On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the palace was brought before the king.

Esther 9

¹² And the king said unto Esther the queen, The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the palace, and the ten sons of Haman; what have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? now what is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: or what is thy request further? and it shall be done.

Esther 9

¹³ Then said Esther, **If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews which are in Shushan to do to morrow also according unto this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.**

Esther 9

¹⁴ **And the king commanded it so to be done: and the decree was given at Shushan; and they hanged Haman's ten sons.**

Esther 9

¹⁵ For the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men at Shushan; but on the prey they laid not their hand.

75000 in the 127 provinces died at the hand of the Jews

Esther 9

¹⁶ But the other Jews that were in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and had rest from their enemies, and slew of their foes seventy and five thousand, but they laid not their hands on the prey,

Esther 9

¹⁷ On the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth day of the same rested they, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

Esther 9

¹⁸ But the Jews that were at Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

Esther 9

¹⁹ Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the unwall'd towns, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.

Esther 9

Esther 9

²⁰ And Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, both nigh and far,

Esther 9

²¹ To stablish this among them, that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,

Esther 9

²² As the days wherein the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning into a good day: that they should make them days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.

Esther 9

²³ And the Jews undertook to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them;

Esther 9

²⁴ Because Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to consume them, and to destroy them;

Esther 9

²⁵ But when Esther came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

Esther 9

²⁶ Wherefore they called these days Purim after the name of Pur. Therefore for all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and which had come unto them, Pur – Puwr (poor); also (plural) Puwriym (poo-reem'); or Puriym (poo-reem'); from OT:6331; a lot (as by means of a broken piece):

Esther 9

²⁷ **The Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to their writing, and according to their appointed time every year;**

Esther 9

²⁸ **And that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.**

Esther 9

Esther 9

²⁹ Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote with all authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim.

Esther 9

³⁰ And he sent the letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,

Esther 9

³¹ To confirm these days of Purim in their times appointed, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had decreed for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry.

Esther 9

³² And the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

Esther 10

Esther 10

¹ And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

Esther 10

² And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

Esther 10

³ For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.

The Sequel:

We never heard the days of Purim being kept again!
And so they forgot...

Commentary

When Christ came they did not recognize him!