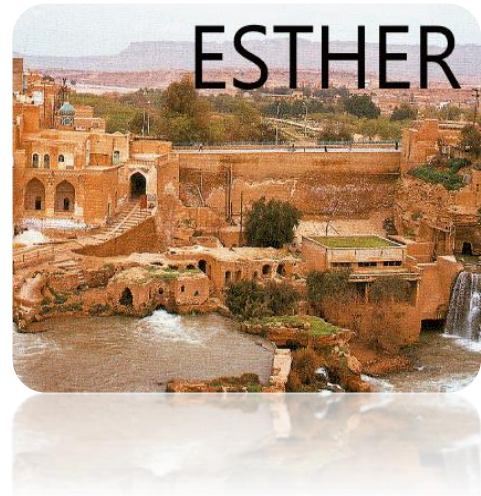


# ESTHER 9 vs 1

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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 origin of the feast of Purim

**<sup>1</sup> Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, on the thirteenth day, when the king's instruction and his decree drew near to be executed, on the day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to overpower them -- those who hated them.**

**<sup>2</sup> The Jews assembled in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, to lay hands on those who sought their harm: yet no one could withstand them; for the fear of them fell upon all peoples.**

**<sup>3</sup> And all the princes of the provinces, the satraps, the governors, and those doing the business of the king, helped the Jews; because the dread of Mordecai had fallen on them.**

**<sup>4</sup> Indeed, Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame spread throughout all the provinces: for Mordecai became greater and greater.**

**<sup>5</sup> Thus the Jews struck all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying, and they did as they chose to those who hated them.**

**<sup>6</sup> And in Susa the capital the Jews killed and destroyed five hundred men;**

**<sup>7</sup> and Parshandatha, Dalphon, Aspatha,**

**<sup>8</sup> Poratha, Adalia, and Aridai,**

**<sup>9</sup> Parmashta, Arisai, and Aridai, and Vajzatha,**

**<sup>10</sup> the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews, they struck; but did not lay their hands on the plunder.**

**<sup>11</sup> On that day, the number of those killed in Susa the capital was reported to the king.**

**<sup>12</sup> And the king said Queen Esther, The Jews have killed and destroyed five hundred men,**

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and the ten sons of Haman in Susa the capital. What have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? Now what is your petition? It will be granted you. What is your further request? It will be done.

<sup>13</sup> Then said Esther, If it pleases the king, tomorrow, let it be granted to the Jews who are in Susa to do according to the decree this day, and let the ten dead sons of Haman be hanged upon the gallows.

<sup>14</sup> And the king instructed it so to be done: and a decree was given at Susa; and they hanged Haman's ten sons.

<sup>15</sup> And the Jews who were in Susa assembled on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and killed three hundred men in Susa; but they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

<sup>16</sup> Now the other Jews who were in the king's provinces assembled, to defend their lives, and rid themselves of their enemies, and killed 75,000 of those who hated them, but they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

<sup>17</sup> This was done on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the month Adar; and on the 14<sup>th</sup> day, they rested, and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

<sup>18</sup> But the Jews who were at Susa assembled together on the 13<sup>th</sup> and the 14<sup>th</sup> of it; and they rested on the 15<sup>th</sup> day, and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore the Jews who live in the rural villages, who dwelt in the unwallled towns, make the fourteenth day of the month Adar, a holiday for rejoicing and feasting and sending portions to one another.

<sup>20</sup> Then Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far,

<sup>21</sup> establishing among them to celebrate the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month Adar, and the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the same month, annually,

<sup>22</sup> because on those days, the Jews rid themselves of their enemies, and it was the month that was turned for them from sorrow into gladness, and from mourning into a holiday:

that they should make them days of feasting and rejoicing, and sending portions of food to one another, and gifts to the poor.

<sup>23</sup> Thus the Jews undertook to do as they started to do; and what Mordecai also had written to them.

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<sup>24</sup> For Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to disturb them, and to destroy them.

<sup>25</sup> But when it came to the king's attention, he instructed by letter that this wicked scheme which Haman devised against the Jews, should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

<sup>26</sup> Therefore they called these days Purim, after the name of Pur; and because of the instructions in the letter, describing both what they had seen concerning this event, and what happened to them,

<sup>27</sup> the Jews established and made a custom for themselves and for their descendants, and for all those who allied themselves with them, so that they should not fail to celebrate these two days according to their regulation, and according to their appointed time annually.

<sup>28</sup> So these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and these days of Purim were not to fail from among the Jews, or their memory fade from their descendants.

<sup>29</sup> Then Queen Esther, the daughter of Abihail, with Mordecai the Jew, wrote with full authority, to confirm this second letter of Purim.

<sup>30</sup> And he sent letters to all the Jews, to the 127 provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,

<sup>31</sup> to establish these days of Purim in their appointed times, as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther had established for them, and just as they had established for themselves and for their descendants, with instruction for their times of fasting and their lamentations.

<sup>32</sup> And the command of Esther established these matters for Purim; and it was written in the book.

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