

ב"ה

מגילת אסתר

MEGILAS ESTHER

The Scroll of Esther



**ALEPH
INSTITUTE**

**No One Alone,
No One Forgotten.**

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The why, when, & what

Why

The Persian Empire of the 4th century BCE extended over 127 lands, and all the Jews were its subjects. When King Ahasuerus had his wife, Queen Vashti, executed for failing to follow his orders, he arranged a beauty pageant to find a new queen. A Jewish girl, Esther, found favor in his eyes and became the new queen, though she refused to divulge her nationality.

Meanwhile, the Jew-hating Haman was appointed prime minister of the empire. Mordechai, the leader of the Jews (and Esther's cousin), defied the king's orders and refused to bow to Haman. Haman was incensed, and he convinced the king to issue a decree ordering the extermination of all the Jews on the 13th of Adar, a date chosen by a lottery ("Purim" in ancient Persian) Haman made.

Mordechai galvanized all the Jews, convincing them to repent, fast and pray to G-d. Meanwhile, Esther asked the king and Haman to join her for a feast. At a subsequent feast, Esther revealed to the king her Jewish identity. Haman was hanged, Mordechai was appointed prime minister in his stead, and a new decree was issued, granting the Jews the right to defend themselves against their enemies.

On the 13th of Adar, the Jews mobilized and killed many of their enemies. On the 14th of Adar, they rested and celebrated. In the capital city of Shushan, they took one more day to finish the job.

When

Purim is celebrated every year on the 14th of Adar (late winter/early spring). Purim 2024 begins on Saturday night, March 23 and continues through Sunday, March 24.¹

What

Purim is observed via four Mitzvot: **1)** Reading of the Megillah (Scroll of Esther), which recounts the story of the Purim miracle. This is done once on the eve of Purim and then again on the following day. **2)** Giving money gifts to at least two poor people. **3)** Sending gifts of two kinds of food to at least one person. **4)** A festive Purim feast.

Ta'anis Esther

Purim is preceded by a fast day, Ta'anis Esther ("the Fast of Esther"), commemorating the war the Jews fought in the run-up to Purim. The fast would normally be held on the 13th of Adar; however, in years when the 13th of Adar falls on a Shabbat, the fast is held on the preceding Thursday (11th of Adar). This is, Ta'anis Esther will be observed on Thursday, March 21st, 2024. The fast begins at dawn and ends at nightfall (to get the Halachic² dawn and nightfall times for Ta'anis Esther in your location, visit AlephNE.org/TaanisEstherTimes).

¹ In cities which were walled at the time that the Jews entered the Land of Israel (1273 BCE), Purim is celebrated the next day, from Sunday night and through Monday.

² "Halacha" is Jewish law. Halachic, therefore, implies "in/of Jewish law".

פרק א' - Chapter 1

1 Now it came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus -- he was the Ahasuerus who reigned from Hodu to Cush, one hundred twenty-seven provinces. 2 In those days, when King Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the capital. 3 In the third year of his reign, he made a banquet for all his princes and his servants, the army of Persia and Media, the nobles, and the princes of the provinces [who were] before him. 4 When he showed the riches of his glorious kingdom, and the splendor of his excellent majesty, many days, one hundred and eighty days. 5 And when these days were over, the king made for all the people present in Shushan the capital, for [everyone] both great and small, a banquet for seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's orchard. 6 [There were spreads of] white, fine cotton, and blue, embroidered with cords of linen and purple, on silver rods and marble columns; couches of gold and silver, on a pavement of green, white, shell, and onyx marble. 7 And they gave them to drink in golden vessels, and the vessels differed from one another, and royal wine was plentiful according to the bounty of the king. 8 And the drinking was according to the law [with] no one coercing, for so had the king ordained upon every steward of his house, to do according to every man's wish. 9 Also, Vashti the queen made a banquet for the women, in the royal house of King Ahasuerus. 10 On the seventh day, when the king's heart was merry with wine, he ordered Mehuman, Bizzetha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains who ministered in the presence of King Ahasuerus. 11 To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the royal crown, to show the peoples and the princes her beauty, for she was of comely appearance. 12 But Queen Vashti refused to come at the king's behest which was [brought] by the hand of the chamberlains, and the king became very wroth, and his anger burnt within him. 13 And the king said to the wise men who knew the times-for so was the king's custom, [to present the case] before all who knew law and judgment. 14 And the nearest to him were Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king's face, who sat first in the kingdom. 15 "According to the law, what shall be done to Queen Vashti, inasmuch as she did not comply with the order of the king, [brought] by the hand of the chamberlains?" 16 Then Memucan declared before the king and the princes,

א ויהי בימי אחשורוש הוא אחשורוש המלך מהודו ועד-כוש שבע ועשרים ומאה מדינה: ב בימים ההם קשבת | המלך אחשורוש על כסא מלכותו אשר בשושן הבירה: ג בשנת שלוש למלכו עשה משתה לכל-שריו ועבדיו חיל | פרס ומדי הפרתמים ושרי המדינות לפניו: ד בהראתו את-עשר כבוד מלכותו ואת-יקר תפארת גדולתו ימים רבים שמוגים ומאת יום: ה ובמלאות (ובמלואת כתיב) | הימים האלה עשה המלך לכל-העם הנמצאים בשושן הבירה למגדול ועד-קטן משתה שבעת ימים בתצר גנת ביתן המלך: ו חור | פרס ותכלת אחוזו בסבלי-כוזן וארגמן על-גלילי כסף ועמודי נש מטות | זהב וכסף על רצפת בהט-נשש וזר וסחרת: ז והשקות בכלי זהב וכלים מפלים שונים וגין מלכות רב כנד המלך: ח והשתיה כדת אין אגס כייכן | יסד המלך על כלי-רב ביתו לעשות כרצון איש-ואיש: ט גם ושתיה המלכה עשתה משתה נשים בית המלכות אשר למלך אחשורוש: י ביום השביעי כטוב לב-המלך ביין אמר למהומן בזהא חרבוניא בגתא ואבגתא זתר וכרפס שבעת הסריסים המשרתים את-פני המלך אחשורוש: י"א להביא את-נשתי המלכה לפני המלך בכתר מלכות להראות העמים והשרים את-תפיה כי-טובת מראה היא: י"ב ותמאן המלכה ונשתי לבוא בדבר המלך אשר בנד הסריסים ויקצף המלך מאד וחרמתו בערה בו: י"ג ויאמר המלך לחכמים ודעי העתים כייכן דבר המלך לפני כל-ידעי דת ודיו: י"ד והקרב אליו כרשנא שתל אדמתא תרשיש מרסנא ממוכן שבעת שרי | פרס ומדי ראי פני המלך הישבים ראשנה במלכות: ט"ו כדת מה-לעשות במלכה ונשתי על | אשר לא-עשתה את-מאמר המלך אחשורוש בנד הסריסים: ט"ז ויאמר ממכון (מומכון כתיב) לפני המלך והשרים לא על-המלך לבדו עותה ונשתי המלכה כי על-כל-השרים ועל-כל-העמים אשר בכל-מדינות המלך אחשורוש: י"ז כייצא

"Not against the king alone has Vashti the queen done wrong, but against all the princes and all the peoples that are in all King Ahasuerus's provinces. **17** For the word of the queen will spread to all the women, to make them despise their husbands in their eyes, when they say, 'King Ahasuerus ordered to bring Vashti the queen before him, but she did not come.' **18** And this day, the princesses of Persia and Media who heard the word of the queen will say [the like] to all the princes of the king, and [there will be] much contempt and wrath. **19** If it please the king, let a royal edict go forth from before him, and let it be inscribed in the laws of Persia and Media, and let it not be revoked, that Vashti shall not come before King Ahasuerus, and let the king give her royal position to her peer who is better than she. **20** And let the verdict of the king be heard throughout his entire kingdom, although it is great, and all the women shall give honor to their husbands, both great and small." **21** And the matter pleased the king and the princes, and the king did according to the word of Memucan. **22** And he sent letters to all the king's provinces, to every province according to its script, and to every nationality according to its language, that every man dominate in his household and speak according to the language of his nationality.

