

34. Esther / 'Esther

Version 4 - 1-25-17

1:1 And it was in the days of Ahasuerus.
He is the Ahasuerus who reigned from India to Ethiopia,
a hundred and twenty seven provinces.

1:2 In those days as King Ahasuerus
was sitting on the throne of his kingdom
which was in the palace of Shushan.

1:3 In the third year of his reign
he made a banquet for all his leaders and servants.
The strength of Persia and Media,
the nobles and the leaders of the provinces,
was before his face

1:4 as he caused to be seen the riches themselves תנ
of his glorious kingdom
and the splendor itself תנ of his excellent greatness
for many days, a hundred and eighty days.

1:5 And when these days were completed
the king made a banquet of seven days
for all the people who were found in the capital of Shushan,
from great to insignificant,
in the courtyard of the garden of the palace of the king.

1:6 White and blue linen *curtains*
were fastened with cords of fine linen and purple
upon silver rods and marble columns.
The couches of gold and silver
were on a pavement of porphyry, alabaster,
mother-of-pearl, and black marble.

1:7 And they were caused to drink abundant royal wine
with vessels of gold.
And the vessels were different from one another
according to the hand of the king.

1:8 And drinking was according to royal edict.
No one was compelled.
Thus the king had ordered all the officers of his household
to do according to the desire of each man.

1:9 Vashti, the queen, also made a banquet for the women
in the royal house which belonged to King Ahasuerus.

1:10 On the seventh day,
when the heart of the king was glad with wine,
he spoke to Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha,
and Abagtha, Zethar, and Karkas,
the seven of the eunuchs who were ministering
before the face itself תנ of King Ahasuerus,
1:11 for the sake of causing Vashti herself תנ, the queen,
to come before the face of the the king with a royal crown
for the sake of causing the people and the officials
to see her beauty itself תנ
because she was beautiful of appearance.

1:12 But the queen, Vashti,
refused to come at word of the the king
which existed by the hand of the eunuchs.
And the king was enraged.
And his wrath was kindled within him.

1:13 And the king said to the wise ones,
those understanding the times,
(according to this the matter of the king
was before the faces of everyone knowing law and judgment,
1:14 and those who were close to him:
Karshena, Shethar, Admatha,
Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, Memukan,
the seven princes of Persia and Media,
those seeing the face of the king,
those sitting as heads in the kingdom):

1:15 "According to law what is to be done with Queen Vashti
concerning what she has not done
at the proclamation *itself* **nx** of Ahasuerus the king
by the hand of the eunuchs?"

1:16 And Memukan responded
before the faces of the king and the leaders,
"*It is not* only concerning the king
that Vashti, the queen, has done wrong,
but indeed, concerning all the leaders and all the people
who are in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus.

1:17 Indeed, word of the queen will go forth to all the women
for the sake of causing their husbands
to be despised in their eyes on account of their saying,
'King Ahasuerus said to cause *Vashti herself* **nx**,
the queen, to be come in before their faces.
But she did not come.'

1:18 And this very day the royal ladies of Persia and Media
will say what they have heard
of the matter *itself* **nx** of the queen to all the king's leaders,
even with abundant contempt and wrath.

1:19 If it is well pleasing to the king
let a royal word go forth from before his face.
And let it be written in the laws of the Persians and the Medes,
and it can not be passed over,
by which Vashti may not come
before the face of King Ahasuerus.
And let the king give her royal position to another,
to one better than she.

1:20 And cause the decree of the king which he makes
to be heard in all his kingdom, great as it is.
Then all the wives will give honor to their husbands,
to both great and small."

1:21 And the word was pleasing
in the eyes of the king and the leaders.
And the king did according to the word of Memukan.

1:22 And he sent documents to all the provinces of the king,
to province after province, in its own writing,
and to people after people, in their own language,
for the sake of it being that every man
is to rule in his own house
and is to speak in the language of his people.

Chapter 2

2:1 After these matters
when the wrath of King Ahasuerus had diminished
he remembered *Vashti herself* **nx**
and what *itself* **nx** she had done,

and what *itself* **תָּא** had been decreed concerning her.

