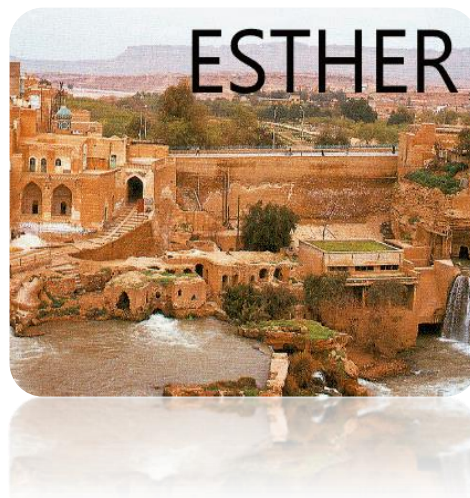


ESTHER 8 vs 1

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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.



The decree of Ahasuerus and Mordicai

¹ On that day King Ahasuerus gave the house of Haman the enemy of the Jews to Queen Esther. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had disclosed who he was to her.

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

³ Then Esther spoke again to the king, fell at his feet, and wept, seeking him avert the evil scheme of Haman the Agagite, and his plot which he devised against the Jews.

⁴ Then the king extended the golden scepter to Esther. So Esther arose, and stood before the king,

⁵ then she said, If it pleases the king, and if I have favor in your sight, and the thing seems right to the king, and I am pleasing in your eyes, let it be written to revoke the letters devised by 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 endure to see all the calamity that will come to my people? and how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?

⁷ Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, Behold, I have given the house of Haman to Esther, and him they hanged on the gallows, because he stretched out his hand against the Jews.

⁸ Now, you write to the Jews, as it seems fit, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring: for a decree written in the name of the king, and sealed with the signet ring of the king, may not be revoked.

⁹ So the king's scribes were called at the time of the third month – that is, the month Sivan, on the twenty-three day of it; and it was written according to all that Mordecai instructed to the Jews, the satraps, the governors and the rulers of the provinces, which extend from India to Ethiopia, 127 provinces, to every province according to its script,

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and to every people according to their language, as well as to the Jews according to their script, and according to their language.

¹⁰ And he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus, and sealed it with the king's signet ring, and sent letters by couriers on horses, riders on mules, and camels old and young:

¹¹ In them, the king granted the Jews who were in each and every city to assemble, and to defend their life, to destroy, to kill and annihilate all the army of the people and province which might attack them, including little ones and women, and to plunder their spoil,

¹² on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month -- which is the month Adar.

¹³ A copy of the edict to be issued as law in each and every province was published to all peoples, so that the Jews were ready for this day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

¹⁴ So the couriers, hurried and pressed by the king's instruction, went out, riding on mules and camels; and the decree was given out in Susa the capital.

¹⁵ Then Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal robes of blue and white, and with a large crown of gold, and a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Susa greatly rejoiced and was glad.

¹⁶ For the Jews there was light, and gladness, and joy, and honor.

¹⁷ And in each and every province, and in each and every city, wherever the king's instruction and his decree came, there was joy and gladness for the Jews, a feast and a holiday. And many among the peoples of the land became Jews; for the dread of the Jews had fallen on them.

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