דבר-המלכה על-כל-הנשים להבנות בעליהן
בעיניהן באמנם המלך אחשוורוש אמר להביא
את-נשתי המלכה לפניו ולא-באה: **י"ח** והיום
הזה תאמרנה | שרות פרס-ומדי אשר שמעו
את-דבר המלכה לכל שרי המלך וכדי בגיון
נקצף: **י"ט** אם-על-המלך טוב יצא דבר-
מלכות מלפניו ויכתב בדי פרס-ומדי ולא
יעבור אשר לא-תבוא ונשתי לפני המלך
אחשוורוש ומלכותה יתן המלך לרעותה
הטובה ממנה: **כ** ונשמע פתגם המלך אשר-
יעשה בכל-מלכותו כי רבה היא וכל-הנשים
יתנו יקר לבעליהן למגדול ועד-קטן: **כ"א**
וייטב הדבר בעיני המלך והשרים ויעש המלך
בדבר ממוכן: **כ"ב** וישלח ספרים אל-כל-
מדינות המלך אל-מדינה ומדינה ככתבה ואל-
עם ועם כלשונן להיות כל-איש שרר בביתו
ומדבר כלשון עמו:

פרק ב' - Chapter 2

1 After these events, when King Ahasuerus's fury subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done, and what had been decreed upon her. **2** And the king's young men, his servants, said, "Let them seek for the king young maidens of comely appearance. **3** And let the king appoint commissioners to all the provinces of his kingdom, and let them gather every young maiden of comely appearance to Shushan the capital, to the house of the women, to the custody of Hege, the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, and let their ointments be given them. **4** And let the maiden who pleases the king reign instead of Vashti." And the matter pleased the king, and he did so. **5** There was a Judean man in Shushan the capital, whose name was Mordecai the son of Jair the son of Shimei the son of Kish, a Benjamite, **6** who had been exiled from Jerusalem with the exile that was exiled with Jeconiah, king of Judah, which Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had exiled. **7** And he had brought up Hadassah, that is Esther, his uncle's daughter, for she had neither father nor mother, and the maiden was of comely form and of comely appearance, and when her father and mother

א אחר הדברים האלה כשך חמת המלך
אחשוורוש זכר את-נשתי ואת אשר-עשתה
ואת אשר-נגזר עליה: **ב** ויאמרו בערי-המלך
משרתיו יבקשו למלך נערות בתולות טובות
מראה: **ג** ויפקד המלך פקידים בכל-מדינות
מלכותו ויקבצו את-כל-נערה-כתולה טובת
מראה אל-שושן הבירה אל-בית הנשים אל-
יד הגא סרים המלך שמר הנשים ונתון
תמריהן: **ד** והנערה אשר תיטב בעיני המלך
תמלך תחת ונשתי וייטב הדבר בעיני המלך
ויעש כן: **ה** איש יהודי היה בשושן הבירה
ושמו מרדכי בן יאיר בן-שמעי בן-קיש איש
ימיני: **ו** אשר הגלה מירושלים עם-הגולה אשר
הגלתה עם יכניה מלך-יהודה אשר הגלה

died, Mordecai took her to himself for a daughter. **8** And it came to pass, when the king's order and his decree were heard, and when many maidens were gathered to Shushan the capital, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was taken to the king's house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women. **9** And the maiden pleased him, and she won his favor, and he hastened her ointments and her portions to give [them] to her, and the seven maidens fitting to give her from the king's house, and he changed her and her maidens to the best [portions in] the house of the women. **10** Esther did not reveal her nationality or her lineage, for Mordecai had ordered her not to reveal it. **11** And every day, Mordecai would walk about in front of the court of the house of the women, to learn of Esther's welfare and what would be done to her. **12** And when each maiden's turn arrived to go to King Ahasuerus, after having been treated according to the practice prescribed for the women, for twelve months, for so were the days of their ointments completed, six months with myrrh oil, and six months with perfumes, and with the ointments of the women. **13** Then with this the maiden would come to the king; whatever she would request would be given to her to come with her from the house of the women to the king's house. **14** In the evening she would go, and in the morning she would return to the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, the guard of the concubines; she would no longer come to the king unless the king wanted her, and she was called by name. **15** Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail, Mordecai's uncle, who had taken her for a daughter, came to go in to the king, she requested nothing, except what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the guard of the women, would say, and Esther obtained grace in the eyes of all who beheld her. **16** So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus, to his royal house in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. **17** And the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she won grace and favor before him more than all the maidens, and he placed the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. **18** And the king made a great banquet for all his princes and his servants, even Esther's feast, and he granted a release to the provinces and gave gifts according to the bounty of the king. **19** And when the maidens were gathered a second time, and Mordecai was sitting in the king's gate **20** Esther would not tell her lineage or her nationality, as Mordecai had commanded her, for Esther kept

נְבוֹכַדְנֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל: ז וַיְהִי אֲמֹן אֶת־הַדֹּסָה הָיָא
אֶסְתֵּר בַּת־דָּלוּ כִּי אֵין לָהּ אָב וְנֶעְרָה יַפ־תְּאֵר
וְטוֹבַת מַרְאֶה וּבָמוֹת אֲבִיָּה וְאִמָּה לִקְחָהּ מֶרְדֵּכַי לִו
לְבַת: ח וַיְהִי בְּהַשְׁמַע דְּבַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ וּבְהַקְבִּץ
נְעוּרוֹת רַבּוֹת אֶל־שׁוּשַׁן הַבֵּירָה אֶל־יְד הֶגִי וּתְלַקַּח
אֶסְתֵּר אֶל־בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־יְד הֶגִי שְׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים: ט
וַיִּטֵּב הַנְּעָרָה בְּעֵינָיו וַתֵּשֶׂא חֶסֶד לִפְנָיו וַיְבַהֵל אֶת־
תַּמְרוּקִיָּה וְאֶת־מְנוּחָה לְתַת לָהּ וְאֵת שְׁבַע הַנְּעוּרוֹת
הָרְאִיּוֹת לְתַת־לָהּ מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁנֶה וְאֶת־נְעוּרוֹתֶיהָ
לְטוֹב בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים: י לֹא־הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר אֶת־עַמָּהּ וְאֶת־
מּוֹלְדָתָהּ כִּי מֶרְדֵּכַי צִנֵּה עָלֶיהָ אֲשֶׁר לֹא־תִגִּיד: י"א
וּבְכָל־יָוֹם וַיִּזְוֶם מֶרְדֵּכַי מִתְּהִלָּה לִפְנֵי חֲצַר בֵּית־הַנָּשִׁים
לְדַעַת אֶת־שְׁלוֹם אֶסְתֵּר וּמִה־יַּעֲשֶׂה בָּהּ: י"ב וּבְהִלְיַע
תָּר נְעָרָה וְנֶעְרָה לְבּוֹא | אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ מִקִּץ
הַיּוֹת לָהּ כְּדַת הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ כִּי כֵן יִמְלְאוּ
יְמֵי מְרוּקִיָּהוּ שְׁשֶׁה חֳדָשִׁים בְּשֶׁמֶן הַמָּר וּשְׁשֶׁה חֳדָשִׁים
בְּבִשְׁמִים וּבְתַמְרוּקֵי הַנָּשִׁים: י"ג וּבָזָה הַנְּעָרָה בָּאָה
אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר תֹּאמַר יִנָּתֵן לָהּ לְבּוֹא עִמָּהּ
מִבֵּית הַנָּשִׁים עַד־בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ: י"ד בְּעָרַב | הִיא בָּאָה
וּבְבֹקֶר הִיא שָׁכְנָה אֶל־בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנֵי אֶל־יְד שְׁעִשְׁגֹּז
סָרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׁמֵר הַפִּילִגְשִׁים לֹא־תִבּוֹא עוֹד אֶל־
הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי אִם־חֶפֶץ בָּהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנִקְרָאָה בְּשֵׁם: ט"ו
וּבְהִגִּיעַ תָּר־אֶסְתֵּר בַּת־אֲבִיתָהּ | דָּד מֶרְדֵּכַי אֲשֶׁר
לִקַּח־לָו לְבַת לְבּוֹא אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא בִקְשָׁה דְּבָר כִּי אִם
אֶת־אֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר הֶגִי סָרִיס־הַמֶּלֶךְ שְׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים וְתִהְיֶה
אֶסְתֵּר נִשְׂאֵת חֹן בְּעֵינֵי כָל־רְאִיָּה: ט"ז וַתִּלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר
אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ אֶל־בֵּית מַלְכוּתוֹ בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָעֲשִׁירִי
הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ טֵבֵת בְּשַׁנַּת־שְׁבַע לְמַלְכוּתוֹ: י"ז וַיֵּאָהֱב
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר מִכָּל־הַנָּשִׁים וַתֵּשֶׂא־תָן וַחֲסֵד לִפְנָיו
מִכָּל־הַבְּתוּלוֹת וַיִּשֶׂם כְּתֶר־מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשָׁהּ וַיְמַלִּכָּהּ
תַּחַת וּשְׁתֵּי: י"ח וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁתֶּה גָדוֹל לְכָל־שָׂרָיו
וְעַבְדָּיו אֵת מִשְׁתֶּה אֶסְתֵּר וְהַנִּחָה לְמַדִּינוֹת עָשָׂה וַיִּתֵּן
מִשְׁאֵת כִּיֵּד הַמֶּלֶךְ: י"ט וּבְהַקְבִּץ בַּתּוּלוֹת שְׁגִית
וּמֶרְדֵּכַי יֵשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ: כ אֵין אֶסְתֵּר מִגִּדַּת
מּוֹלְדָתָהּ וְאֶת־עַמָּהּ כָּאֲשֶׁר צִנֵּה עָלֶיהָ מֶרְדֵּכַי וְאֶת־
מֵאֵמֶר מֶרְדֵּכַי אֶסְתֵּר עָשָׂה כָּאֲשֶׁר הִיָּתָה בְּאִמְנָה אִתּוֹ:

Mordecai's orders as she had when she was raised by him. **21** In those days, when Mordecai was sitting in the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, of the guards of the threshold, became angry and sought to lay a hand on King Ahasuerus. **22** And the matter became known to Mordecai, and he told [it] to Queen Esther, and Esther told [it] to the king in Mordecai's name. **23** And the matter was investigated and found [to be so], and they were both hanged on a gallows, and it was written in the diary [that was read] before the king.