2:2 And the servants of the king
who were ministering to him said,
“Let young virgins, beautiful of appearance,
be sought for the king.

2:3 And let the king appoint overseers
in all the provinces of his kingdom.
And let them gather
all the beautiful young virgins *themselves* **תָּא**
to the capital of Shushan, to the house of the women,
to the hand of Hegai, the king’s eunuch,
guardian of the women.
And let them be given their cosmetics.

2:4 And let the young woman
who is pleasing in the eyes of the king
be queen instead of Vashti.”

And the word was pleasing to the king.
And he did according to this.

2:5 A man of Yahudah was in the capital of Shushan,
and his name was Mordekai,
son of Ya’ir, son of Shim’i, son of Kish, a man of Binyamin,

Yahudah means YAH be praised.
Shushan - meaning unknown; of foreign derivation.
Mordekai - meaning unknown; of foreign derivation.
Ya’ir means one who enlightens.
Shim’i means famous.
Kish means a bow.
Binyamin means son of the right hand.

2:6 who had been exiled from Yerushalaim
with the captives who had been exiled
with Yekonyah, king of Yahudah,
whom Nebukadnetzar, the king of Babel, had exiled.

Yerushalaim means complete teaching of deliverance.
Yekonyah means YAH will establish.
Nebukadnetzar - meaning unknown; of foreign derivation.

2:7 And it existed that he was bringing up
Hadassah herself **תָּא**, she is Esther, daughter of his uncle,
because she had neither father nor mother.
The young woman was lovely and of good appearance.
And when her father and mother died
Mordekai took her as his own daughter.

Hadassah means myrtle tree.
Esther - meaning unknown; of foreign derivation.

2:8 And it was as word of the king’s decree was being heard,
and as many young women were being gathered
to the capital of Shushan, to the hand of Hegai.
And Esther was taken to the house of the king,
to the hand of Hegai, guardian of the women.

2:9 And the young woman was pleasing in his eyes.
And she received kindness before his face.
And he hurried to give her cosmetics *themselves* **תָּא**
and her portions of food *themselves* **תָּא**,
and seven of the favored young women
from the house of the king.
And he moved the young women *themselves* **תָּא**
to the best place in the house of the women.

2:10 Esther had not caused to be known

her people *themselves* nx or her lineage *itself* nx
because Mordekai had directed her
concerning what she was not to cause to be known.

2:11 And in the day, every day,
Mordekai walked in the presence of the courtyard
of the house of the women for the sake of knowing
the welfare *itself* nx of Esther
and what was being done done with her.

2:12 And as it reached the turn of each young woman,
then the young woman was to go in to King Ahasuerus
at the end of there being for her, twelve months,
according to the law of the women.
Indeed, according to this were the days
of their cosmetics completed:
six months with oil of the myrrh,
and six months with the fragrances
and with the cosmetics of the women.

2:13 And according to this the young woman
was going in to the king.
Anything *itself* nx which she desired was given to her
for the sake of her going from the house of the women
to the house of the king.

2:14 In the evening she was going in.
And in the morning she was returning to the second house,
to the hand of Sha'ashgaz, the king's eunuch,
guardian of the concubines.

She would not go in to the king again
unless the king delighted in her and called for her by name.

2:15 And as Esther, the daughter of Abihail,
the uncle of Mordekai, who had taken her as his daughter,
reached her turn to go in to the king.
She had not requested anything except that *itself* nx
which Hegai, the king's eunuch,
guardian of the women, had said.

And it happened that Esther received favor
in the eyes of all who seeing her.

Abihail means father of might.

2:16 And Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus,
to the royal house, in the tenth month,
it is the month of Tebet, in the seventh year of his reign.

2:17 And the king loved Esther *herself* nx
more than the *other* women.
And she received favor and kindness before his face,
more than all the *other* virgins.
And he placed the royal crown on her head.
And he caused her to reign instead of Vashti.

2:18 And the king made a great feast
for all his leaders and his servants,
The Feast of Esther *itself* nx.

And he made a release for the provinces.
And he gave gifts by the hand of the king.

2:19 And as virgins were assembled a second time
Mordekai was sitting in the gate of the king.

