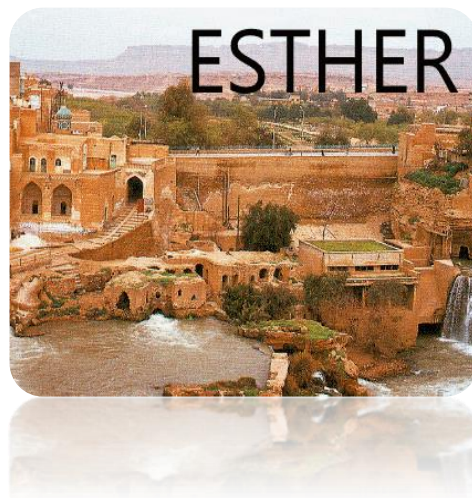


# ESTHER 2 vs 1

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The author of this book is unknown, but the content is definitely one of Jewish nationalism. The historical setting is: Persia of a 10 year period – 483-473bc during the reign of Xerxes (Greek) Ahasuerus ( Hebrew). The name of God is not mentioned in this book, while His Sovereignty is apparent in each chapter. It was Herodotus who wrote Xerxes sought consolation in his harem after his defeat at Salamis, which is when Esther became queen.



Esther enters history's stage,

**<sup>1</sup> After these things, when the anger of king Ahasuerus was assuaged, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.**

**<sup>2</sup> Then the king's attendants who served him, said, Let beautify young virgins be sought for the king.**

**<sup>3</sup> And let the king appoint overseers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather all the beautiful young virgins to Susa the capital, to the harem, in the custody of Hegai the king's eunuch, in charge of the women; and let cosmetics be given them.**

**<sup>4</sup> Then let the young girl who pleases the king be queen in the place of Vashti. And the matter pleased the king; and he did accordingly.**

**<sup>5</sup> Now in Susa the capital there was a certain Jew, whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, a Benjamite;**

**<sup>6</sup> who had been taken from Jerusalem with the captivity which exiled with King Jeconiah of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had exiled.**

**<sup>7</sup> And he was bringing up Hadassah (that is Esther, the daughter of his uncle: for she had neither father or mother. Now the young lady was beautiful of form and face; and when her father and mother died, Mordecai took for his own daughter.**

**<sup>8</sup> So it happened, when the king's commandment and his decree was heard, and many young ladies were gathered to Susa the capital, into the custody of Hegai, that Esther was also taken to the king's palace, into the custody of Hegai, who was in charge of the women.**

**<sup>9</sup> And the young lady pleased him, and found favor with him; so he quickly provided her cosmetics and food, and gave her seven choice young ladies, who were right for her, from the king's palace: and transferred her and her maids to the best place in the harem.**

**<sup>10</sup> Esther did not reveal her people or her kindred: for Mordecai had instructed her that she should not make it known.**

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**<sup>11</sup> And every day, Mordecai walked before the courtyard of the harem, to learn how Esther was, and how she fared.**

**<sup>12</sup> Now when the turn of each young lady came to go in to King Ahasuerus, after she had been twelve months, under the regulations for the women -- for the days of their beautifying were complete after, six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with spices, and with other cosmetics for women:**

**<sup>13</sup> then the young lady would go in to the king in this way; anything she desired was given her to take with her from the harem to the king's palace.**

**<sup>14</sup> In the evening she would go in, and in the morning she would return to a second harem, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch, in charge of the concubines. She would not again go in to the king, unless the king delighted in her, and she was summoned by name.**

**<sup>15</sup> Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, came to go in to the king, she did not request anything except what Hegai the king's eunuch who was in charge of the women, advised. And Esther found favor in the eyes of all them who saw her.**

**<sup>16</sup> So Esther was taken to King Ahasuerus to his royal palace in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.**

**<sup>17</sup> And the king loved Esther more than all the women, and she found favor and kindness with him more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown on her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.**

**<sup>18</sup> Then the king gave a great banquet, Esther's banquet for all his princes and his servants; he also made a holiday for the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the king's bounty.**

**<sup>19</sup> And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, then Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate.**

**<sup>20</sup> Esther had not yet made known her kindred or her people; as Mordecai had instructed her: for Esther did what Mordecai told her, as she had done under his care.**

The devotion of Mordecai,

**<sup>21</sup> In those days, while Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's officers who guarded the door, became angry, and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.**

**<sup>22</sup> And the plot became known to Mordecai, who told it to Queen Esther; and Esther informed the king in Mordecai's name.**

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<sup>23</sup> And when the plot was investigated and found to be so; they were both hanged on the gallows: and it was written in the Book of Chronicles in the presence of the king.

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