

ESTHER

Esth 2:7 (RSV) He had brought up Hadas'sah, that is **Esther**, the daughter of his uncle, for she had neither father nor mother; the maiden was beautiful and lovely, and when her father and her mother died, Mor'decai adopted her as his own daughter.

8 So when the king's order and his edict were proclaimed, and when many maidens were gathered in Susa the capital in custody of Hegai, **Esther** also was taken into the king's palace and put in custody of Hegai who had charge of the women.

Esth 2:10 **Esther** had not made known her people or kindred, for Mor'decai had charged her not to make it known.

11 And every day Mor'decai walked in front of the court of the harem, to learn how **Esther** was and how she fared.

Esth 2:15 When the turn came for **Esther** the daughter of Ab'hail the uncle of Mor'decai, who had adopted her as his own daughter, to go in to the king, she asked for nothing except what Hegai the king's eunuch, who had charge of the women, advised. Now **Esther** found favor in the eyes of all who saw her.

16 And when **Esther** was taken to King Ahasu-e'rus into his royal palace in the tenth month, which is the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign,

17 the king loved **Esther** more than all the women, and she found grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins, so that he set the royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

Esth 2:20 Now **Esther** had not made known her kindred or her people, as Mor'decai had charged her; for **Esther** obeyed Mor'decai just as when she was brought up by him.

Esth 2:22 And this came to the knowledge of Mor'decai, and he told it to Queen **Esther**, and **Esther** told the king in the name of Mor'decai.

Esth 4:5 Then **Esther** called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mor'decai to learn what this was and why it was.

Esth 4:8 Mor'decai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to **Esther** and explain it to her and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people.

9 And Hathach went and told **Esther** what Mor'decai had said.

10 Then **Esther** spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mor'decai, saying,

Esth 4:12 And they told Mor'decai what **Esther** had said.

13 Then Mor'decai told them to return answer to **Esther**, "Think not that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews.

Esth 4:15 Then **Esther** told them to reply to Mor'decai,

Esth 4:17 Mor'decai then went away and did everything as **Esther** had ordered him.

5:1 On the third day **Esther** put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace;

2 and when the king saw Queen **Esther** standing in the court, she found favor in his sight and he held out to **Esther** the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then **Esther** approached and touched the top of the scepter.

3 And the king said to her, "What is it, Queen **Esther**? What is your request? It shall be given you, even to the half of my kingdom."

4 And **Esther** said, "If it please the king, let the king and Haman come this day to a dinner that I have prepared for the king."

5 Then said the king, "Bring Haman quickly, that we may do as **Esther** desires." So the king and Haman came to the dinner that **Esther** had prepared.

6 And as they were drinking wine, the king said to **Esther**, "What is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."

7 But **Esther** said, "My petition and my request is:

Esth 5:12 And Haman added, "Even Queen **Esther** let no one come with the king to the banquet she prepared but myself. And tomorrow also I am invited by her together with the king.

Esth 6:14 While they were yet talking with him, the king's eunuchs arrived and brought Haman in haste to the banquet that **Esther** had prepared.

7:1 So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen **Esther**.

2 And on the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to **Esther**, "What is your petition, Queen **Esther**? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."

3 Then Queen **Esther** answered, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request."

Esth 7:5 Then King Ahasu-e'rus said to Queen **Esther**, "Who is he, and where is he, that would presume to do this?"

6 And **Esther** said, "A foe and enemy! This wicked Haman!" Then Haman was in terror before the king and the queen.

7 And the king rose from the feast in wrath and went into the palace garden; but Haman stayed to beg his life from Queen **Esther**, for he saw that evil was determined against him by the king.

8 And the king returned from the palace garden to the place where they were drinking wine, as Haman was falling on the couch where **Esther** was; and the king said, "Will he even assault the queen in my presence, in my own house?" As the words left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face.

Esth 8:1 On that day King Ahasu-e'rus gave to Queen **Esther** the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mor'decai came before the king, for **Esther** had told what he was to her;

2 and the king took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mor'decai. And **Esther** set Mor'decai over the house of Haman.

3 Then **Esther** spoke again to the king; she fell at his feet and besought him with tears to avert the evil design of Haman the Ag'agite and the plot which he had devised against the Jews.

4 And the king held out the golden scepter to **Esther**,

5 and **Esther** rose and stood before the king. And she said, "If it please the king, and if I have found favor in his sight, and if the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman the Ag'agite, the son of Hammeda'tha, which he wrote to destroy the Jews who are in all the provinces of the king."

Esth 8:7 Then King Ahasu-e'rus said to Queen **Esther** and to Mor'decai the Jew, "Behold, I have given **Esther** the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows, because he would lay hands on the Jews."

Esth 9:12 And the king said to Queen **Esther**, "In Susa the capital the Jews have slain five hundred men and also the ten sons of Haman. What then have they done in the rest of the king's provinces! Now what is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what further is your request? It shall be fulfilled."

13 And **Esther** said, "If it please the king, let the Jews who are in Susa be allowed tomorrow also to do according to this day's edict. And let the ten sons of Haman be hanged on the gallows."

Esth 9:25 but when **Esther** came before the king, he gave orders in writing that his wicked plot which he had devised against the Jews should come upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

Esth 9:29 Then Queen **Esther**, the daughter of Ab'hail, and Mor'decai the Jew gave full written authority, confirming this second letter about Purim.

Esth 9:31 that these days of Purim should be observed at their appointed seasons, as Mor'decai the Jew and Queen **Esther** enjoined upon the Jews, and as they had laid down for themselves and for their descendants, with regard to their fasts and their lamenting.

32 The command of Queen **Esther** fixed these practices of Purim, and it was recorded in writing.