כ"א בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם וּמַרְדֵּכַי יוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ קִצֵּף בְּגָתוֹ וְתָרֵשׁ שְׁנֵי-סָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁמָרֵי הַסֹּף וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ לְשַׁלֵּם לֹד בַּמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֶׁוּרֻשׁ: **כ"ב** וַיִּוָּדַע הַדָּבָר לְמַרְדֵּכַי וַיַּגִּד לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לַמֶּלֶךְ בְּשֵׁם מַרְדֵּכַי: **כ"ג** וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הַדָּבָר וַיִּמָּצֵא וַיִּתְּלוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם עַל-עֵץ וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּסֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ:

פרק ג' - Chapter 3

1 After these events, King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite and advanced him, and placed his seat above all the princes who were with him. **2** And all the king's servants who were in the king's gate would kneel and prostrate themselves before Haman, for so had the king commanded concerning him, but Mordecai would neither kneel nor prostrate himself. **3** Then the king's servants who were in the king's gate, said to Mordecai, "Why do you disobey the king's orders?" **4** Now it came to pass when they said [this] to him daily, and he did not heed them, that they told [this] to Haman, to see whether Mordecai's words would stand up, for he had told them that he was a Jew. **5** And when Haman saw that Mordecai would neither kneel nor prostrate himself before him, Haman became full of wrath. **6** But it seemed contemptible to him to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had told him Mordecai's nationality, and Haman sought to destroy all the Jews who were throughout Ahasuerus's entire kingdom, Mordecai's people. **7** In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, one cast the pur-that is the lot-before Haman from day to day and from month to month, to the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. **8** And Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered and separate among the peoples throughout all the provinces of your kingdom, and their laws differ from [those of] every people, and they do not keep the king's laws; it is [therefore] of no use for the king to let them be. **9** If it pleases the king, let it be written to destroy them, and I will weigh out ten thousand silver talents into the hands of those who perform the work, to bring [it] into the king's treasuries." **10** And the king took his ring off his hand and gave it to Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the adversary of the Jews. **11** And the king said to Haman, "The silver is given to you, and

א אַתֵּר | הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה גָּדַל הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֶׁוּרֻשׁ אֶת-הָמָן בֶּן-הַמֵּדָתָא הָאֲגָגִי וַיַּנְשְׂאֵהוּ וַיֵּשֶׁם אֶת-כִּסְאוֹ מֵעַל כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ: **ב** וְכָל-עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ כְּרָעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לְהָמָן כִּי-כֵן צִוָּה-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וּמַרְדֵּכַי לֹא יִכְרַע וְלֹא יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה: **ג** וַיֹּאמְרוּ עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְמַרְדֵּכַי מִדּוּעַ אַתָּה עוֹבֵר אֶת מִצְוַת הַמֶּלֶךְ: **ד** וַיְהִי כְּאָמְרָם (בְּאָמְרָם כְּתִיב) אֵלָיו יוֹם וַיּוֹם וְלֹא שָׁמַע אֲלֵיהֶם וַיִּגִּידוּ לְהָמָן לְרָאוֹת הַעֲמָדוֹ דְּבָרֵי מַרְדֵּכַי כִּי-הִגִּיד לָהֶם אֲשֶׁר-הוּא יְהוּדִי: **ה** וַיֵּרָא הָמָן כִּי-אֵין מַרְדֵּכַי כְּרַע וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לוֹ וַיִּמָּלֵא הָמָן חֲמָה: **ו** וַיִּבֹז בְּעֵינָיו לְשַׁלַּח יָד בְּמַרְדֵּכַי לְבָדּוֹ כִּי-הִגִּידוּ לוֹ אֶת-עַם מַרְדֵּכַי וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הָמָן לְהַשְׁמִיד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְלָכוֹת אֶחָשֶׁוּרֻשׁ עַם מַרְדֵּכַי: **ז** בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ נִסָּן בִּשְׁנַת שְׁתַּיִם עֶשְׂרִיה לַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֶׁוּרֻשׁ הִפִּיל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוּרָל לִפְנֵי הָמָן מִיּוֹם | לַיּוֹם וּמִחֹדֶשׁ לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם-עָשָׂר הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר: **ח** וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן לַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֶׁוּרֻשׁ יִשְׁנֹו עַם-אֶחָד מִכָּאֵר וּמִפָּרֹד בֵּין הָעַמִּים בְּכָל מַדִּינֹת מְלָכוֹתָ וְדַמִּיָּהֶם שְׁנוֹת מִכָּל-עַם וְאֶת-דַּתִּי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵינָם עוֹשִׂים וְלַמֶּלֶךְ אֵין-שְׁנֹה לְהַנִּיחָם: **ט** אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב יִכְתֹּב לְאַבְדָּם וְעֲשֹׂרֶת אֲלָפִים כֶּסֶף-כֶּסֶף אֲשֶׁקוּל עַל-

the people to do to them as it pleases you." **12** And the king's scribes were summoned in the first month, on the thirteenth day thereof, and it was written according to everything that Haman had ordered to the king's satraps and to the governors who were over every province, and to the princes of every people, each province according to its script and each people according to its tongue; it was written in the name of King Ahasuerus, and it was sealed with the king's ring. **13** And letters shall be sent by the hand of the couriers to all the king's provinces, to destroy, kill, and cause to perish all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, on one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and their spoils to be taken as plunder. **14** The copy of the writ was for an edict to be given in every province, published to all the peoples, to be ready for that day. **15** The couriers went forth in haste by the king's order, and the edict was given in Shushan the capital, and the king and Haman sat down to drink, and the city of Shushan was perturbed.

יְדִי עָשִׂי הַמְּלָאכָה לְהַבִּיא אֶל־גִּנְגֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: י וַיִּסַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־טַבְעֻתּוֹ מֵעַל יָדּוֹ וַיִּתְּנָהּ לַהֲמָן בְּיַד־הַמַּדְבָּרָא הָאֲגָגִי צָבָר הַיְּהוּדִים: י"א וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לַהֲמָן הַכֹּסֶף נָתַן לָךְ וְהָעָם לַעֲשׂוֹת בּוֹ כַּטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ: י"ב וַיִּקְרָא סָפְרִי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּחֲדָשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן בְּשָׁלוּשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ וַיִּפְתַּב כָּכָל־אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה הָמָן אֶל אֲחֻשְׁדֶּרְפָּנֵי־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶל־הַפַּחֲזֹת אֲשֶׁר | עַל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְאֶל־שָׂרֵי עָם וְעַם מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כַּכְתָּבָה וְעַם וְעַם כָּל־שׁוֹנֵי בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחֻשְׁדֶּרְשׁ נִכְתָּב וְנִחְתָּם בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ: י"ג וַנִּשְׁלֹחַ סָפָרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים אֶל־כָּל־מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַשְׁמִיד לְהַרְגַּ וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים מִנְּעֹר וְעַד־זָקֵן טָף וְנָשִׁים בָּיּוֹם אֶחָד בְּשָׁלוּשָׁה עָשָׂר לַחֲדָשׁ שְׁנֵים־עָשָׂר הוּא־חֲדָשׁ אֲדָר וּשְׁלָלָם לְבָז: י"ד פֶּתִישְׁגָּן הַכְּתָב לְהַנְתֵּן דָּת בְּכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה גְלוּי לְכָל־הָעַמִּים לְהַזִּית עֲתִידִים לַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: ט"ו הָרָצִים יֵצְאוּ דְחוּפִים בְּדָבָר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהִזָּת נִתְּנָה בְּשׁוֹשָׁן הַבִּירָה וְהַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן יֵשְׁבוּ לִשְׁתּוֹת וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשָׁן נְבוּכָה:

פרק ד' - Chapter 4

1 And Mordecai knew all that had transpired, and Mordecai rent his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and he went out into the midst of the city and cried [with] a loud and bitter cry. **2** And he came up as far as the king's gate, for one may not enter the king's gate dressed in sackcloth. **3** And in every province, wherever the king's orders and his edict reached, there was great mourning for the Jews, and fasting and weeping and lamenting; sackcloth and ashes were put on the most prominent. **4** And Esther's maidens and her chamberlains came and told her, and the queen was extremely terrified, and she sent clothing to dress Mordecai and to take off his sackcloth, but he did not accept [it]. **5** Then Esther summoned Hathach, [one] of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed before her, and she commanded him concerning Mordecai, to know what this was and why this was. **6** So Hathach went forth to Mordecai, to the city square, which was before the king's gate. **7** And Mordecai told him all that had befallen him, and the full account of the silver that Haman had proposed to weigh out into the king's