2:20 Esther had not caused to be declared her lineage or her people themselves **nx** according to what Mordekai had directed concerning her. And the word *itself* **nx** Mordekai had spoken Esther did on account of her being raised by he himself **nx**.

2:21 In those days then Mordekai was sitting in the gate of the king. Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs who were keeping guard of the door were enraged. And they sought to lay a hand on King Ahasuerus.

2:22 And the matter became known to Mordekai. And he declared it to Esther, the queen. And Esther spoke to the king in the name of Mordekai.

2:23 And he researched the matter. And it was discovered. And both were hung upon a tree. And it was written in the scroll of the words of the days before the face of the king.

Chapter 3

3:1 After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman *himself* **nx**, son of Hammedatha the Agagite. And he raised him up. And he placed his seat *itself* **nx** higher than all the leaders who were with he himself **nx**.

3:2 And all the servants of the king who were in the gate of the king were bowing down and prostrating themselves to Haman, because according to this the king had commanded concerning him. But Mordekai did not bow down, and he did not prostrate himself.

3:3 And the servants of the king who were in the gate of the king said to Mordekai, "Why do you *yourself* **nx** rebel at the command *itself* **nx** of the king?"

3:4 And it was as they were speaking to him day after day and he had not listened to them. And they reported it to Haman to see whether the words of Mordekai would stand because he had told them that he was a Yahudite.

3:5 And Haman saw that Mordekai did not bow or prostrate himself. And Haman was filled with wrath.

3:6 But it was disrespectful in his eyes to extend a hand against Mordekai, toward him alone, because they had declared to him the people *themselves* **nx** of Mordekai.

And Haman sought to destroy all the Yahudeans themselves **nx** who were in the entire kingdom of Ahasuerus, the people of Mordekai.

3:7 In the first month, (it is the month of Nisan)

in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus,
Pur was caused to fall (it is the lot)
before the face of Haman from day to day,
and from month to month.
It fell on the twelfth month, (it is the month of Adar).

It's interesting to consider this process. Apparently the lot, called pur in Hebrew, or purim in the plural, was cast day after day and month after month until it gave a favorable response to Haman. He apparently would not act until the lot indicated the 'right moment'.

3:8 Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus,
"There is a certain people having been scattered
and dispersed among the people
in all the provinces of your kingdom.
And their laws are different from all the people.
And the king's laws themselves **nx** they are not doing.
And it is not equitable to the king to cause them to remain.

3:9 If it is pleasing to the king, let it be written to destroy them.
And I will pay ten thousand talents of silver
into the hands of those doing the business
for the sake of causing it to come
into the treasuries of the king."

3:10 And the king removed his signet ring from his hand.
And he gave it to Haman,
son of Hammedatha the Agagite,
the oppressor of the Yahudeans.

3:11 And the king said to Haman,
"The silver and the people are given to you
for the sake of doing with them
according to what is good in your eyes."

3:12 And the scribes of the king were called
on the thirteenth day of the first month.
And it was written, according to everything
which Haman had directed,
to the governors of the king,
and to the deputies who were over a province,
and to province by province according to its writing,
and to people after people according to their language,
having been written in the name of King Ahasuerus
and sealed with the signet ring of the king.

The 13th day of the first month is the very same day the children of Yisra'el came out of Egypt. This is the day before Passover.

3:13 And the documents were sent by the hand of the runners
to all the provinces of the king
for the sake of causing to be destroyed,
for the sake of killing,
and for the sake of causing to perish
all the Yahudeans themselves **nx**,
from the young even to the old,
little children and women,
on one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month,
(it is the month of Adar)
and to plunder their possessions.

3:14 A copy of the writing was to be given as law
in province after province,
having been revealed to all the peoples,
for the sake of being prepared for this very day.

3:15 The runners went out, hurried by word of the king.

And the decree was given in the capital at Shushan.
And the king and Haman sat down to drink.
But the city of Shushan was in turmoil.

Chapter 4

4:1 And Mordekai knew everything *itself* תא that had been done.

And Mordekai tore his garments *themselves* תא.

And he put on sackcloth and ashes.

And he went out into the midst of the city.

And he cried out with a great and bitter outcry.