א וּמֶרְדֵּכַי יָדַע אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשֶׂה וַיִּקְרַע מֶרְדֵּכַי אֶת־בְּגָדָיו וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שָׂק וְאָפֶר וַיֵּצֵא בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר וַיִּזְעַק וַעֲקָה גְדוּלָּה וּמְרָה: ב וַיָּבֹא עַד לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי אֵין לָבוֹא אֶל־שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ בִּלְבוּשׁ שָׂק: ג וּבְכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דְּבַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ אָבֵל גְּדוּלָּה לַיְּהוּדִים וְצוֹם וּבְכִי וּמִסְפַּד שָׂק וְאָפֶר יֵצֵעַ לָרַבִּים: ד וַתְּבֹאֲנָה (וַתְּבֹאֲנָה כְּתִיב) נְעֹרוֹת אֶסְתֵּר וְסָרִיסֶיהָ וַיַּגִּידוּ לָהּ וַתַּתְּחַלְחַל הַמַּלְכָּה מְאֹד וַתִּשְׁלַח בְּגָדִים לְהַלְבִּישׁ אֶת־מֶרְדֵּכַי וּלְהַסִּיר שָׂקוֹ מֵעַלָּיו וְלֹא קִבֶּל: ה וַתִּקְרָא אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתָּךְ מִסָּרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר הָעֵמִיד לִפְנֶיהָ וַתִּצְוֶהוּ עַל־מֶרְדֵּכַי לְדַעַת מַה־הָיָה וְעַל־מַה־הָיָה: ו וַיֵּצֵא הַתָּךְ אֶל־מֶרְדֵּכַי אֶל־רְחוֹב הָעִיר אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ: ז וַיַּגִּדְלוּ מֶרְדֵּכַי אֶת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ וְאֵת | פֶּרֶשֶׁת הַכֹּסֶף אֲשֶׁר אָמַר הָמָן לְשָׁקוֹל עַל־גִּנְגֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּיְּהוּדִים (כְּתִיב בִּיהוּדִים) לְאַבְדָּם: ח וְאֶת־פֶּתִישְׁגָּן פֶּתִי־הַדָּת אֲשֶׁר־נָתַן בְּשׁוֹשָׁן לְהַשְׁמִידָם נָתַן לוֹ לְהִרְאוֹת

treasuries on the Jews' account, to cause them to perish. **8** And the copy of the writ of the decree that was given in Shushan he gave him, to show Esther and to tell her, and to order her to come before the king to beseech him and to beg him for her people. **9** And Hathach came, and he told Esther what Mordecai had said. **10** And Esther said to Hathach, and she ordered him to [tell] Mordecai: **11** "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that any man or woman who comes to the king, into the inner court, who is not summoned, there is but one law for him, to be put to death, except the one to whom the king extends the golden scepter, that he may live, but I have not been summoned to come to the king these thirty days." **12** And they told Esther's words to Mordecai. **13** And Mordecai ordered to reply to Esther, "Do not imagine to yourself that you will escape in the king's house from among all the Jews. **14** For if you remain silent at this time, relief and rescue will arise for the Jews from elsewhere, and you and your father's household will perish; and who knows whether at a time like this you will attain the kingdom?" **15** Then Esther ordered to reply to Mordecai: **16** "Go, assemble all the Jews who are present in Shushan and fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, day and night; also I and my maidens will fast in a like manner; then I will go to the king contrary to the law, and if I perish, I perish." **17** So Mordecai passed and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר וְלִהְיִיד לָהּ וּלְצִנּוֹת עָלֶיהָ לָבוֹא אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ
לְהַתְחַנֵּן־לּוֹ וּלְבַקֵּשׁ מִלְפָּנָיו עַל־עַמָּהּ: **ט** וַיָּבֹא הַחַד
וַיַּגֵּד לְאֶסְתֵּר אֵת דְּבָרֵי מָרְדֳּכָי: **י** וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר
לְהַתְּחַנֵּן וּתְצִנּוּהוּ אֶל־מָרְדֳּכָי: **י"א** כָּל־עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְעַם
מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ יִדְעוּם אֲשֶׁר כָּל־אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר
יָבֹא־אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־הַחֲצֵר הַפְּנִימִית אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִקְרָא
אֶחָת דָּתוֹ לְהֵמִית לְבָד מֵאֲשֶׁר יוֹשִׁיט־לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־
שַׁרְבִיט הַזָּהָב וְחָיָה וְאִנִּי לֹא נִקְרָאתִי לָבוֹא אֶל־
הַמֶּלֶךְ: **י"ב** זֶה שְׁלוֹשִׁים יוֹם: **י"ג** וַיֵּגִידוּ לְמָרְדֳּכָי אֵת
דְּבָרֵי אֶסְתֵּר: **י"ד** וַיֹּאמֶר מָרְדֳּכָי לְהָשִׁיב אֶל־אֶסְתֵּר
אֶל־תְּדַמֵּי בְּנִפְשָׁךְ לְהַמְלִיט בֵּית־הַמֶּלֶךְ מִכָּל־
הַיְּהוּדִים: **י"ה** כִּי אִם־תִּתְּרַשׁ תִּתְּרִישִׁי בַּעֲתֵת הַזֹּאת
רְנוּחַ וְהַצִּלָּה יֵצֵא מִן־הַיְּהוּדִים מִמָּקוֹם אֲחֵר וְאַתָּה וּבֵית־
אָבִיךָ תִּאבְדּוּ וְאִי יוֹדֵעַ אִם־לָעֵת כְּזֹאת הִגַּעְתָּ
לְמַלְכוּת: **ט"ו** וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְהָשִׁיב אֶל־מָרְדֳּכָי:
ט"ז לֹךְ כְּנוֹס אֶת־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים הַנִּמְצָאִים בְּשׁוּשָׁן
וְצוּמוּ עָלַי וְאֶל־תֵּאָכְלוּ וְאֶל־תִּשְׁתּוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים
לַיְלָה וַיּוֹם גַּם־אֲנִי וְנַעֲרֹתַי אֲצוּם כָּן וּבָלֹךְ אָבֹא אֶל־
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר לֹא־כָדַת וְכֹאֲשֶׁר אֲבָדַתִּי אֲבָדַתִּי: **י"ז**
וַיַּעֲבֹר מָרְדֳּכָי וַיַּעַשׂ כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר־צִוְּתָהּ עָלָיו אֶסְתֵּר:

פרק ה' - Chapter 5

1 Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther clothed herself regally, and she stood in the inner court of the king's house, opposite the king's house, and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the royal palace, opposite the entrance of the house. **2** And it came to pass when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she won favor in his eyes, and the king extended to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand, and Esther approached and touched the end of the scepter. **3** And the king said to her, "What concerns you, Queen Esther, and what is your petition? Even to half the kingdom, it will be given to you." **4** And Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to the banquet that I have prepared for him." **5** And the king said, "Rush Haman to do Esther's bidding," and the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. **6** And the

א וַיְהִי | בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וַתִּלְבַּשׁ אֶסְתֵּר מְלָכוּת וַתַּעֲמֹד
בַּחֲצֵר בֵּית־הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּנִימִית נֹכַח בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּלֶךְ
יּוֹשֵׁב עַל־כִּסֵּא מְלָכוּתוֹ בְּבֵית הַמְּלָכוּת נֹכַח פֶּתַח
הַבַּיִת: **ב** וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר הַמְּלָכָה
עֹמֶדֶת בַּחֲצֵר נִשְׁאַה חֹן בְּעֵינָיו וַיִּוָּשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר
אֶת־שַׁרְבִיט הַזָּהָב אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ וַתִּקְרַב אֶסְתֵּר וַתִּגַּע
בְּרֹאשׁ הַשַּׁרְבִיט: **ג** וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ מִה־לָּךְ אֶסְתֵּר
הַמְּלָכָה וּמִה־בִּקְשֶׁתְּךָ עַד־חֲצֵי הַמְּלָכוּת וַיִּגְמֵן לָהּ: **ד**
וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב יָבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן
הַיּוֹם אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתָּה אֲשֶׁר־עָשִׂיתִי לָּו: **ה** וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
מִהֵרָו אֶת־הָמָן לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־דְּבַר אֶסְתֵּר וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהָמָן אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתָּה אֲשֶׁר־עָשִׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר: **ו** וַיֹּאמֶר

king said to Esther during the wine banquet, "What is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." **7** Then Esther replied and said, "My petition and my request [are as follows]: **8** If I have found favor in the king's eyes, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and to fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I will make for them, and tomorrow I will do the king's bidding." **9** And Haman went out on that day, happy and with a cheerful heart, but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, and he neither rose nor stirred because of him, Haman was filled with wrath against Mordecai. **10** But Haman restrained himself, and he came home, and he sent and brought his friends and Zeresh his wife. **11** And Haman recounted to them the glory of his riches and the multitude of his sons, and all [the ways] that the king had promoted him and that he had exalted him over the princes and the king's servants. **12** And Haman said, "Esther did not even bring [anyone] to the party that she made, except me, and tomorrow, too, I am invited to her with the king. **13** But all this is worth nothing to me, every time I see Mordecai the Jew sitting in the king's gate." **14** And Zeresh his wife and all his friends said, "Let them make a gallows fifty cubits high, and in the morning say to the king that they should hang Mordecai on it, and go to the king to the banquet joyfully." The matter pleased Haman, and he made the gallows.

המלך לאסתר במשנה הלן מה-שאלתך וינתן לך ומה-בקשתך עד-חצי המלכות ותעש: ז ותען אסתר ותאמר שאלתי ובקשתי: ח אם-מצאתי חן בעיני המלך ואם-על-המלך טוב לתת את-שאלתי ולעשות את-בקשתי יבוא המלך והמן אל-המשנה אשר אעשה להם ומחר אעשה כדבר המלך: ט ויצא המן ביום ההוא שמח וטוב לב וכראות המן את-מרדכי בשער המלך ולא-קם ולא-זע ממנו וימלא המן על-מרדכי חמה: י ויתאפק המן ויבוא אל-ביתו וישלח ויבא את-אהבו ואת-גרש אשתו: י"א ויספר להם המן את-כבוד עשרו ורב בגיו ואת כל-אשר גדלו המלך ואת אשר נשאו על-השרים ועבדי המלך: י"ב ויאמר המן אף לא-הביאה אסתר המלכה עם-המלך אל-המשנה אשר-עשתה כי אם-אותי וגם-למחר אני קרוא-לה עם-המלך: י"ג וכל-זה איננו שוה לי בכל-עת אשר אני ראה את-מרדכי היהודי יושב בשער המלך: י"ד ותאמר לו גרש אשתו וכל-אהבו געשו-על גבה חמשים אמה ובבקר | אמר למלך ויתלו את-מרדכי עליו ובא-עם-המלך אל-המשנה שמח וייטב הדבר לפני המן ויעש העץ:

פרק ו' - Chapter 6

1 On that night, the king's sleep was disturbed, and he ordered to bring the book of the records, the chronicles, and they were read before the king. **2** And it was found written that Mordecai had reported about Bigthana and Teresh, two chamberlains of the king, of the guards of the threshold, who had sought to lay a hand on King Ahasuerus. **3** And the king said, "What honor and greatness was done to Mordecai on that account?" And the king's servants who minister before him said, "Nothing was done for him." **4** And the king said, "Who is in the court?" And Haman had come to the outside court of the king's house, to petition the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him. **5** And the king's servants said to him, "Behold Haman is standing in the court." And the king said, "Let him enter." **6** And Haman entered, and the king said to him, "What should

א בלילה ההוא נדדה שנת המלך ויאמר להביא את-ספר הזכרונות דברי הימים ויהיו נקראים לפני המלך: ב וימצא כתוב אשר הגיד מרדכי על-בגתנא ותרש שני סריסי המלך משמרי הסף אשר בקשו לשלח יד במלך אחשורוש: ג ויאמר המלך מה-געשה יקר וגדולה למרדכי על-זה ויאמרו בערי המלך משרתיו לא-געשה עמו דבר: ד ויאמר המלך מי בחצר והמן בא לחצר בית-המלך התיצונה לאמר למלך לתלות את-מרדכי על-העץ אשר הכין לו: ה ויאמרו בערי המלך אליו הנה המן עמד בחצר ויאמר המלך יבוא: ו ויבוא המן ויאמר לו המלך מה-לעשות באיש אשר המלך חפץ ביקרו

be done to a man whom the king wishes to honor?" And Haman said to himself, "Whom would the king wish to honor more than me?" **7** And Haman said to the King, "A man whom the king wishes to honor **8** Let them bring the royal raiment that the king wore and the horse that the king rode upon, and the royal crown should be placed on his head. **9** And let the raiment and the horse be delivered into the hand of one of the king's most noble princes and let them dress the man whom the king wishes to honor and let them parade him on the horse in the city square and announce before him, 'So shall be done to the man whom the king wishes to honor!' " **10** And the king said to Haman, "Hurry, take the raiment and the horse as you have spoken and do so to Mordecai the Jew, who sits in the king's gate; let nothing fail of all that you have spoken." **11** And Haman took the raiment and the horse, and he dressed Mordecai and paraded him in the city square and announced before him, "So shall be done to the man whom the king wishes to honor!" **12** And Mordecai returned to the king's gate, and Haman rushed home, mourning and with his head covered. **13** And Haman recounted to Zeresh his wife and to all his friends all that had befallen him, and his wise men and Zeresh his wife said to him, "If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of Jewish stock, you will not prevail against him, but you will surely fall before him." **14** While they were still talking to him, the king's chamberlains arrived, and hastened to bring Haman to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן בְּלִבּוֹ לֵמַי יִחַפֵּץ הַמֶּלֶךְ לַעֲשׂוֹת יָקָר יוֹתֵר מִמֶּנִּי: ז וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בְּיָקָרוֹ: ח יִבְיֹאֵל לְבוֹשׁ מַלְכוּת אֲשֶׁר לְבִשְׁבוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְסוּס אֲשֶׁר רָכַב עָלָיו הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֲשֶׁר נָתַן בְּתֵר מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשׁוֹ: ט וְנָתַן הַלְבוּשׁ וְהַסּוּס עַל־יַד־אִישׁ מִשְׁרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּרָתִימִים וְהַלְבִּשׁוּ אֶת־הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בְּיָקָרוֹ וְהִרְפִּיבֵהוּ עַל־הַסּוּס בְּרִחוּב הָעִיר וְקָרְאוּ לִפְנָיו בְּכָה יַעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בְּיָקָרוֹ: י וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהָמָן מָהֹר קַח אֶת־הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת־הַסּוּס בְּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ וַעֲשֶׂה־כֵן לְמֶרְדֵּכָי הַיְּהוּדִי הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל־תִּפְּל דָּבָר מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ: י"א וַיִּקַּח הָמָן אֶת־הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת־הַסּוּס וַיַּלְבִּשׁ אֶת־מֶרְדֵּכָי וַיַּרְפִּיבֵהוּ בְּרִחוּב הָעִיר וַיִּקְרָא לִפְנָיו בְּכָה יַעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בְּיָקָרוֹ: י"ב וַיָּשָׁב מֶרְדֵּכָי אֶל־שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן נִדְחָף אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ אָבֵל וְחִפּוּי רֹאשׁ: י"ג וַיִּסָּפֶר הָמָן לְזָרָשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ וּלְכָל־אֲהָבָיו אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ חֲכָמָיו וְזָרָשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ אִם מִזְרַע הַיְּהוּדִים מֶרְדֵּכָי אֲשֶׁר הִחֲלֹתָ לַנָּפֶל לִפְנָיו לֹא־תוּכַל לוֹ כִּי־נִפּוֹל תִּפּוֹל לִפְנָיו: י"ד עוֹדָם מְדַבְּרִים עָמְדוּ וְסָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הִגִּיעוּ וַיִּבְהִלּוּ לְהֵבִיא אֶת־הָמָן אֶל־הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר־עָשְׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר:

פרק ז' - Chapter 7

1 So the king and Haman came to drink with Queen Esther. **2** And the king said to Esther also on the second day during the wine feast, "What is your petition, Queen Esther, and it shall be given to you. And what is your request, even up to half the kingdom, and it shall be granted." **3** And Queen Esther replied and said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, O king, and if it pleases the king, may my life be given me in my petition and my people in my request. **4** For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish; now had we been sold for slaves and bondswomen, I would have kept silent, for the adversary has no consideration for the king's loss." **5** And King Ahasuerus said, and he said to Queen Esther, "Who is this and where is he, who dared to do this?" **6** And

א וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן לִשְׁתּוֹת עִם־אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה: ב וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר גַּם בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁנִי בְּמִשְׁתֶּה הַיַּיִן מִה־שְּׁאֵלְתָךְ אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וְתַנְתֵּן לִּי וּמִה־בִקְשֶׁתְּךָ עַד־חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת וְתַעֲשׂ: ג וְתַעַן אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וְתֹאמַר אִם־מִצָּאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב תִּתֶּנּוּ־לִי נַפְשִׁי בְּשִׁאֲלָתִי וְעַמִּי בְּבִקְשָׁתִי: ד כִּי נִמְכַּרְנוּ אֲנִי וְעַמִּי לְהַשְׁמִיד לְהָרוֹג וּלְאַבֵּד וְאֵלּוּ לַעֲבָדִים וְלִשְׁפָחוֹת נִמְכַּרְנוּ הִתְרַשְׁתִּי כִּי אֵין הַצָּר שְׁנֵה בְּגִזַּם הַמֶּלֶךְ: ה וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־שׁוּרוֹשׁ וַיֹּאמֶר לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה מִי הוּא זֶה וְאִי־נָה הוּא אֲשֶׁר־מָלְאוּ לְבִי לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן: ו וְתֹאמַר אֶסְתֵּר אִישׁ צָר וְאוֹיֵב הָמָן

Esther said, "An adversary and an enemy, this evil Haman!" And Haman became terrified before the king and the queen. 7 And the king arose in his fury from the wine feast to the orchard garden, and Haman stood to beg for his life of Queen Esther, for he saw that evil was determined against him by the king. 8 Then the king returned from the orchard garden to the house of the wine feast, and Haman was falling on the couch upon which Esther was, and the king said, "Will you even force the queen with me in the house?" The word came out of the king's mouth, and they covered Haman's face. 9 Then said Harbonah, one of the chamberlains before the king, "Also, behold the gallows that Haman made for Mordecai, who spoke well for the king, standing in Haman's house, fifty cubits high!" And the king said, "Hang him on it!" 10 And they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai, and the king's anger abated.