4:2 And he went up to the face of the gate of the king.

Indeed, no one was to enter the gate of the king wearing sackcloth.

4:3 And in province after province, in the places to which the word of the king and the decree reached *there was* great mourning for the Yahudeans, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing. And many laid in sackcloth and ashes.

4:4 And Esther's young women and eunuchs came. And they reported it to her.

And the queen was exceedingly grieved.

And she sent garments

for the sake of causing Mordekai *himself* תא

to put them on,

and to cause him to remove his sackcloth from upon him.

But he did not accept *them*.

4:5 And Esther called to Hatakh from the king's eunuchs whom he had caused to stand before her face.

And she gave him a command, concerning Mordekai, to know what was and why this was.

4:6 And Hatakh went out to Mordekai, to a square of the city which was before the gate of the king.

4:7 And Mordekai reported to him everything *itself* תא that happened,

and the exact amount of the silver *itself* תא

which Haman had said was to be paid

to the treasuries of the king on account of the Yahudeans

for the sake of causing them to perish.

4:8 And a copy *itself* תא of the written decree

which had been given at Shushan

for the sake of causing them to be destroyed

was given to him for the sake of causing Esther *herself* תא

to see it,

and for the sake of causing it to be explained to her,

and for the sake of pressing upon her to go in to the king,

to make supplication *itself* to him,

and to make a request before his face concerning her people.

4:9 And Hatakh went.

And he reported to Esther

the words *themselves* תא of Mordekai.

4:10 And Esther spoke to Hatakh.

And she gave a command to Mordekai,

4:11 "All the servants of the king

and the people of the provinces of the king

know that any man or woman

who goes to the king, to the inner court,
who has not been called has one law.
He is to be put to death,
except only the one to whom
the king extends the golden scepter *itself* **הוא**.
Then that one will live.

But I myself have not been called
to come in to the king these thirty days.”

4:12 And they reported to Mordekai
the words *themselves* **הוא** of Esther.

4:13 Then Mordekai spoke for the sake of causing them
to return to Esther,
“Do not think within your life
to escape in the house of the king
any more than all the other Yahudeans.

4:14 Indeed, if you keep silent, keep silent at this very time,
then relief and deliverance will arise for the Yahudeans
from another place.
And you yourself **הוא** and your father’s house will perish.
And who knows whether it is on account of this
you have come to the kingdom?”

4:15 And Esther said as a reply to Mordekai,

4:16 “Go!

Gather all the Yahudeans *themselves* **הוא**,

whose being found in Shushan!

And fast concerning me!

And do not eat and do not drink *for* three days, night or day!

I myself also and my young women will fast according to this.

Then on account of this I will go to the king,

which is not according to the law.

And when I have perished, I have perished.”

4:17 And Mordekai passed over.

And he did according to everything

that Esther urged upon him.

Please take note of the use of the Hebrew term for "passed over". This is traditionally translated as "went away". However, it's very significant to see this specific term used in this specific passage connected to this specific event. This word occurs frequently in Scripture. But it is virtually always given as something else in English translations, thereby missing the impact of the use of "pass over" in a number of vital places in the story of the children of Yisra'el.

Chapter 5

5:1 And it was on the third day.

And Esther put on the royal apparel.

And she stood in the inner courtyard of the house of the king,

in front of the house of the king.

And the king was sitting on the throne of his kingdom

in the royal house opposite the entrance of the house.

5:2 And it was as the king saw Esther herself **הוא**, the queen,
standing in the courtyard.

She received favor in his eyes.

And the king extended to Esther

the golden scepter *itself* **הוא** which was in his hand.

And Esther approached.

And she touched on the top of the scepter.

5:3 And the king said to her,

“What is it for you, Esther the queen?
Even whatever is your request, up to half the kingdom,
even it will be given to you!”

5:4 And Esther said, “If it is good to the king
let the king and Haman come today
to the banquet which I have prepared for him.”

5:5 And the king said,
“Hurry Haman *himself* **תא** for the sake of doing
that itself **תא** which Esther has said.”

And the king and Haman went to the banquet
which Esther had prepared.