הָרַע הַזֶּה וְהָמָן נִבְעֵת מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמַּלְכָּה: ז
וְהַמֶּלֶךְ קָם בַּחֲמָתוֹ מִמִּשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן אֶל-גִּנַּת הַבַּיִת
וְהָמָן עָמַד לִבְקֹשׁ עַל-נַפְשׁוֹ מֵאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה כִּי
רָאָה כִּי-כָלְתָה אֵלָיו הָרָעָה מֵאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ: ח וְהַמֶּלֶךְ
שָׁב מִגִּנַּת הַבַּיִת אֶל-בַּיִת | מִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן וְהָמָן נָפַל
עַל-הַמִּטָּה אֲשֶׁר אֶסְתֵּר עָלֶיהָ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ הֲגַם
לִכְבוֹשׁ אֶת-הַמַּלְכָּה עִמִּי בַּבַּיִת הַדָּבָר יֵצֵא מִפִּי
הַמֶּלֶךְ וּפָנִי הָמָן חָפוּ: ט וַיֹּאמֶר חֲרָבוּנָה אֶחָד מִן-
הַסְּרִיסִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ גַּם הִנֵּה-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה
הָמָן לְמָרְדֳּכָי אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר-טוֹב עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ עָמַד בַּבַּיִת
הָמָן גָּבַהַם חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ תִּלְהוּ עָלָיו:
י וַיִּתְּלוּ אֶת-הָמָן עַל-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-הֵכִין לְמָרְדֳּכָי
וַחֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁכְכָה:

פרק ח' - Chapter 8

1 On that day, King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman the adversary of the Jews, and Mordecai came before the king, because Esther had told him what he was to her. 2 And the king took off his ring, which he had removed from Haman and gave it to Mordecai, and Esther placed Mordecai in charge of the house of Haman. 3 And Esther resumed speaking before the king, and she fell before his feet, and she wept and beseeched him to avert the harm of Haman the Agagite and his device that he had plotted against the Jews. 4 Then the king extended the golden scepter to Esther, and Esther arose and stood before the king. 5 And she said, "If it please the king, and if I have found favor before him, and the matter is proper before the king, and I am good in his sight, let it be written to rescind the letters, the device of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all the king's provinces. 6 For how can I see the evil that will befall my people, and how can I see the destruction of my kindred?" 7 Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, "Behold the house of Haman I have given to Esther, and they have hanged him on the gallows because he laid a hand on the Jews. 8 And you write about the Jews as you see fit, in the name of the king, and seal [it] with the king's ring, for a writ that is written in the name of the king and sealed with the king's ring cannot be rescinded." 9 And the king's scribes were summoned at

א בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-בֵּית הָאֲשֻׁרֹשִׁי לְאֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה אֶת-בַּיִת הָמָן צֶרֶר הַיְּהוּדִים (כְּתִיב
הַיְּהוּדִים) וּמָרְדֳּכָי בָּא לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי-הִגִּידָה
אֶסְתֵּר מָה הוּא-אֵלֶיהָ: ב וַיִּסֶּר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-טַבַּעְתּוֹ
אֲשֶׁר הָעֵבִיר מֵהָמָן וַיִּתְּנָה לְמָרְדֳּכָי וַתֵּשֶׁם אֶסְתֵּר
אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי עַל-בַּיִת הָמָן: ג וַתּוֹסֶף אֶסְתֵּר וַתְּדַבֵּר
לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וַתִּפֹּל לִפְנֵי רַגְלָיו וַתִּתְחַנֵּן-לּוֹ
לְהָעֵבִיר אֶת-רַעַת הָמָן הָאֲגָגִי וְאֵת מַחְשַׁבְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר
חָשַׁב עַל-יְהוּדִים: ד וַיִּוָּשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר אֵת
שֶׁרֶבִיט הַזֶּהָב וַתִּקֶּם אֶסְתֵּר וַתַּעֲמֵד לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: ה
וַתֹּאמֶר אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב וְאִם-מִצָּאֲתִי חֵן לִפְנָיו
וְכֹאֶר הַדָּבָר לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְטוֹבָה אֲנִי בְּעֵינָיו יִכְתֹּב
לְהָשִׁיב אֶת-הַסְּפָרִים מִחֲשַׁבַּת הָמָן בְּרוּ-הַמְּלֻחָא
הָאֲגָגִי אֲשֶׁר כָּתַב לְאַבְדֹת אֶת-יְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-
מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ: ו כִּי אֵיכָכָה אוֹכַל וְרָאִיתִי בְּרָעָה
אֲשֶׁר-יִמָּצֵא אֶת-עַמִּי וְאֵיכָכָה אוֹכַל וְרָאִיתִי בְּאֲבָדוֹן
מוֹלֶדֶתִי: ז וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-שֹׁרֶשׁ לְאֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה וּלְמָרְדֳּכָי הַיְּהוּדִי הַזֶּה בֵּית-הָמָן נִתְּתִי
לְאֶסְתֵּר וְאֵתוֹ תִּלּוּ עַל-הָעֵץ עַל אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַח יָדוֹ

that time, in the third month-that is the month of Sivan-on the twenty-third day thereof, and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded, to the Jews and to the satraps and the governors, and the princes of the provinces from Hodu to Cush, a hundred and twenty-seven provinces, every province according to its script and every nationality according to its tongue, and to the Jews according to their script and according to their tongue. **10** And he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed it with the king's ring, and he sent letters by the couriers on horseback, the riders of the king's steeds-the camels, bred of the dromedaries **11** that the king had given to the Jews who are in every city, [the right] to assemble and to protect themselves, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish the entire host of every people and province that oppress them, small children and women, and to take their spoils for plunder. **12** In one day, in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. **13** The copy of the writ was that an edict be given in every province, published before all the peoples, and that the Jews be ready for that day, to avenge themselves upon their enemies. **14** The couriers, those who ride the king's steeds, the camels, went out hastened and pressed by the king's order, and the edict was given in Shushan the capital. **15** And Mordecai left the king's presence with royal raiment, blue and white and a huge golden crown and a wrap of linen and purple, and the city of Shushan shouted and rejoiced. **16** The Jews had light and joy, and gladness and honor. **17** And in every province and in every city, wherever the king's order and his edict reached, [there was] joy and gladness for the Jews, a banquet and a festive day, and many of the peoples of the land became Jews because the fear of the Jews was upon them.

בַּיְהוּדִים (כְּתִיב בִּיהוּדִים) ח וְאַתָּם כָּתְבוּ עַל־הַיְהוּדִים כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ וַחֲתָמוּ בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי־ כָתָב אֲשֶׁר־נִכְתָּב בְּשֵׁם־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנִחְתָּמוּ בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵין לְהָשִׁיב: ט וַיִּקְרְאוּ סִפְרֵי־הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּעֵת־הַהִיא בַּחֲדָשׁ הַשְּׁלִישִׁי הוּא־תְּחִלַּת סִינּוֹן בְּשָׁלוּשָׁה וְעֶשְׂרִים בּוֹ וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּכָל־אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה מֶרְדֳּכָי אֶל־הַיְהוּדִים וְאֶל־ הָאֲחַשְׁדָּרְפָּנִים וְהַפָּחוֹת וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינּוֹת אֲשֶׁר | מֵהָדוּ וְעַד־כּוּשׁ שָׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה בְּכַתְּבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם כָּל־שָׁנָה וְאֶל־הַיְהוּדִים בְּכַתְּבָם וְכָל־שָׁנָה: י וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֶרְשׁ וַיִּחְתָּם בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁלַח סִפְרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים בְּסוּסִים רַבִּי הֶרֶכְשׁ הָאֲחַשְׁתָּרְנִים בְּגִי הָרַמָּכִים: י"א אֲשֶׁר נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ לַיְהוּדִים | אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־עִיר־וָעִיר לְהַקְהִיל וְלַעֲמֹד עַל־ נַפְשָׁם לְהַשְׁמִיד וְלְהָרֹג וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת־כָּל־חַיִּיל עִם וּמְדִינָה הַצָּרִים אִתָּם טָרַף וְנָשִׁים וְשָׁלָלָם לְבוֹז: י"ב בְּיוֹם אֶחָד בְּכָל־מְדִינּוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֶרְשׁ בְּשָׁלוּשָׁה עָשָׂר לַחֲדָשׁ שְׁנִים־עָשָׂר הוּא־תְּחִלַּת אָדָר: י"ג פְּתִיחַן הַכְּתָב לְהַגִּיתוֹ דָּת בְּכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה גָלוּי לְכָל־הָעַמִּים וְלַהֲלוֹת הַיְהוּדִים (כְּתִיב הִיְהוּדִים) עֲתִידִים (כְּתִיב עַתּוּדִים) לְיוֹם הַזֶּה, לְהַנָּקֵם מֵאֲבִיהֶם: י"ד הָרָצִים רַבִּי הֶרֶכְשׁ הָאֲחַשְׁתָּרְנִים יֵצְאוּ מִבְּהֵלִים וּדְחוּפִים בְּדָבָר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהִנָּחַת נִתְּנָה בְּשׁוֹשׁוֹן הַבִּירָה: ט"ו וּמֶרְדֳּכָי יֵצֵא | מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּלָבוֹשׁ מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וְחֹר וְעֶטְרַת זָהָב גְּדוּלָּה וְתַכְרִיף בּוֹץ וְאַרְגָּמָן וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשׁוֹן צָהֳלָה וְשִׁמְחָה: ט"ז לַיְהוּדִים הִיָּתָה אוֹרָה וְשִׁמְחָה וְשָׁשׁוֹן וַיִּקָּר: י"ז וּבְכָל־מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וּבְכָל־עִיר וְעִיר מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנָתַן מִגִּיעַ שִׁמְחָה וְשָׁשׁוֹן לַיְהוּדִים מִשְׁתָּה וְיוֹם טוֹב וְרַבִּים מֵעַמִּי הָאָרֶץ מִתְּנִיחִים כִּי־נִפְל פַּסְד־הַיְהוּדִים עֲלֵיהֶם:

פרק ט' - Chapter 9

1 And in the twelfth month-which is the month of Adar-on the thirteenth day thereof, when the king's order and his edict drew near to be put into execution, on the day that the Jews' enemies looked forward to ruling over them, it was reversed, the Jews should rule over their enemies. **2** The Jews

א וּבְשָׁנִים עָשָׂר חֲדָשׁ הוּא־תְּחִלַּת אָדָר בְּשָׁלוּשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ אֲשֶׁר הִגִּיעַ דְּבַר־הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנָתַן לְהַעֲשׂוֹת בְּיוֹם אֲשֶׁר שָׁבְרוּ אֲבֵי הַיְהוּדִים לְשָׁלוֹט בָּהֶם וְנִהְפְּוּ הוּא אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלֹטוּ הַיְהוּדִים הֵמָּה בְּשִׁנְאֵיהֶם: ב נִקְהִלוּ הַיְהוּדִים

assembled in their cities, in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, to lay hand on those who sought to harm them, and no one stood up before them, for their fear had fallen upon all the peoples. **3** And all the princes of the provinces and the satraps and the governors and those that conduct the king's affairs elevated the Jews, for the fear of Mordecai fell upon them. **4** For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went forth throughout all the provinces, for the man Mordecai waxed greater and greater. **5** And the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword and with slaying and destruction, and they did to their enemies as they wished. **6** And in Shushan the capital, the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred

men.

Parshandatha

Dalphon

Aspatha,

Poratha

Adalia

Aridatha,

Parmashta

Arisai

Aridai

Vaizatha:

7 And

and

and

8 and

and

and

9 and

and

and

and

10 The ten

sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the adversary of the Jews, they slew, but on the spoil they did not lay their hands. **11** On that day, the number of those slain in Shushan the capital came before the king. **12** And the king said to Queen Esther, "In Shushan the capital the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men, and the ten sons of Haman; in the rest of the king's provinces what have they done! Now what is your petition, and it shall be granted you, and what is your request, and it shall be done." **13** And Esther said, "If it please the king, let tomorrow too be granted to the Jews to do as today's decree, and let them hang Haman's ten sons on the gallows." **14** Now the king ordered that it be done so, and a decree was given in Shushan, and they hanged Haman's ten sons. **15** Now the Jews who were in Shushan assembled on the fourteenth day of Adar as well, and they slew in Shushan three hundred men, but upon the spoils they did not lay their hands. **16** And the rest of the Jews who were in the king's provinces assembled and protected themselves and had rest from their enemies and slew their foes, seventy-five thousand, but upon the spoil

בְּעָרֵיהֶם בְּכָל־מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֶרֶשׁ לְשַׁלַּח יָד
בְּמִבְקָשֵׁי רָעָתָם וְאִישׁ לֹא־עָמַד לִפְנֵיהֶם כִּי־נָפַל
פַּחַדָּם עַל־כָּל־הָעַמִּים: **ג** וְכָל־שָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינֹת
וְהָאֲחַשְׁוֶרְפָּנִים וְהַפָּחוֹת וְעוֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ
מִנְשָׂאִים אֶת־הַיְּהוּדִים כִּי־נָפַל פַּחַד־מֶרְדֵּכַי עֲלֵיהֶם:
ד כִּי־גָדוֹל מֶרְדֵּכַי בְּבֵית הַמֶּלֶךְ וְשִׁמְעוֹ הוֹלָךְ בְּכָל־
הַמְּדִינֹת כִּי־הָאִישׁ מֶרְדֵּכַי הוֹלָךְ וְגָדוֹל: **ה** וַיָּכּוּ
הַיְּהוּדִים בְּכָל־אֹיְבֵיהֶם מִכַּת־תֵּרֶב וְהָרָג וְאֲבָדוֹן
וַיַּעֲשׂוּ כְשֶׁנְּאֻיָּהֶם כְּרָצוֹנָם: **ו** וּבְשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה הָרְגוּ
הַיְּהוּדִים וְאֲבָד חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת

אִישׁ:

פָּרְשָׁנְדָּתָא

דַּלְפּוֹן

אֲסַפְתָּא:

פּוֹרְתָא

אֲדַלְיָא

אֲרִידָתָא:

פָּרְמַשְׁתָּא

אֲרִיסַי

אֲרִידַי

וַיִּזְתָּא:

ז וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

ח וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

ט וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

וְאֵת |

י עֶשְׂרֵת |

בְּנֵי הָמָן בְּן־הַמְּדַתָּא צָרַר הַיְּהוּדִים הָרְגוּ וּבִבְרָה לֹא
שָׁלְחוּ אֶת־יָדָם: **י"א** בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא בָּא מִסְפֵּר הַהִרּוּגִים
בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: **י"ב** וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
לְאַסְתֵּר הַמִּלְכָּה בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה הָרְגוּ הַיְּהוּדִים וְאֲבָד
חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וְאֵת עֶשְׂרֵת בְּנֵי־הָמָן בְּשָׂאֵר
מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ מָה עָשׂוּ וּמַה־שָּׂאֲלָתוֹ וַיִּנָּתֶן לָּהּ וּמַה־
בְּקָשָׁתָהּ עוֹד וְתַעֲשׂ: **י"ג** וַתֹּאמֶר אֲסְתֵּר אִם־עַל־
הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב יִנָּתֶן גַּם־מָחָר לַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוֹשַׁן
לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּדַת הַיּוֹם וְאֵת עֶשְׂרֵת בְּנֵי־הָמָן יִתְּלוּ עַל־
הָעֵץ: **י"ד** וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַעֲשׂוֹת כֹּן וְתִתְּנוּ דָת
בְּשׁוֹשַׁן וְאֵת עֶשְׂרֵת בְּנֵי־הָמָן תָּלוּ: **ט"ו** וַיִּקְהָלוּ
הַיְּהוּדִים (כְּתִיב הַיְּהוּדִים) אֲשֶׁר־בְּשׁוֹשַׁן גָּם בַּיּוֹם
אֲרֻבָּעָה עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ אֲזָר וַיַּהֲרֹגוּ בְּשׁוֹשַׁן שְׁלֹשׁ
מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וּבִבְרָה לֹא שָׁלְחוּ אֶת־יָדָם: **ט"ז** וּשְׂאֵר
הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּמְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְהָלוּ | וְעָמַד עַל־