5:6 And the king said to Esther at the banquet of the wine,
“What is your petition that it might be given to you?
And what is your request,
up to half my kingdom, and it will be done!”

5:7 And Esther responded.

And she said,

“My petition and request *is this*:

5:8 “If I have found favor in the eyes of the king,
and if it is pleasing to the king
to grant *my petition itself* **תא**
and to perform *my request itself* **תא**,
let the king and Haman come to the banquet
which I will prepare for them.
And tomorrow I will do according to the word of the king.”

5:9 And Haman went out on that very day rejoicing
and with a happy heart.

But when Haman saw *Mordekai himself* **תא**
in the gate of the king.
And he did not stand up.
And he did not tremble because of him.
And Haman was filled with wrath against Mordekai.

5:10 But Haman restrained himself.
And he went to his house.

And he sent and called *those loving him themselves* **תא**
and *Zeresh herself* **תא**, his wife.

5:11 And Haman declared to them *the glory itself* **תא**
of his riches, and the multitude of his children,
and *everything itself* **תא** in which the king had promoted him,
and *how itself* **תא** the king had exalted him
above the leaders and servants of the king.

5:12 And Haman said,

“Furthermore, Esther, the queen,
did not cause any except me *myself* **תא**
to come in with the king
to the banquet which she had prepared.
And tomorrow also I myself have been called by her
with the king.

5:13 But all this is nothing to me
as long as I see *Mordekai himself* **תא**, the Yahudean,
sitting in the gate of the king.”

5:14 And Zeresh, his wife,
and all those loving him said to him,
“Let a post be made, fifty cubits high.
And in the morning speak to the king.
And let Mordekai himself **nx** be hung upon it.
Then go with the king to the banquet with gladness.”
And the word pleased Haman.
And he had the post made.

Note: It should not be missed that the words used here that are normally translated as 'gallows' refers to a tree of wood. The concept of the gallows is a more modern conception of what took place. This "tree" comes to serve as a sort of "means of deliverance" for the Yahudeans when Haman is hung upon it. The imagery is striking.

Chapter 6

6:1 On that night the sleep of the king fled.
And he spoke for the sake of bringing
the scroll itself **nx** of the records of the words of the days.
And they were read before the face of the king.

6:2 And it was found, having been written,
what Mordekai had reported concerning Bigthan and Teresh,
two of the king's eunuchs among the doorkeepers,
who had sought to lay a hand on King Ahasuerus.

6:3 Then the king said,
“What has been done of value
or of respect for Mordekai concerning this?”
And the servants of the king,
those ministering to him, said,
“Not anything has been done for him.”

6:4 And the king said,
“Who is in the courtyard?”

And Haman had come to the outer courtyard
of the house of the king
for the sake of speaking to the king
for the sake of hanging Mordekai himself **nx**
upon the post which he had prepared for him.

6:5 And the servants of the king said to him,
“Behold! Haman is standing in the courtyard.”
And the king said, “Let him come in.”

6:6 And Haman entered.
And the king said to him,
“What is to be done with a man
with whom the king has been pleased
on account of his honor?”
And Haman thought in his heart,
“Whom would the king be pleased
for doing honor more than me?”

6:7 And Haman said to the king,
“For the man whom the king has been pleased
on account of his honor,

6:8 let a royal robe be brought which the king has worn,
and a horse upon which the king has ridden,
and who has had royal crown put on his head.

6:9 And give the robe and the horse into the hand
of a man from the most noble leaders of the king.
Let them cause the man himself **nx**
whom the king has been pleased to honor

to wear the robe.
And cause him to ride upon the horse
in the streets of the city.
And proclaim before his face,
'Thus it will be done to the man
whom the king has been pleased to honor!'

6:10 And the king said to Haman,
"Hurry!
Take the robe *itself* and the horse *itself*
according to what you have spoken!
And do according to this to Mordekai, the Yahudean,
who I sitting in the gate of the king!
Do not cause a word to fail
among everything you have spoken!"

6:11 And Haman took the robe and the horse
And he clothed Mordekai
And he caused him to ride horseback
in the streets of the city.
And he proclaimed before his face,
"Thus it will be done to the man
whom the king has been pleased to honor."

6:12 And Mordekai returned to the gate of the king.
But Haman hurried to his house,
mourning and head having been covered.

6:13 And Haman reported to his wife, Zeresh,
and to all those living him
everything that had happened to him.
And his wise men and Zeresh, his wife, said to him,
"If Mordekai is from the seed of the Yahudeans
whom you have caused to be profaned before your face
you will not prevail against him.
Indeed, surely you will fall before his face."

6:14 They were still speaking with him.
And the king's eunuchs arrived.
And they hurried for the sake of causing Haman
to go to the banquet which Esther had prepared.

Chapter 7

7:1 And the king and Haman came to drink
with Esther, the queen.
7:2 And the king said to Esther also on the second day
at the banquet of the wine,
"What is your petition, Esther, the queen?
Then it will be given to you.
And what is your request?
Up to half my kingdom, and it will be done!"

7:3 And Esther, the queen, responded.
And she said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, oh king,
and if it is good to the king,
let my life be granted to me as my petition,
and my people as my request.

7:4 Indeed, we have been sold, I myself and my people,
for the sake of being destroyed,
for the sake of being killed,
and for the sake of being caused to perish.

Even if we had been sold as male and female slaves
I would have been caused to be silent,
although the oppressor can not offset the damage to the king.”

7:5 Then King Ahasuerus spoke.
And he said to Esther, the queen,
“Who is he, this one?
And where is he, this one who has filled his heart
for the sake of doing according to this?”

7:6 And Esther said, “The man of oppression,
even the adversary, is Haman!
This evil one!”

And Haman was terrified
before the faces of the king and the queen.

7:7 And the king, having stood up in his wrath
from the banquet of the wine,
went into the garden of the palace.

And Haman stood still for the sake of asking for his life
from Esther, the queen.
Indeed, he had seen that evil
had been determined against him by the king himself **nx**.

7:8 And the king returned from the garden of the palace
to the house, to the banquet of the wine.

And Haman was falling upon the couch
which Esther was upon.
And the king said,
“Will he even ravish the queen herself **nx**
with me in the house?”

The word went out from the mouth of the king.
And they covered the face of Haman.

7:9 And Harbonah, one of the eunuchs,
said to the face of the king,
“Also, behold!
The post of fifty cubits height
which Haman has made for Mordekai,
who spoke good concerning the king,
is standing at the house of Haman.”
And the king said, “Hang him on it!”

7:10 And they hung Haman himself **nx**
on the post that he had prepared for Mordekai.
Then the wrath of the king subsided.

Chapter 8

8:1 On that very day
King Ahasuerus gave to Esther, the queen,
the house of Haman itself **nx**,
the oppressor of the Yahudeans.

And Mordekai came before the face of the king
because Esther had explained what he was to her.

8:2 And the king removed his signet ring itself **nx**
which he had caused to pass over from Haman.
And he gave it to Mordekai.

And Esther placed Mordekai himself **nx**
over the house of Haman.

8:3 And Esther added more.
And she spoke before the face of the king.
And she fell down on her face at his feet.
And she sought favor of him with tears
for the sake of putting an end to the evil itself תא
of Haman, the Agagite, and his plot itself תא
which he had devised against the Yahudeans.

8:4 And the king extended to Esther
the golden scepter itself תא.
And Esther stood up.
And she stationed herself before the face of the king.
8:5 And she said, "If it is pleasing to the king,
and if I have found favor before his face,
and the word seems right before the face of the king,
and I myself am pleasing in his eyes,
let it be written to turn back the documents themselves תא,
the plot of Haman, son of Hammedatha the Agagite,
which he had written for the sake of destroying
the Yahudeans themselves תא
who are in all the provinces of the king.

8:6 Indeed, how can I endure *if I have watched* the evil
which will find my people themselves תא?
And how can I endure
if I have watched at the destruction of my lineage?"

8:7 And King Ahasuerus said to Esther, the queen
and to Mordekai the Yahudite,
"Behold! I have given Esther the house of Haman.
And he himself תא they have hung upon the post
on account of his extending his hand against the Yahudeans.

8:8 And you yourselves תא, write concerning the Yahudeans
according to what is good in your eyes in the name of the king!
And seal it with the signet ring of the king!

Indeed, a document which is written in the name of the king
and has been sealed with the signet ring of the king
no one can cause to turn back!"

8:9 And the scribes of the king were called at that very time,
in the third month, which is the month of Sivan,
on the twenty third day.

And it was written according to all that Mordekai directed
to the Yahudeans, and to the governors, and to the deputies,
and to the leaders of the provinces
which were from India to Ethiopia,
a hundred and twenty seven provinces,
province after province in its own writing,
and to people after people in their own language,
and to the Yahudeans in their own writing,
and in their own language.

8:10 And he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus.
And he sealed it with the signet ring of the king.
And he sent documents
by the hand of the runners on horseback,
riding on the royal horses, sons of the swift,
8:11 that the king has granted to the Yahudeans
who were in city after city to be assembled
and to stand concerning their lives,
for the sake of causing to be destroyed,

and for the sake of killing,
and for the sake of causing to perish
all the strength *itself* **nx** of the people or province
who were besieging *they themselves* **nx**,
their little children, and *their* women,
and to plunder their possessions
8:12 on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus,
on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month,
which is the month of Adar.

8:13 A copy of the writing
was to be given as law in every province.
And the province was to reveal it to all the peoples.

And the Yahudeans were to be prepared for that very day
for the sake of being avenged from their adversaries.

8:14 The runners, riding on royal horses, went out,
hurried and urged on by the word of the king.
And the decree was given in the capital of Shushan.

8:15 And Mordekai went out from the presence of the king
in royal garments of blue and white, and a great crown of gold,
and a garment of fine linen and purple.

And the city of Shushan shouted and rejoiced.

8:16 For the Yahudeans there was light,
and rejoicing, and joy, and honor.

8:17 And in province after province and in city after city
wherever the decree of the king came,
there was joy and gladness for the Yahudeans,
a feast, and a day of goodness.
And many of the people of the land
caused themselves to be Yahudeans
because the dread of the Yahudeans had fallen upon them.

Chapter 9

9:1 And in the twelfth month, that is the month of Adar,
as the thirteenth day in it had been reached
whereby the word of the king and his decree were to be done.
And that day the adversaries of the Yahudeans
had hoped to have power against them.
But it was turned around so that the Yahudeans
had power against those who were hating them.

9:2 The Yahudeans assembled in their cities
in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus
for the sake of laying hands
on those who were seeking their harm.
And no man stood before their faces
because dread of them had fallen upon all the peoples.

9:3 And all the leaders of the provinces,
and the governors, and the deputies,
and all those doing the stewardship for the king
were exalting *the Yahudeans themselves* **nx**.
Indeed, the dread of Mordekai had fallen upon them.

9:4 Indeed, Mordekai was great in the house of the king.
And his fame had travelled into all the provinces.
Indeed, the man, Mordekai,
was becoming greater and greater.

9:5 And the Yahudeans struck all their adversaries
with the stroke of the sword,
and with slaughter and destruction.
And they did among those hating them
according to what was pleasing to them.

9:6 And in Shushan, the capital, the Yahudeans killed.
And they destroyed five hundred men.

9:7 And they slew Parshandatha himself תא,
and Dalphon himself תא,
and Aspatha himself תא,

9:8 and Poratha himself תא,
and Adalya himself תא,
and Aridatha himself תא,

9:9 and Parmashta himself תא,
and Arisai himself תא,
and Aridai himself תא,

and Wayezatha himself תא,
9:10 the ten sons of Haman, son of Hammedatha,
the one oppressing the Yahudeans.
But against the plunder they did not extend a hand.

9:11 On that very day
the number of those having been slain in Shushan, the capital,
was before the face of the king.

9:12 And the king said to Esther, the queen,
“At Shushan, the capital,
the Yahudeans have killed and destroyed
five hundred men in the capital of Shushan,
and the ten sons of Haman themselves תא.
In the rest of the provinces of the king
what have they done?

And what is your petition?
And it will be granted to you.
And what is your further request?
And it will be done.”

9:13 And Esther said,
“If it is pleasing to the king,
let it be granted to the Yahudeans who are in Shushan
to do again tomorrow according to today’s decree.
And let the ten sons of Haman themselves תא
be hung upon the post.”

9:14 And the king said this was to be done.
According to this the decree was given in Shushan.
And the ten sons of Haman themselves תא they hung.

9:15 And the Yahudeans who were in Shushan
also assembled on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar.
And they killed three hundred men at Shushan.
But against the plunder they did not extend
their hands themselves תא.

9:16 And the rest of the Yahudeans
who were in the provinces of the king assembled.
And they withstood on account of their lives
and *on account of* rest from their adversaries,
and for the sake of killing among their adversaries
seventy five thousand.
But against their plunder they did not extend
their hands themselves תא.

9:17 *This* was on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar to the fourteenth day of the month.
Then they rested.
And they made it itself תא a day of feasting and joy.

9:18 But the Yahudeans who were at Shushan assembled on the thirteenth day as well as on the fourteenth day.
And on the fifteenth day of the month they rested,
And they made it itself תא a day of feasting and joy.

9:19 For this reason the Yahudeans of the villages, those dwelling in the unwalled towns, were making the fourteenth day itself תא of the month of Adar a day of joy and feasting, and a good day, even for sending portions to one another.

9:20 And Mordekai recorded these matters themselves תא.
And he sent documents to all the Yahudeans who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, those being near and those being far,
9:21 for the sake of establishing concerning them to be observing the fourteenth day itself תא of the month of Adar and the fifteenth day itself תא in it according to year after year
9:22 as the days on which the Yahudeans had rest from their adversaries, and as the month which was turned for them from sorrow to joy, and from mourning to a good day, for the sake of making they themselves תא days of feasting and joy, and of sending portions to one another and gifts to the destitute.

9:23 And the Yahudeans accepted that itself תא which they had begun to do, even that itself תא which Mordekai had written to them
9:24 because Haman, son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the oppressor of all the Yahudeans, had plotted against the Yahudeans for the sake of causing them to perish. And he had cast pur, that is, the lot, for the sake of confusing them and for the sake of causing them to perish

9:25 But when she, *Esther*, went before the face of the king he spoke with the documents to turn back the evil plan which Haman had plotted against the Yahudeans upon his own head.
And they hung he himself תא and his sons themselves תא upon the post.

9:26 For this reason they have called these days 'Purim' on account of the designation of the pur.

For this reason, because of all the words of this letter, and what they had seen concerning the matter, and what has been caused to touch them,
9:27 the Yahudeans have established and accepted it concerning themselves, and concerning their seed

and all those joining to them.
And the doing of these two days themselves **nx**
will not fail to exist according to their writing,
even at their appointed time, according to year after year.

9:28 And that these days are to be remembered and done
in every generation and family,
province after province, city after city.
And that these days of Purim are not to be passed over
from the midst of the Yahudeans.
And that the memory of them is not to cease from their seed.

9:29 And Esther, the queen, the daughter of Abihail,
with Mordekai, the Yahudite,
wrote with all authority itself **nx** for the sake of confirming
this second letter itself **nx** concerning Purim.

9:30 And Mordekai sent letters to all the Yahudeans,
to the hundred and twenty seven provinces
of the kingdom of Ahasuerus,
words of shalom and faithfulness,
9:31 for the sake of establishing
these days of The Purim themselves **nx**
at their appointed times
according to what Mordekai the Yahudean
and Esther, the queen had established concerning them,
and according to what they had established
concerning their lives and concerning their seed,
matters of the fastings and their outcries.

9:32 And the decree of Esther
has established the matters of these, The Purim.
And it has been written in the scroll.

Chapter 10

10:1 And King Ahasuerus placed compulsory labor
on the land and the islands of the sea.
10:2 And all the acts of his power and his might,
and the exact account of the greatness of Mordekai,
with which the king made him great,
are they not written in the scroll of the words of the days
of the kings of Media and Persia?

10:3 Indeed, Mordekai, the Yahudite,
was second to King Ahasuerus.
And he was great among the Yahudeans,
and pleasing to his abundant kindred,
seeking the good for his people,
and speaking shalom to all his seed.