they did not lay their hands **17** on the thirteenth of the month of Adar, and they rested on the fourteenth thereof, and made it a day of feasting and joy. **18** And the Jews who were in Shushan assembled on the thirteenth thereof and on the fourteenth thereof, and rested on the fifteenth thereof, and made it a day of feasting and joy. **19** Therefore, the Jewish villagers, who live in open towns, make the fourteenth day of the month of Adar [a day of] joy and feasting and a festive day, and of sending portions to one another. **20** And Mordecai inscribed these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, **21** to enjoin them to make the fourteenth day of the month of Adar and the fifteenth day thereof, every year, **22** as the days when the Jews rested from their enemies, and the month that was reversed for them from grief to joy and from mourning to a festive day-to make them days of feasting and joy, and sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor. **23** And the Jews took upon themselves what they had commenced to do and what Mordecai had written to them. **24** For Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the adversary of all the Jews, had devised to destroy the Jews, and he cast the pur-that is the lot-to terrify them and destroy them. **25** And when she came before the king, he commanded through letters that his evil device that he had devised against the Jews return upon his own head, and to destroy him and his sons on the gallows. **26** Therefore, they called these days Purim after the name pur; therefore, because of all the words of this letter, and what they saw concerning this matter, and what happened to them. **27** The Jews ordained and took upon themselves and upon their seed and upon all those who join them, that it is not to be revoked to make these two days according to their script and according to their appointed time, every year. **28** And these days shall be remembered and celebrated throughout every generation, in every family, every province, and every city, and these days of Purim shall not be revoked from amidst the Jews, and their memory shall not cease from their seed. **29** Now, Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew wrote down all [the acts of] power, to confirm the second Purim letter. **30** And he sent letters to all the Jews, to one hundred twenty-seven provinces, the realm of Ahasuerus, words of peace and truth, **31** to confirm these days of Purim in their appointed times, as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had

נפֿשֶׁם וְנוֹחַ מֵאֲבִי־הֵם וְהָרוּג בְּשָׁנָאִיהֶם חֲמִשָּׁה וְשִׁבְעִים
אֶלֶף וּבִבְיָהּ לֹא שָׁלְחוּ אֶת־יָדָם: י"ז בְּיוֹם־שְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר
לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר וְנוֹחַ בְּאַרְבַּעַה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וַעֲשֶׂה אֹתוֹ יוֹם
מִשְׁתָּה וּשְׂמִיחָה: י"ח וְהַיְּהוּדִים (כְּתִיב וְהַיְּהוּדִים)
אֲשֶׁר־בְּשׂוֹשָׁן נִקְהָלוּ בְּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וּבְאַרְבַּעַה עָשָׂר
בּוֹ וְנוֹחַ בְּחֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וַעֲשֶׂה אֹתוֹ יוֹם מִשְׁתָּה וּשְׂמִיחָה:
י"ט עַל־כֵּן הַיְּהוּדִים הַפְּרָזִים (הַפְּרוּזִים כְּתִיב) הַיֹּשְׁבִים
בְּעָרֵי הַפְּרָזוֹת עָשִׂים אֶת יוֹם אַרְבַּעַה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר
שְׂמִיחָה וּמִשְׁתָּה וְיוֹם טוֹב וּמִשְׁלָח מָנוֹחַ אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ: כ
וַיִּכְתֹּב מָרְדֳּכָי אֶת־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל־
כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ
הַקְּרוּבִים וְהָרְחוּקִים: כ"א לְקַיֵּם עֲלֵיהֶם לְהַנִּיחַ עֲשִׂים
אֶת יוֹם אַרְבַּעַה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר וְאֵת יוֹם־חֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר
בּוֹ בְּכָל־שָׁנָה וּשְׁמִיחָה: כ"ב כִּי־יָמִים אֲשֶׁר־נָחֲחוּ בָהֶם
הַיְּהוּדִים מֵאֲבִי־הֵם וְהַחֹדֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר נִהְפָּךְ לָהֶם מִיָּגוֹן
לְשִׂמְחָה וּמֵאֲכָל לַיּוֹם טוֹב לַעֲשׂוֹת אוֹתָם יָמֵי מִשְׁתָּה
וּשְׂמִיחָה וּמִשְׁלָח מָנוֹחַ אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ וּמִתְּנוּחַ לְאֲבִינָם:
כ"ג וּקְבַל הַיְּהוּדִים אֶת אֲשֶׁר־הִתְּלוּ לַעֲשׂוֹת וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר־
כָּתַב מָרְדֳּכָי אֲלֵיהֶם: כ"ד כִּי הָמָּן בֶּן־הַמֶּלֶךְ הָאֲגָגִי צָרָר
כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים חָשַׁב עַל־הַיְּהוּדִים לְאַבְדָּם וְהַפִּיל פּוֹר הוּא
הַגּוֹרֵל לְהָמָם וּלְאַבְדָּם: כ"ה וּבִבְאֵה לְפָנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ אָמַר
עַם־הַסֹּפֵר יָשׁוּב מִחֲשֻׁבְתּוֹ הִרְעָה אֲשֶׁר־חָשַׁב עַל־
הַיְּהוּדִים עַל־רֹאשׁוֹ וְתָלוּ אוֹתוֹ וְאֶת־בָּנָיו עַל־הָעֵץ: כ"ו
עַל־כֵּן קָרָאוּ לַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה פּוּרִים עַל־שֵׁם הַפּוֹר עַל־כֵּן
עַל־כֹּל־דְּבָרֵי הָאֲגָרָה הַזֹּאת וּמֵה־רָאוּ עַל־כֹּכָהּ וּמֵה־הִגִּיעַ
אֲלֵיהֶם: כ"ז קִיָּמוּ וּקְבַל הַיְּהוּדִים | עֲלֵיהֶם | וְעַל־זִרְעָם
וְעַל כָּל־הַנִּלְוִים עֲלֵיהֶם וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר לְהַנִּיחַ עֲשִׂים אֶת־
שְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה כְּכַתְּבָם וְכַזְמָנָם בְּכָל־שָׁנָה וּשְׁמִיחָה: כ"ח
וְהַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה נִזְכָּרִים וְנַעֲשִׂים בְּכָל־דּוֹר וְדוֹר מִשְׁפָּחָה
וּמִשְׁפָּחָה מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְעִיר וְעִיר וְיָמֵי הַפּוּרִים הָאֵלֶּה
לֹא יַעֲבֹרוּ מִתּוֹךְ הַיְּהוּדִים וְזַכָּרָם לֹא־יִסּוּף מִזִּרְעָם: כ"ט
וְתִכְתֹּב (ת רבתי) אֶסְתֵּר הַמֶּלֶכָּה בַת־אֲבִיתָיִל וּמָרְדֳּכָי
הַיְּהוּדִי אֶת־כָּל־תַּקְּלָהּ לְקַיֵּם אֶת אֲגָרַת הַפּוּרִים הַזֹּאת
הַשְּׁנִי: ל וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים אֶל־שִׁבְעַ
וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה מַלְכוּת אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ דְּבָרֵי שְׁלוֹם
וְאַמֶּת: ל"א לְקַיֵּם אֶת־יָמֵי הַפְּרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּזִמְנֵיהֶם
כְּאֲשֶׁר קִיָּם עֲלֵיהֶם מָרְדֳּכָי הַיְּהוּדִי וְאֶסְתֵּר הַמֶּלֶכָּה

enjoined them, and as they had ordained for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fasts and their cry. **32** Now Esther's order confirmed these matters of Purim, and it was inscribed in the book.

וּכְאֲשֶׁר קִיְּמוּ עַל-נַפְשָׁם וְעַל-זֶרְעָם דְּבַרֵּי הַצּוּמֹת
וְזַעֲקָתָם: ל' **ב** וּמֵאֲמַר אֶסְתֵּר קָיָם דְּבַרֵּי הַפָּרִים הָאֵלֶּה
וְנִכְתָּב בַּסֵּפֶר:

פרק י' - Chapter 10

1 And King Ahasuerus imposed a tribute on the land and on the isles of the sea. **2** And all the acts of his power and his might and the full account of Mordecai's greatness, how 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 viceroy to King Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews and accepted by most of his brethren; seeking the good of his people and speaking peace to all their seed.

א וַיִּשֶׂם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֶרֶשׁ (אחשורש כתיב) | מִסַּעַל-
הָאָרֶץ וְאֵי הַיָּם: **ב** וְכָל-מַעֲשֵׂה תְקִפּוֹ וְגִבּוֹרָתוֹ וּפְרָשֵׁת
גְּדֻלַּת מְרָדְכִי אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ הִלּוּאֵיהֶם כְּתוּבִים עַל-
סֵפֶר דְּבַרֵּי הַיָּמִים לְמַלְכִּי מְדִי וּפָרְס: **ג** כִּי | מְרָדְכִי
הַיְּהוּדִי מִשְׁנָה לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֶרֶשׁ וְגָדוֹל לַיְּהוּדִים וְרָצוּי
לְרֹב אֲחָיו דְּרֹשׁ טוֹב לַעֲמּוֹ וְדֹבֵר שָׁלוֹם לְכָל-זֶרְעוֹ: