



בזגליכלת אסדתר

# The Scroll of Esther



With English Translations



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1. וַיְהִי, בִּימֵי אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ: הוּא אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ, הַמֶּלֶךְ מֵהִדּוּ וְעַד-כּוּשׁ--שְׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה, מְדִינָה

1. NOW IT came to pass in the days of Ahasuerus--this is Ahasuerus who reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia, over a hundred and seven and twenty provinces--

2. בִּימֵים, הֵהֱם--בְּשֶׁבֶת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ, עַל כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ, אֲשֶׁר, בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה

2. that in those days, when the king Ahasuerus sat on the throne of his kingdom, which was in Shushan the castle,

3. בְּשָׁנַת שְׁלוֹשׁ, לְמַלְכוֹ, עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֶּה, לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו: חֵיל פָּרֶס וּמְדִי, הַפְּרָתִּים וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת--לִפְנָיו

3. in the third year of his reign, he made a feast unto all his princes and his servants; the army of Persia and Media, the nobles and princes of the provinces, being before him;

4. בְּהִרְאֹתוֹ, אֶת-עֶשֶׂר כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ, וְאֶת-יָקָר, תְּפָאֶרֶת גְּדוּלָּתוֹ; יָמִים רַבִּים, שְׁמוֹנִים וּמֵאָה יוֹם

4. when he showed the riches of his glorious kingdom and the honour of his excellent majesty, many days, even a hundred and fourscore days.

5. וּבְמִלֹּאֵת הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה, עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ לְכָל-הָעָם הַנִּמְצְאִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה לְמַגְדוֹל וְעַד-קֶטֶן מִשְׁתֶּה--שִׁבְעַת יָמִים: בַּחֲצַר, גִּנַּת בֵּיתֵן הַמֶּלֶךְ

5. And when these days were fulfilled, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the castle, both great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace;

6. חוּר כְּרֶפֶס וּתְכֵלֶת, אֲחוּז בַּחֲבָלִי-בוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן, עַל-גְּלִילֵי כֶסֶף, וְעַמּוּדֵי שֵׁשׁ; מִטּוֹת זָהָב וְכֶסֶף, עַל רִצְפֹת בֶּהָט-וְשֵׁשׁ--וְדָר וְסֻחָרֶת

6. there were hangings of white, fine cotton, and blue, bordered with cords of fine linen and purple, upon silver rods and pillars of marble; the couches were of gold and

silver, upon a pavement of green, and white, and shell, and onyx marble.

7. וְהִשְׁקוּת בְּכֵלֵי זָהָב, וּבְכֵלִים מִבָּלִים שׁוֹנִים; וַיֵּין מַלְכוּת רַב, בְּיַד הַמֶּלֶךְ

7. And they gave them drink in vessels of gold--the vessels being diverse one from another--and royal wine in abundance, according to the bounty of the king.

8. וְהִשְׁתִּיָּה בְּדֶת, אֵין אִנֶּס: כִּי-בֶן יֶסֶד הַמֶּלֶךְ, עַל כָּל-רַב בֵּיתוֹ--לַעֲשׂוֹת, בְּרִצּוֹן אִישׁ-וְאִישׁ. {ס}

8. And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel; for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.

9. גַּם וְשִׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה, עָשְׂתָה מִשְׁתֵּה נָשִׁים--בֵּית, הַמַּלְכוּת, אֲשֶׁר, לַמֶּלֶךְ  
אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ

9. Also Vashti the queen made a feast for the women in the royal house which belonged to king Ahasuerus.

10. בַּיּוֹם, הַשְּׁבִיעִי, כְּטוֹב לֵב-הַמֶּלֶךְ, בַּיּוֹם--אָמַר לְמְהוּמָן בִּזְתָּה חֲרִבּוֹנָא  
בִּגְתָּה וְאַבְגָּתָה, זֶתָר וְכַרְכָּס, שְׁבַעַת הַסָּרִיסִים, הַמְשָׁרְתִּים אֶת-פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ  
אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ

10. On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Bizzetha, Harbona, Bigtha, and Abagtha, Zethar, and Carcas, the seven chamberlains that ministered in the presence of Ahasuerus the king,

11. לְהָבִיא אֶת-וְשִׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ--בְּכֶתֶר מַלְכוּת: לְהִרְאוֹת הָעַמִּים  
וְהַשָּׂרִים אֶת-יָפֶיהָ, כִּי-טוֹבַת מְרָאָה הִיא

11. to bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to show the peoples and the princes her beauty; for she was fair to look on.

12. וַתִּמָּאֵן הַמַּלְכָּה וְשִׁתִּי, לָבוֹא בְּדַבֵּר הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר, בְּיַד הַסָּרִיסִים; וַיִּקְצֹף  
הַמֶּלֶךְ מְאֹד, וַחֲמָתוֹ בָּעָרָה בּוֹ. {ס}

12. But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by the chamberlains; therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

13. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לַחֲכָמִים יָדְעֵי הָעֵתִים: כִּי-בֵן, דְּבַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לִפְנֵי, כָּל-יָדְעֵי דֵת וְדִין

13. Then the king said to the wise men, who knew the times--for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment;

14. וְהַקָּרֵב אֵלָיו, בְּרִשְׁנָא שֶׁתָּר אֲדַמְתָּא תַרְשִׁישׁ, מֶרֶס מְרֻסְנָא, מְמוּכָן--  
שְׁבַעַת שָׂרֵי פָרֶס וּמְדִי, רָאִי פָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, הַיִּשְׁבִּים רֵאשֻׁנָה, בְּמַלְכוּת

14. and the next unto him was Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memucan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king's face, and sat the first in the kingdom:

15. בְּדֵת, מָה-לַעֲשׂוֹת, בְּמַלְכָּה, וְשִׁתִּי--עַל אֲשֶׁר לֹא-עָשְׂתָה, אֶת-מֶאֱמַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ, בִּיד, הַסְרִיסִים. {ס}

15. 'What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, forasmuch as she hath not done the bidding of the king Ahasuerus by the chamberlains?'

16. וַיֹּאמֶר מוּמְכָן (מְמוּכָן), לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַשָּׂרִים, לֹא עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְבַדּוֹ, עֲוֹתָה וְשִׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה: כִּי עַל-כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים, וְעַל-כָּל-הָעַמִּים, אֲשֶׁר, בְּכָל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ

16. And Memucan answered before the king and the princes: 'Vashti the queen hath not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the peoples, that are in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus.

17. כִּי-יֵצֵא דְבַר-הַמַּלְכָּה עַל-כָּל-הַנָּשִׁים, לְהַבְזוֹת בְּעֵלֶיהֶן בְּעִינֵיהֶן: בְּאֶמְרָם, הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ אָמַר לְהַבִּיא אֶת-וְשִׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה לִפְנֵי--  
וְלֹא-בָאָה

17. For this deed of the queen will come abroad unto all women, to make their husbands contemptible in their eyes,

when it will be said: The king Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not.

18. וְהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה תֵּאמְרָנָה שָׂרוֹת פָּרֶס-וּמֵדִי, אֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ אֶת-דְּבַר הַמֶּלֶכָה, לְכָל, שָׂרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וּבְדִי, בְּזִיוֹן וְקֶצֶף

18. And this day will the princesses of Persia and Media who have heard of the deed of the queen say the like unto all the king's princes. So will there arise enough contempt and wrath.

19. אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב, יֵצֵא דְבַר-מַלְכוּת מִלְּפָנָיו, וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּדַתִּי פָרֶס-וּמֵדִי, וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר: אֲשֶׁר לֹא-תָבוֹא וְשָׁתִי, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁירוּשׁ, וּמַלְכוּתָהּ יִתֵּן הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְרַעוּתָהּ הַטּוֹבָה מִמֶּנָּה

19. If it please the king, let there go forth a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, that Vashti come no more before king Ahasuerus, and that the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she.

20. וְנִשְׁמַע פְּתָגָם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲשֶׂה בְּכָל-מַלְכוּתוֹ, בִּי רַבָּה הִיא; וְכָל-הַנָּשִׁים, יִתְּנוּ יָקָר לְבַעֲלֵיהֶן--לְמַגְדוֹל, וְעַד-קָטָן

20. And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his kingdom, great though it be, all the wives will give to their husbands honour, both to great and small.'

21. וַיֵּיטֵב, הַדְּבָר, בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְהַשָּׂרִים; וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּדְבַר מְמוּכָן

21. And the word pleased the king and the princes; and the king did according to the word of Memucan;

22. וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים, אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ--אֶל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה בְּכַתְּבָהּ, וְאֶל-עַם וָעַם בְּלָשׁוֹנוֹ: לְהִזִּית כָּל-אִישׁ שָׂרָר בְּבֵיתוֹ, וּמִדְּבַר בְּלָשׁוֹן עַמּוֹ. (ס)

22. for he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should

bear rule in his own house, and speak according to the language of his people.

Chapter: 2

1. אַחֲרַי, הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, בְּשָׁךְ, חֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ--זָכַר אֶת-וַשְׁתִּי וְאֵת  
אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂתָהּ, וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-נִגְזַר עָלֶיהָ

1. After these things, when the wrath of king Ahasuerus was assuaged, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

2. וַיֹּאמְרוּ נְעָרֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִשְׁרָתָיו: יִבְקְשׁוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ נְעֹרוֹת בְּתוּלוֹת, טוֹבוֹת מִרְאָה  
2. Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him: 'Let there be sought for the king young virgins fair to look on;

3. וַיִּפְקֹד הַמֶּלֶךְ פְּקִידִים, בְּכָל-מְדִינוֹת מַלְכוּתוֹ, וַיִּקְבְּצוּ אֶת-כָּל-נְעָרָה-  
בְּתוּלָה טוֹבָה מִרְאָה אֶל-שׁוֹשֵׁן הַבִּירָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים, אֶל-יַד הֶגָּא סָרִיס  
הַמֶּלֶךְ שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים; וְנָתַן, תַּמְרָקִיָּהן

3. and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the castle, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Hegai the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women; and let their ointments be given them;

4. וְהַנְּעָרָה, אֲשֶׁר תִּיטֵב בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ--תִּמְלֹךְ, תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי; וַיִּיטֵב הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַיַּעַשׂ כֵּן. {ס}

4. and let the maiden that pleaseth the king be queen instead of Vashti.' And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.

5. אִישׁ יְהוּדִי, הָיָה בְּשׁוֹשֵׁן הַבִּירָה; וְשֵׁמוֹ מָרְדֳּכָי, בֶּן יָאִיר בֶּן-שֹׁמְעַי  
בֶּן-קִישׁ--אִישׁ יְמִינִי

5. There was a certain Jew in Shushan the castle, whose name was Mordecai the son of Jair the son of Shimei the son of Kish, a Benjamite,

6. אֲשֶׁר הִגְלָה, מִירוּשָׁלַיִם, עִם-הַגָּלָה אֲשֶׁר הִגְלָתָהּ, עִם יְכָנְיָה מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה--  
אֲשֶׁר הִגְלָה, נְבוּכַדְנֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל

6. who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captives that had been carried away with Jeconiah king of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away.

7. וַיְהִי אִמֶּן אֶת-הַדָּסָה, הִיא אֶסְתֵּר בַּת-דָּדוּ--כִּי אֵין לָהּ, אָב וְאִם; וְהַנְּעִרָה  
יָפֶת-תֹּאֵר, וְטוֹבַת מְרָאָה, וּבְמוֹת אָבִיהָ וְאִמָּהּ, לִקְחָהּ מֶרְדֵּכַי לֹא לְבַת

7. And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter; for she had neither father nor mother, and the maiden was of beautiful form and fair to look on; and when her father and mother were dead, Mordecai took her for his own daughter.

8. וַיְהִי, בְּהִשְׁמַע דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ, וּבְהַקְבִּץ נְעֻרוֹת רַבּוֹת אֶל-שׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה,  
אֶל-יַד הֶגַי; וַתִּלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-יַד הֶגַי שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים

8. So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was published, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the castle, to the custody of Hegai, that Esther was taken into the king's house, to the custody of Hegai, keeper of the women.

9. וַתִּיטֵב הַנְּעִרָה בְּעֵינָיו, וַתִּשָּׂא חֶסֶד לְפָנָיו, וַיְבַהֵל אֶת-תַּמְרוּקִיָּה וְאֶת-מְנוּחָה  
לְתֵת לָהּ, וְאֶת שִׁבְעַת הַנְּעֻרוֹת הָרְאיוֹת לָתֵת-לָהּ מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשְׁנֶה וְאֶת-  
נְעֻרוֹתֶיהָ לְטוֹב, בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים

9. And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her ointments, with her portions, and the seven maidens, who were meet to be given her out of the king's house; and he advanced her and her maidens to the best place in the house of the women.



10. לא-הגידה אסתר, את-עמה ואת-מולדתה: כי מרדכי צוה עליה, אשר לא-תגיד

10. Esther had not made known her people nor her kindred; for Mordecai had charged her that she should not tell it.

11. ובכל-יום ויום--מרדכי מתהלך, לפני חצר בית-הנשים: לדעת את-שלום אסתר, ומה-יעשה בה

11. And Mordecai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what would become of her.

12. ובהגיע תור נערה ונערה לבוא אל-המלך אחשוורוש, מקץ היות לה בדת הנשים שנים עשר חדש--כי בן ימלאו, ימי מרוקיהן: ששה חדשים, בשמן המר, וששה חדשים בבשמים, ובתמרוקי הנשים

12. Now when the turn of every maiden was come to go in to king Ahasuerus, after that it had been done to her according to the law for the women, twelve months--for so were the days of their anointing accomplished, to wit, six months with oil of myrrh, and six month with sweet odours, and with other ointments of the women--

13. ובזה, הנערה באה אל-המלך--את כל-אשר תאמר ינתן לה, לבוא עמה, מבית הנשים, עד-בית המלך

13. when then the maiden came unto the king, whatsoever she desired was given her to go with her out of the house of the women unto the king's house.

14. בערב היא באה, ובבקר היא שבה אל-בית הנשים שני, אל-יד שעשגז סרים המלך, שמר הפילגשים: לא-תבוא עוד אל-המלך, כי אם-חפץ בה המלך ונקראה בשם

14. In the evening she went, and on the morrow she returned into the second house of the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz, the king's chamberlain, who kept the concubines; she came in unto the king no more, except the king delighted in her, and she were called by name.



15. וּבִהְגִיעַ תֹּר-אֶסְתֵּר בֵּת-אֲבִיחַיִל דָּד מֶרְדֵּכַי אֲשֶׁר לָקַח-לוֹ לְבַת לְבוֹא  
אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֹא בִקְשָׁה דָּבָר--כִּי אִם אֶת-אֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר הֵגִי סָרִיס-הַמֶּלֶךְ, שֹׁמֵר  
הַנָּשִׁים; וְתֵהִי אֶסְתֵּר נִשְׂאֵת חֵן, בְּעֵינֵי כָל-רָאִיָּה

15. Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.

16. וַתֵּלֶקֶח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, אֶל-בֵּית מַלְכוּתוֹ, בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָעֲשִׂירִי,  
הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ טֵבֶת--בִּשְׁנַת-שֶׁבַע, לְמַלְכוּתוֹ

16. So Esther was taken unto king Ahasuerus into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

17. וַיֶּאֱהָב הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר מִכָּל-הַנָּשִׁים, וַתֵּשֶׂא-חֵן וְחֹסֶד לִפְנֵי מֶלֶךְ-  
הַבְּתוּלוֹת; וַיֵּשֶׂם כֶּתֶר-מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשָׁהּ, וַיְמַלִּיכָהּ תַּחַת וְשֵׁתִי

17. And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti.

18. וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁתֶּה גָדוֹל, לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו--אֶת, מִשְׁתֵּה אֶסְתֵּר; וַהֲנִיחָהּ  
לְמַדִּינֹת עֶשָׂה, וַיִּתֵּן מִשְׂאֵת בְּיַד הַמֶּלֶךְ

18. Then the king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants, even Esther's feast; and he made a release to the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the bounty of the king.

19. וּבִהְקַבֵּץ בְּתוּלוֹת, שְׁנִית; וּמֶרְדֵּכַי, יָשֵׁב בִּשְׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ

19. And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, and Mordecai sat in the king's gate--

20. אֵין אֶסְתֵּר, מַגִּדַּת מוֹלַדְתָּהּ וְאֶת-עַמָּהּ, בְּאֲשֶׁר צֻוְּהָ עָלֶיהָ, מֶרְדֵּכַי; וְאֶת-  
מֹאמֶר מֶרְדֵּכַי אֶסְתֵּר עֲשָׂה, בְּאֲשֶׁר הִיָּתָה בְּאִמְנָה אֹתוֹ. {ס}

20. Esther had not yet made known her kindred nor her people; as Mordecai had charged her; for Esther did the commandment of Mordecai, like as when she was brought up with him--

21. בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם, וּמָרְדֳּכַי יוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ; קִצָּף בִּגְתָן וְתֶרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי-סָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִשְׁמָרֵי הַסֵּף, וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ לְשַׁלַּח יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרֶשׁ

21. in those days, while Mordecai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those that kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahasuerus.

22. וַיִּוָּדַע הַדָּבָר לְמָרְדֳּכַי, וַיַּגֵּד לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה; וְתֹאמַר אֶסְתֵּר לַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּשֵׁם מָרְדֳּכַי

22. And the thing became known to Mordecai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther told the king thereof in Mordecai's name.

23. וַיִּבְקֶשׁ הַדָּבָר וַיִּמְצָא, וַיִּתְּלוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם עַל-עֵץ; וַיִּכְתֹּב, בְּסֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים-- לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ. {ס}

23. And when inquisition was made of the matter, and it was found to be so, they were both hanged on a tree; and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.

### Chapter: 3

1. אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, גָּדַל הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרֹשׁ אֶת-הָמָן בֶּן-הַמְּדָתָא הָאֲגָגִי-- וַיִּנְשְׂאֵהוּ; וַיִּשֶׂם, אֶת-בְּסָאוֹ, מֵעַל, כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים אֲשֶׁר אֵתוֹ

1. After these things did king Ahasuerus promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.

2. וְכָל-עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, כָּרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לְהָמָן--כִּי-בֶן, צֹוֶה-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ; וּמָרְדֳּכַי--לֹא יִכְרַע, וְלֹא יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה

2. And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed down, and prostrated themselves before Haman; for

the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him.

3. וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ--לְמֹרְדֵכָי: מָדוּעַ אַתָּה עוֹבֵר, אֶת מִצְוַת הַמֶּלֶךְ

3. Then the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, said unto Mordecai: 'Why transgressest thou the king's commandment?'

4. וַיְהִי, בֹאמְרָם (כְּאֹמְרָם) אֵלָיו יוֹם וָיוֹם, וְלֹא שָׁמַע, אֵלֵיהֶם; וַיִּגִּדוּ לְהֶמֶן, לְרֹאוֹת הַיַּעֲמָדוֹ דְּבָרֵי מֹרְדֵכָי--כִּי-הִגִּיד לָהֶם, אֲשֶׁר-הוּא יְהוּדִי

4. Now it came to pass, when they spoke daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether Mordecai's words would stand; for he had told them that he was a Jew.

5. וַיֵּרָא הֶמֶן--כִּי-אֵין מֹרְדֵכָי, כֹּרַע וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לוֹ; וַיִּמָּלֵא הֶמֶן, חֲמָה

5. And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him, then was Haman full of wrath.

6. וַיָּבֹז בְּעֵינָיו, לְשַׁלַּח יָד בְּמֹרְדֵכָי לְבַדּוֹ--כִּי-הִגִּידוּ לוֹ, אֶת-עַם מֹרְדֵכָי; וַיִּבְקֶשׁ הֶמֶן, לְהַשְׁמִיד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְלָכוֹת אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--עַם מֹרְדֵכָי

6. But it seemed contemptible in his eyes to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had made known to him the people of Mordecai; wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

7. בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן, הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ נִסָּן, בְּשָׁנַת שְׁתֵּים עָשָׂרָה, לְמָלְךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: הַפִּיל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוֹרֵל לִפְנֵי הֶמֶן, מִיּוֹם לְיוֹם וּמִחֹדֶשׁ לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם-עָשָׂר--הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ אָדָר. {ס}

7. In the first month, which is the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahasuerus, they cast pur, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

8. וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, לְמֶלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ--יִשְׁנֹו עַם-אֶחָד מִפְּזָר וּמִפֶּזֶר בֵּין הָעַמִּים, בְּכָל מְדִינוֹת מַלְכוּתְךָ; וְדִתֵּיהֶם שְׁנוֹת מִכָּל-עָם, וְאֶת-דִּתֵּי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵינָם עֹשִׂים, וְלַמֶּלֶךְ אֵין-שׁוּה, לְהִנִּיחֵם

8. And Haman said unto king Ahasuerus: 'There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; and their laws are diverse from those of every people; neither keep they the king's laws; therefore it profiteth not the king to suffer them.

9. אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב, יִכְתֹּב לְאַבְדֵם; וְעֲשֶׂרֶת אֲלָפִים כֶּסֶף-כָּסֶף, אֲשַׁקּוּל עַל-יְדֵי עֹשֵׂי הַמִּלָּאכָה, לְהַבִּיא, אֶל-גִּנְזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

9. If it please the king, let it be written that they be destroyed; and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those that have the charge of the king's business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.'

10. וַיִּסֶּר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-טַבַּעְתּוֹ, מֵעַל יָדוֹ; וַיִּתְּנָהּ, לְהָמָן בֶּן-הַמֶּדְתָּא הָאֲגָגִי--צֹרֵר הַיְּהוּדִים

10. And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews' enemy.

11. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהָמָן, הַכֶּסֶף נָתוּן לָךְ; וְהָעָם, לַעֲשׂוֹת בּוֹ כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ

11. And the king said unto Haman: 'The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seemeth good to thee.'

12. וַיִּקְרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן, בַּשְּׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ, וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּכָל-אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה הָמָן אֶל אַחֲשֵׁדֶרְפָּנִי-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶל-הַפָּחוֹת אֲשֶׁר עַל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְאֶל-שָׂרֵי עָם וְעָם, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה בְּכַתְּבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם בְּלִשׁוֹנוֹ: בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ נִכְתָּב, וְנִחָתָם בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ

12. Then were the king's scribes called in the first month, on the thirteenth day thereof, and there was written, according to all that Haman commanded, unto the king's satraps, and to the governors that were over every

province, and to the princes of every people; to every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and it was sealed with the king's ring.

13. וְנִשְׁלְחוּ סְפָרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים, אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ--לְהַשְׁמִיד לַהֲרֹג  
וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים מִנְּעֹר וְעַד-זָקֵן טַף וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד, בְּשָׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר  
לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנִים-עָשָׂר הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ אָדָר; וּשְׁלָלָם, לְבוֹז

13. And letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

14. פֶּתֶשְׁגֵּן הִכְתֵּב, לְהַנְתֵּן דָּת בְּכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, גָּלוּי, לְכָל-הָעַמִּים--  
לְהִיּוֹת עֲתֻדִּים, לְיוֹם הַזֶּה

14. The copy of the writing, to be given out for a decree in every province, was to be published unto all peoples, that they should be ready against that day.

15. הָרָצִים יֵצְאוּ דְחוּפִים, בְּדִבְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְהָדָת נִתְּנָה, בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ  
וְהָמֵן יֵשְׁבוּ לְשִׁתּוֹת, וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשֶׁן נְבוֹכָה. {ס}

15. The posts went forth in haste by the king's commandment, and the decree was given out in Shushan the castle; and the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city of Shushan was perplexed.

#### Chapter: 4

1. וּמֶרְדֵּכַי, יָדַע אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשָׂה, וַיִּקְרַע מְרֹדֶכַי אֶת-בְּגָדָיו, וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שָׂק  
וַאֲפֹר; וַיֵּצֵא בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר, וַיִּזְעַק זַעֲקָה גְדוֹלָה וּמָרָה

1. Now when Mordecai knew all that was done, Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry;

2. וַיָּבֹא, עַד לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי אֵין לָבוֹא אֶל-שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּלָבוֹשׁ שָׂק
2. and he came even before the king's gate; for none might enter within the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.
3. וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ--אֶבֶל גָּדוֹל לַיהוּדִים, וְצוֹם וּבְכִי וּמִסְפָּד; שָׂק וְאֶפֶר, יַצַּע לָרַבִּים
3. And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.
4. וַתְּבוֹאִינָה (וַתְּבוֹאֲנָה) נָעֲרוֹת אֶסְתֵּר וְסָרִיסֶיהָ, וַיִּגִּדּוּ לָהּ, וַתַּתְּחַלְחַל הַמֶּלֶכָּה, מְאֹד; וַתִּשְׁלַח בְּגָדִים לְהַלְבִּישׁ אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי, וּלְהַסִּיר שָׂקוֹ מֵעָלָיו--וְלֹא קָבַל
4. And Esther's maidens and her chamberlains came and told it her; and the queen was exceedingly pained; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordecai; and to take his sackcloth from off him; but he accepted it not.
5. וַתִּקְרָא אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתֵּךְ מִסָּרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר הָעֵמִיד לִפְנֶיהָ, וַתִּצְוֶהוּ, עַל-מָרְדֳּכָי--לָדַעַת מַה-זֶּה, וְעַל-מַה-זֶּה
5. Then called Esther for Hathach, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and charged him to go to Mordecai, to know what this was, and why it was.
6. וַיֵּצֵא הַתֵּךְ, אֶל-מָרְדֳּכָי--אֶל-רְחוֹב הָעִיר, אֲשֶׁר לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ
6. So Hathach went forth to Mordecai unto the broad place of the city, which was before the king's gate.
7. וַיִּגַּד-לוֹ מָרְדֳּכָי, אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ; וְאֵת פְּרִשְׁת הַכֶּסֶף, אֲשֶׁר אָמַר הָמָן לְשָׂקוֹל עַל-גִּנְזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בִּיהוּדִיִּים (בִּיהוּדִים)--לְאַבְדֵם
7. And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and the exact sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.

8. וְאֵת-פֶּתֶשֶׁגֶן כְּתָב-הַדֵּת אֲשֶׁר-נָתַן בְּשׁוּשַׁן לְהַשְׁמִידם, נָתַן לוֹ--לְהֵרָאוֹת אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר, וּלְהַגִּיד לָהּ; וּלְצִוּוֹת עָלֶיהָ, לָבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהִתְחַנֵּן-לוֹ וּלְבַקֵּשׁ מִלְּפָנָיו--עַל-עַמָּהּ

8. Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given out in Shushan to destroy them, to show it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her; and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him, for her people.

9. וַיָּבֹא, הַתֵּךְ; וַיַּגֵּד לְאֶסְתֵּר, אֵת דְּבָרֵי מָרְדֳּכָי

9. And Hathach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai.

10. וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתֵּךְ, וַתְּצַוֶּהוּ אֶל-מָרְדֳּכָי

10. Then Esther spoke unto Hathach, and gave him a message unto Mordecai:

11. כָּל-עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְעַם-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ יָדְעִים, אֲשֶׁר כָּל-אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר יָבוֹא-אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַחֲצֵר הַפְּנִימִית אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִקְרָא אַחַת דָּתוֹ לְהִמָּיֵת, לְבֵד מֵאֲשֶׁר יוֹשִׁיט-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-שֶׁרְבִיט הַזֶּהָב, וַחֲיָהּ; וְאֲנִי, לֹא נִקְרָאתִי לָבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ--זֶה, שְׁלוֹשִׁים יוֹם

11. 'All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law for him, that he be put to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live; but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.'

12. וַיִּגִּדּוּ לְמָרְדֳּכָי, אֵת דְּבָרֵי אֶסְתֵּר

12. And they told to Mordecai Esther's words.

13. וַיֹּאמֶר מָרְדֳּכָי, לְהָשִׁיב אֶל-אֶסְתֵּר: אֶל-תִּדְמִי בְנִפְשֶׁךְ, לְהַמְלִיט בַּיִת--הַמֶּלֶךְ מִכָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים



13. Then Mordecai bade them to return answer unto Esther: 'Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews.

14. כִּי אִם-הַחֲרָשׁ תַּחְרִישִׁי, בָּעֵת הַזֹּאת--רוּחַ וְהִצָּלָה יַעֲמֹד לַיהוּדִים מִמָּקוֹם אַחֵר, וְאֶת וּבֵית-אָבִיךָ תֵּאבְדוּ; וּמִי יוֹדֵעַ--אִם-לָעֵת כְּזֹאת, הִגְעַתְּ לַמְּלָכוֹת

14. For if thou altogether holdest your peace at this time, then will relief and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place, but thou and your father's house will perish; and who knoweth whether thou art not come to royal estate for such a time as this?'

15. וְתֹאמַר אֶסְתֵּר, לְהָשִׁיב אֶל-מָרְדֳּכָי

15. Then Esther bade them return answer unto Mordecai:

16. לֵךְ כְּנוּס אֶת-כָּל-הַיהוּדִים הַנִּמְצָאִים בְּשׁוּשָׁן, וְצוּמוּ עָלַי וְאֶל-תֹּאכְלוּ וְאֶל-תִּשְׁתּוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים לֵילָה וַיּוֹם--גַּם-אֲנִי וְנַעֲרֹתַי, אֲצוּם כֵּן; וּבִכֵּן אָבּוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר לֹא-כֹדֶת, וּכְאֲשֶׁר אֲבֹדְתִי, אֲבֹדְתִי

16. 'Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day; I also and my maidens will fast in like manner; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.'

17. וַיַּעֲבֹר, מָרְדֳּכָי; וַיַּעַשׂ, כְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר-צִוְתָהּ עָלָיו אֶסְתֵּר

17. So Mordecai went his way, and did according to all that Esther had commanded him.

## Chapter: 5

1. וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, וְתִלְבַּשׁ אֶסְתֵּר מְלָכוֹת, וְתַעֲמֹד בַּחֲצַר בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּנִימִית, נֹכַח בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא מְלָכוֹתוֹ, בְּבֵית הַמְּלָכוֹת, נֹכַח, פֶּתַח הַבַּיִת

1. Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house; and the king sat

upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the entrance of the house.

2. וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, עֹמֶדֶת בַּחֲצַר--נִשְׂאָה חֵן, בְּעֵינָיו; וַיִּשָּׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר, אֶת-שֵׁרָבִיט הַזָּהָב אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ, וַתִּקְרַב אֶסְתֵּר, וַתִּגַּע בְּרֹאשׁ הַשֵּׁרָבִיט

2. And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight; and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre.

3. וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ, מַה-לָּךְ אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה; וּמַה-בִּקְשָׁתְךָ עַד-חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת, וַיִּנָּתֶן לָךְ

3. Then said the king unto her: 'What wilt thou, queen Esther? for whatever your request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be given thee.'

4. וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר, אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב--יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּן הַיּוֹם, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתָּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשִׂיתִי לוֹ

4. And Esther said: 'If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him.'

5. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ--מִהֲרוּ אֶת-הַמֶּן, לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-דְּבַר אֶסְתֵּר; וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתָּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר

5. Then the king said: 'Cause Haman to make haste, that it may be done as Esther hath said.' So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared.

6. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר בְּמִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן, מַה-שְּׂאֵלָתְךָ וַיִּנָּתֶן לָךְ; וּמַה-בִּקְשָׁתְךָ עַד-חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת, וַתַּעַשׂ

6. And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine: 'Whatever your petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever your request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be performed.'

7. וַתֵּעַן אֶסְתֵּר, וַתֹּאמֶר: שְׂאֵלָתִי, וּבִקְשָׁתִי

7. Then answered Esther, and said: 'My petition and my request is--

8. אִם-מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב, לָתֵת אֶת-שְׂאֵלָתִי, וְלַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-בִּקְשָׁתִי--יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֶעֱשֶׂה לָּהֶם, וּמָחָר אֶעֱשֶׂה, כְּדִבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ

8. if I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request--let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to-morrow as the king hath said.'

9. וַיֵּצֵא הָמָן בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, שִׂמְחָה וְטוֹב לֵב; וַכִּרְאוֹת הָמָן אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי בִּשְׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְלֹא-קָם וְלֹא-זָע מִמֶּנּוּ--וַיִּמְלֵא הָמָן עַל-מָרְדֳּכָי, חֲמָה

9. Then went Haman forth that day joyful and glad of heart; but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, Haman was filled with wrath against Mordecai.

10. וַיִּתְאַפֵּק הָמָן, וַיָּבוֹא אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ; וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיָּבִיא אֶת-אֶהָבִיּוֹ, וְאֶת-זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ

10. Nevertheless Haman refrained himself, and went home; and he sent and fetched his friends and Zeresh his wife.

11. וַיְסַפֵּר לָהֶם הָמָן אֶת-כְּבוֹד עֲשָׂרוֹ, וְרֹב בָּנָיו; וְאֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶת אֲשֶׁר נִשְׂאוֹ, עַל-הַשָּׂרִים וְעַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

11. And Haman recounted unto them the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and everything as to how the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king.

12. וַיֹּאמֶר, הָמָן--אֵף לֹא-הִבִּיֵּאָה אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה, כִּי אִם-אוֹתִי; וְגַם-לְמָחָר אֲנִי קָרוּא-לָהּ, עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ

12. Haman said moreover: 'Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to-morrow also am I invited by her together with the king.

13. וְכָל-זֶה, אֵינְנוּ שׂוֹה לִי: בְּכָל-עֵת, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי רֹאֶה אֶת-מֶרְדֵּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי--  
יוֹשֵׁב, בַּשַּׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ

13. Yet all this availeth me nothing, so long as I see  
Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.'

14. וַתֹּאמֶר לוֹ זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ וְכָל-אֶהְבָּיו, יַעֲשׂוּ-עֵץ גְּבוֹהַּ חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה, וּבִבְקָר  
אָמַר לַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּתְּלוּ אֶת-מֶרְדֵּכַי עָלָיו, וּבֹא-עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה שָׁמָּה;  
וַיִּיטֹב הַדָּבָר לִפְנֵי הָמֶן, וַיַּעַשׂ הָעֵץ. {ס}

14. Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him:  
'Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and in the  
morning speak thou unto the king that Mordecai may be  
hanged thereon; then go thou in merrily with the king unto  
the banquet.' And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused  
the gallows to be made.

#### Chapter: 6

1. בַּלַּיְלָהָ הַהוּא, נִדְּדָה שְׁנַת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר, לְהָבִיא אֶת-סֵפֶר הַזְּכָרֹנוֹת וְדָבָרֵי  
הַיָּמִים, וַיְהִיו נִקְרָאִים, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

1. On that night could not the king sleep; and he  
commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles,  
and they were read before the king.

2. וַיִּמָּצֵא כָּתוּב, אֲשֶׁר הִגִּיד מֶרְדֵּכַי עַל-בִּגְתָּנָא וְתֶרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי סָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ--  
מִשְׁמֵרֵי הַסֵּף: אֲשֶׁר בִּקְשׁוּ לְשַׁלַּח יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ

2. And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of  
Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, of  
those that kept the door, who had sought to lay hands on  
the king Ahasuerus.

3. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ--מָה-נַּעֲשָׂה יִקָּר וּגְדוּלָּהּ לְמֶרְדֵּכַי, עַל-זֶה; וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִשְׁרָתָיו, לֹא-נַעֲשָׂה עִמּוֹ, דָּבָר

3. And the king said: 'What honour and dignity hath been  
done to Mordecai for this?' Then said the king's servants  
that ministered unto him: 'There is nothing done for him.'

4. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִי בַחֲצַר; וְהָמֵן בָּא, לַחֲצַר בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַחִיצוֹנָה, לֵאמֹר  
לַמֶּלֶךְ, לְתִלּוֹת אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי עַל-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-הֵכִין לוֹ

4. And the king said: 'Who is in the court?' --Now Haman was come into the outer court of the king's house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.--

5. וַיֹּאמְרוּ נְעָרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֵלָיו--הִנֵּה הָמָן, עֹמֵד בַּחֲצַר; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, יָבֹא

5. And the king's servants said unto him: 'Behold, Haman standeth in the court.' And the king said: 'Let him come in.'

6. וַיָּבֹא, הָמָן, וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ, מַה-לַּעֲשׂוֹת בְּאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ;  
וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, בְּלִבּוֹ, לְמִי יַחֲפֹץ הַמֶּלֶךְ לַעֲשׂוֹת יָקָר, יוֹתֵר מִמֶּנִּי

6. So Haman came in. And the king said unto him: 'What shall be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour?' --Now Haman said in his heart: 'Whom would the king delight to honour besides myself?'

7. וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ: אִישׁ, אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ

7. And Haman said unto the king: 'For the man whom the king delighteth to honour,

8. יָבִיאוּ לְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת, אֲשֶׁר לְבֶשׁ-בּוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְסוּס, אֲשֶׁר רָכַב עָלָיו הַמֶּלֶךְ,  
וְאֲשֶׁר נָתַן כֶּתֶר מַלְכוּת, בְּרֹאשׁוֹ

8. let royal apparel be brought which the king useth to wear, and the horse that the king rideth upon, and on whose head a crown royal is set;

9. וְנָתַן הַלְבוּשׁ וְהַסּוּס, עַל-יָד-אִישׁ מִשְׁרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּרָתִמִּים, וְהַלְבִּישׁוּ אֶת-  
הָאִישׁ, אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ; וְהַרְכִּיבֵהוּ עַל-הַסּוּס, בְּרוֹחוֹב הָעִיר, וְקִרְאוּ  
לִפְנָיו, כִּכָּה יַעֲשֶׂה לָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ

9. and let the apparel and the horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man therewith whom the king delighteth to honour, and cause him to ride on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him: Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delighteth to honour.'

10. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהָמָן, מַהֲרָה קַח אֶת-הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת-הַסּוּס כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ, וַעֲשֵׂה-בֵּן לְמֹרְדֵּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי, הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמָּלָךְ: אֶל-תִּפֹּל דָּבָר, מִכָּל אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ

10. Then the king said to Haman: 'Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate; let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken.'

11. וַיִּקַּח הָמָן אֶת-הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת-הַסּוּס, וַיַּלְבֵּשׁ אֶת-מֹרְדֵּכַי; וַיַּרְכִּיבֵהוּ, בְּרוֹחוֹב הָעִיר, וַיִּקְרָא לִפְנָיו, בְּכָה יַעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ

11. Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and caused him to ride through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him: 'Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour.'

12. וַיָּשָׁב מֹרְדֵּכַי, אֶל-שַׁעַר הַמָּלָךְ; וְהָמָן נִדְחָף אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, אָבֵל וְחִפּוֹי רֹאשׁ

12. And Mordecai returned to the king's gate. But Haman hastened to his house, mourning and having his head covered.

13. וַיְסַפֵּר הָמָן לְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ, וּלְכָל-אֲהָבָיו, אֵת, כָּל-אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ; וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ חֲכָמָיו וְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ, אִם מִזֶּרַע הַיְּהוּדִים מֹרְדֵּכַי אֲשֶׁר הִחֲלוֹת לְנַפְל לִפְנָיו לֹא-תוּכַל לוֹ--כִּי-נָפֹל תִּפּוֹל, לִפְנָיו

13. And Haman recounted unto Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him: 'If Mordecai, before whom thou hast begun to fall, be of the seed of the Jews, thou shalt not prevail against him, but shalt surely fall before him.'

14. עוֹדִים מִדְּבָרִים עִמּוֹ, וְסָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הִגִּיעוּ; וַיְבַהֲלוּ לְהָבִיא אֶת-הָמָן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר

14. While they were yet talking with him, came the king's chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

1. וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן, לְשִׁתּוֹת עִם-אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה

1. So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

2. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר גַּם בַּיּוֹם הַשֵּׁנִי, בְּמִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן--מָה-שְּׂאֵלָתְךָ אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וְתִתְּנִי לָךְ; וּמָה-בְּקִשְׁתְּךָ עַד-חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת, וְתַעַשׂ

2. And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine: 'Whatever your petition, queen Esther, it shall be granted thee; and whatever your request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be performed.'

3. וְתַעַן אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וַתֹּאמֶר--אִם-מָצָאתִי חַן בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב: תִּתְּנִי-לִי נַפְשִׁי בְּשִׂאֵלָתִי, וְעַמִּי בְּבִקְשָׁתִי

3. Then Esther the queen answered and said: 'If I have found favour 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;

4. כִּי נִמְכְּרָנוּ אֲנִי וְעַמִּי, לְהַשְׁמִיד לְהָרוֹג וּלְאַבֵּד; וְאֵלּוּ לַעֲבָדִים וּלְשִׁפְחוֹת נִמְכְּרָנוּ, הִחַרְשֵׁתִי--כִּי אֵין הָצָר שׁוּה, בְּנִזֶּק הַמֶּלֶךְ. {ס}

4. for we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my peace, for the adversary is not worthy that the king be endamaged.'

5. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ, וַיֹּאמֶר לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה: מִי הוּא זֶה וְאִי-זֶה הוּא, אֲשֶׁר-מָלְאוּ לְבוֹ לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן

5. Then spoke the king Ahasuerus and said unto Esther the queen: 'Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so?'

6. וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר--אִישׁ צָר וְאוֹיֵב, הָמָן הָרֹעַ הַזֶּה; וְהָמָן נִבְעֵת, מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמַּלְכָּה



6. And Esther said: 'An adversary and an enemy, even this wicked Haman.' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

7. וְהַמֶּלֶךְ קָם בַּחֲמָתוֹ, מִמִּשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן, אֶל-גִּנֹּת, הַבַּיִת; וְהָמָן עָמַד, לְבַקֵּשׁ עַל-  
נַפְשׁוֹ מֵאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה--כִּי רָאָהּ, כִּי-כָלְתָה אֵלָיו הָרָעָה מֵאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ

7. And the king arose in his wrath from the banquet of wine and went into the palace garden; but Haman remained to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

8. וְהַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁב מִגִּנֹּת הַבַּיִת אֶל-בֵּית מִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן, וְהָמָן נָפַל עַל-הַמָּטָה אֲשֶׁר  
אָסְתֵּר עָלֶיהָ, וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, הֲגַם לְכַבּוֹשׁ אֶת-הַמַּלְכָּה עָמִי בַּבַּיִת; הַדָּבָר, יֵצֵא  
מִפִּי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וּפְנֵי הָמָן, חָפוּ

8. Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the couch whereon Esther was. Then said the king: 'Will he even force the queen before me in the house?' As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.

9. וַיֹּאמֶר חֲרִבּוֹנָה אֶחָד מִן-הַסֵּרִיסִים לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, גַּם הִנֵּה-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה  
הָמָן לְמִרְדֵּכָי אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר-טוֹב עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ עָמַד בְּבֵית הָמָן--גָּבִהּ, חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה;  
וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, תִּלְהוּ עָלָיו

9. Then said Harbonah, one of the chamberlains that were before the king: 'Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman hath made for Mordecai, who spoke good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman.' And the king said: 'Hang him thereon.'

10. וַיִּתְּלוּ, אֶת-הָמָן, עַל-הָעֵץ, אֲשֶׁר-הֵכִין לְמִרְדֵּכָי; וַחֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ, שָׁכְבָה. {ס}

10. So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath assuaged.

1. בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֻׁרוּשׁ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, אֶת-בֵּית הָמֶן, צִוָּר  
הַיְּהוּדִים (הַיְּהוּדִים); וּמָרְדֳּכַי, בָּא לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ--כִּי-הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר, מַה הוּא--לָהּ

1. On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

2. וַיֹּסֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-טַבַּעְתּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר הָעֵבִיר מִהֶמֶן, וַיִּתְּנָהּ, לְמָרְדֳּכַי; וַתֵּשֶׂם אֶסְתֵּר  
אֶת-מָרְדֳּכַי, עַל-בֵּית הָמֶן. {ס}

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

3. וַתּוֹסֶף אֶסְתֵּר, וַתְּדַבֵּר לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַתִּפֹּל, לִפְנֵי רַגְלָיו; וַתִּבְךְ וַתִּתְחַנֵּן--לוֹ,  
לְהַעֲבִיר אֶת-רַעַת הָמֶן הָאָגָגִי, וְאֶת מַחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים

3. And Esther spoke yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.

4. וַיּוֹשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר, אֶת שֵׁרְבֹט הַזָּהָב; וַתִּקֶּם אֶסְתֵּר, וַתַּעֲמֵד לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

4. Then the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre. So Esther arose, and stood before the king.

5. וַתֹּאמֶר אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב וְאִם-מִצָּאֵתִי חֵן לִפְנָיו, וְכִשֵּׁר הַדָּבָר לִפְנֵי  
הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְטוֹבָה אָנִי, בְּעֵינָיו--יִכְתֹּב לְהָשִׁיב אֶת-הַסְּפָרִים, מִחֲשַׁבַּת הָמֶן בֶּן-  
הַמֶּדְתָּא הָאָגָגִי, אֲשֶׁר כָּתַב לְאַבֵּד אֶת-הַיְּהוּדִים, אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ

5. And she said: 'If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews that are in all the king's provinces;

6. כִּי אֵיכָכָה אוֹכֵל, וְרֹאִיתִי, בָּרָעָה, אֲשֶׁר-יִמָּצֵא אֶת-עַמִּי; וְאֵיכָכָה אוֹכֵל  
וְרֹאִיתִי, בְּאַבְדֵּן מוֹלַדְתִּי. {ס}

6. for how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?'

7. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֵׁוּרֶשׁ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וּלְמֹרְדֵכַי הַיְּהוּדִי: הֲנֵה בֵּית-הָמֶן נִתְּתִי לְאַסְתֵּר, וְאֹתוֹ תָּלוּ עַל-הָעֵץ--עַל אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַח יָדוֹ, בַּיְּהוּדִים (בַּיְּהוּדִים)

7. Then the king Ahasuerus said unto Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew: 'Behold, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and him they have hanged upon the gallows, because he laid his hand upon the Jews.

8. וְאַתֶּם כָּתְבוּ עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם, בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַחֲתֹמוּ, בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי-כָתַב אֲשֶׁר-נִכְתַּב בְּשֵׁם-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְנִחַתּוֹם בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ--אֵין לְהָשִׁיב

8. Write ye also concerning the Jews, as it liketh you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring; for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may no man reverse.'

9. וַיִּקְרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ בָּעֵת-הַהִיא בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁלִישִׁי הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ סִיוֵן, בְּשָׁלוֹשָׁה וְעֶשְׂרִים בּוֹ, וַיִּכְתֹּב כָּכָל-אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה מֹרְדֵכַי אֶל-הַיְּהוּדִים וְאֶל הָאֲחֻשְׁדָּרְפָּנִים--וְהַפָּחוֹת וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת אֲשֶׁר מֵהַדָּו וְעַד-כוֹשׁ שִׁבְעַת וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כְּכַתְּבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם כָּל־שָׁנוּ; וְאֶל-הַיְּהוּדִים--כְּכַתְּבָם, וְכָל־שָׁנוֹם

9. Then were the king's scribes called at that time, in the third month, which is the month Sivan, on the three and twentieth day thereof; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded concerning the Jews, even to the satraps, and the governors and princes of the provinces which are from India unto Ethiopia, a hundred twenty and seven provinces, unto every province according to the writing thereof, and unto every people after their language, and to the Jews according to their writing, and according to their language.

10. וַיִּכְתֹּב, בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֵׁוּרֶשׁ, וַיַּחֲתֵם, בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשְׁלַח סֹפְרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים בְּסוּסִים רַכְבִּי הָרָכָשׁ, הָאֲחֻשְׁתָּרְנִים--בְּנֵי, הָרַמְכִּים

10. And they wrote in the name of king Ahasuerus, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by posts on horseback, riding on swift steeds that were used in the king's service, bred of the stud;

11. אֲשֶׁר נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ לַיהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-עִיר-וָעִיר, לְהִקָּהָל וּלְעֹמֵד עַל-  
נַפְשָׁם--לְהַשְׁמִיד וּלְהָרֵג וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת-כָּל-חַיִּל עִם וּמְדִינָה הַצָּרִים אֹתָם, טָף  
וְנָשִׁים; וּשְׁלָלָם, לְבוֹז

11. that the king had granted the Jews that were in every city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, and to slay, and to cause to perish, all the forces of the people and province that would assault them, their little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey,

12. בְּיוֹם אֶחָד, בְּכָל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ--בְּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנִים-  
עָשָׂר, הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ אָדָר

12. upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahasuerus, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

13. פֶּתִישָׁן הַכֶּתֵב, לְהַנְתִּין דָּת בְּכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, גָּלוּי, לְכָל-הָעַמִּים;  
וְלַהֲיוֹת הַיהוּדִים (הַיְּהוּדִים) עֲתוּדִים (עֲתִידִים) לַיּוֹם הַזֶּה, לְהִנָּקֵם מֵאִיְבֵיהֶם

13. The copy of the writing, to be given out for a decree in every province, was to be published unto all the peoples, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies.

14. הָרָצִים רָכְבֵי הָרֶכֶשׁ, הָאֲחֻשְׁתָּרָנִים, יֵצְאוּ מִבְּהָלִים וּדְחוּפִים, בְּדָבָר הַמֶּלֶךְ;  
וְהָדָת נִתְּנָה, בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה. {ס}

14. So the posts that rode upon swift steeds that were used in the king's service went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment; and the decree was given out in Shushan the castle.

15. וּמֹרְדֵכַי יָצָא מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּלְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וְחוּר, וְעֵטָרַת  
זָהָב גְּדוֹלָה, וְתִכְרִיד בּוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן; וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשָׁן, צָהָלָה וְשִׂמְחָה

15. And Mordecai went forth from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a robe of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan shouted and was glad.

16. לַיהוּדִים, הִיְתָה אוֹרָה וְשִׂמְחָה, וְשָׁשׂוֹן, וִיקָר

16. The Jews had light and gladness, and joy and honour.

17. וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וּבְכָל-עִיר וָעִיר, מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ,  
שִׂמְחָה וְשָׁשׂוֹן לַיהוּדִים, מִשְׁתָּה וַיּוֹם טוֹב; וְרַבִּים מֵעַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ, מִתִּיּוֹדִים--כִּי-  
נָפַל פֶּתַח-הַיהוּדִים, עֲלֵיהֶם

17. And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had gladness and joy, a feast and a good day. And many from among the peoples of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews was fallen upon them.

## Chapter: 9

1. וּבִשְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ הוּא--חֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, בִּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר הִגִּיעַ דִּבְר-  
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ, לַהֲעֲשׂוֹת: בַּיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר שָׁבְרוּ אֹיְבֵי הַיהוּדִים לְשָׁלוֹט בָּהֶם, וַנִּהְפּוּךְ  
הוּא, אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלֹטוּ הַיהוּדִים הַמָּה בְּשִׁנְאֵיהֶם

1. Now in the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have rule over them; whereas it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them;

2. נִקְהָלוּ הַיהוּדִים בְּעָרֵיהֶם, בְּכָל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ, לְשַׁלַּח יָד,

בְּמִבְקָשֵׁי רָעָתָם; וְאִישׁ לֹא-עָמַד לִפְנֵיהֶם, כִּי-נָפַל פֶּתַח עַל-כָּל-הָעַמִּים

2. the Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, to lay

hand on such as sought their hurt; and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them was fallen upon all the peoples.

3. וְכָל-שָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת וְהָאֲחֻשְׁדֵּרפָּנִים וְהַפָּחוֹת, וְעָשִׂי הַמְּלָאכָה אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ--  
מִנְשָׂאִים, אֶת-הַיְּהוּדִים: בִּי-נָפַל פֶּחַד-מֶרְדֵּכַי, עֲלֵיהֶם

3. And all the princes of the provinces, and the satraps, and the governors, and they that did the king's business, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordecai was fallen upon them.

4. בִּי-גָדוֹל מֶרְדֵּכַי בְּבֵית הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְשִׁמְעוֹ הוֹלֵךְ בְּכָל-הַמְּדִינוֹת: בִּי-הָאִישׁ  
מֶרְדֵּכַי, הוֹלֵךְ וְגָדוֹל

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. וַיַּכּוּ הַיְּהוּדִים בְּכָל-אֹיְבֵיהֶם, מַכַּת-חֶרֶב וְהָרָג וְאֶבֶדָן; וַיַּעֲשׂוּ בִשְׁנֵאֵיהֶם,  
בְּרָצוֹנָם

5. And the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and with slaughter and destruction, and did what they would unto them that hated them.

6. וּבְשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה, הָרָגוּ הַיְּהוּדִים וְאֶבֶד--חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת, {ר} אִישׁ. {ס}

6. And in Shushan the castle the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men.

7. וְאֵת {ר} פָּרְשַׁנְדָּתָא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} דַּלְפוֹן, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אֶסְפָּתָא. {ס}

7. And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha,

8. וְאֵת {ר} פּוֹרְתָא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַדְלָיָא, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרִידָתָא. {ס}

8. and Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha,

9. וְאֵת {ר} פַּרְמִשְׁתָּא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרִיסַי, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרִידַי {ס} וְאֵת {ר} וַיִּזְתָּא. {ס}

9. and Parmashta, and Arisai, and Aridai, and Vaizatha,

10. עֲשָׂרֶת {ר} בְּנֵי הָמָן בֶּן-הַמֶּדְתָּא, צִרַר הַיְּהוּדִים--הָרָגוּ; וּבְבִזָּה--לֹא  
שָׁלְחוּ, אֶת-יָדָם



10. the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy, slew they; but on the spoil they laid not their hand.

11. ביום ההוא, בא מספר ההרוגים בשושן הבירה--לפני המלך

11. On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the castle was brought before the king.

12. ויאמר המלך לאסתר המלכה, בשושן הבירה הרגו היהודים ואבד חמש מאות איש ואת עשרת בני-המן--בשאר מדינות המלך, מה עשו; ומה-שאלתך וינתן לך, ומה-בקשתך עוד ותעש

12. And the king said unto Esther the queen: 'The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the castle, and the ten sons of Haman; what then have they done in the rest of the king's provinces! Now whatever your petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever your request further, it shall be done.'

13. ותאמר אסתר, אם-על-המלך טוב--ינתן גם-מחר ליהודים אשר בשושן, לעשות כדת היום; ואת עשרת בני-המן, יתלו על-העץ

13. Then said Esther: 'If it please the king, let it be granted to the Jews that are in Shushan to do to-morrow also according unto this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.'

14. ויאמר המלך להעשות כן, ותנתן דת בשושן; ואת עשרת בני-המן, תלו

14. And the king commanded it so to be done; and a decree was given out in Shushan; and they hanged Haman's ten sons.

15. ויקהלו היהודיים (היהודים) אשר-בשושן, גם ביום ארבעה עשר לחדש אדר, ויהרגו בשושן, שלש מאות איש; ובבזה--לא שלחו, את-ידם

15. And the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men in Shushan; but on the spoil they laid not their hand.



16. וַשָּׂאֵר הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּמִדְיָנוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְהָלוּ וַעֲמַד עַל-נַפְשָׁם, וְנוֹחַ מֵאִיְבֵיהֶם, וְהָרוּג בְּשֹׁנְאֵיהֶם, חֲמִשָּׁה וְשִׁבְעִים אָלֶף; וּבְבֹזֶה--לֹא שָׁלְחוּ, אֶת-יָדָם

16. And the other Jews that were in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, and stood for their lives, and had rest from their enemies, and slew of them that hated them seventy and five thousand--but on the spoil they laid not their hand--

17. בְּיוֹם-שְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר, לַחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר; וְנוֹחַ, בְּאַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר בּוֹ, וַעֲשֵׂה אֹתוֹ, יוֹם מְשֻׁתָּה וְשִׂמְחָה

17. on the thirteenth day of the month Adar, and on the fourteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

18. וְהַיְּהוּדִים (וְהַיְּהוּדִים) אֲשֶׁר-בְּשׁוּשָׁן, נִקְהָלוּ בְּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ, וּבְאַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר בּוֹ; וְנוֹחַ, בְּחִמְשָׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ, וַעֲשֵׂה אֹתוֹ, יוֹם מְשֻׁתָּה וְשִׂמְחָה

18. But the Jews that were in Shushan assembled together on the thirteenth day thereof, and on the fourteenth thereof; and on the fifteenth day of the same they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness.

19. עַל-בֵּין הַיְּהוּדִים הַפְּרוּזִים (הַפְּרוּזִים), הַיֹּשְׁבִים בְּעָרֵי הַפְּרוּזוֹת--עֹשִׂים אֶת יוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, שִׂמְחָה וּמְשֻׁתָּה יוֹם טוֹב; וּמְשַׁלַּח מְנוֹת, אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ

19. Therefore do the Jews of the villages, that dwell in the unwall'd towns, make the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another.

20. וַיִּכְתֹּב מֹרְדֵכַי, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים, אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מִדְיָנוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ--הַקְּרוֹבִים, וְהַרְחוֹקִים

20. And Mordecai wrote these things, and sent letters unto all the Jews that were in all the provinces of the king Ahasuerus, both nigh and far,

21. לְקָיִם, עֲלֵיהֶם--לְהִיּוֹת עֹשִׂים אֶת יוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, וְאֵת יוֹם-חֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ: בְּכָל-שָׁנָה, וּשְׁנָה

21. to enjoin them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,

22. בַּיָּמִים, אֲשֶׁר-נָחוּ בָּהֶם הַיְּהוּדִים מֵאֹיְבֵיהֶם, וְהַחֹדֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר נִהְפָּךְ לָהֶם מִיָּגוֹן לְשִׂמְחָה, וּמֵאֵבֶל לְיוֹם טוֹב; לַעֲשׂוֹת אוֹתָם, יָמֵי מְשֻׁתָּה וְשִׂמְחָה, וּמִשְׁלַח מְנוֹת אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ, וּמִתְּנוּת לְאֶבְיָנִים

22. the days wherein the Jews had rest from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to gladness, and from mourning into a good day; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor.

23. וְקִבַּל, הַיְּהוּדִים, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-הִחֲלוּ, לַעֲשׂוֹת; וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-כָּתַב מֶרְדֵּכַי, אֵלֵיהֶם

23. And the Jews took upon them to do as they had begun, and as Mordecai had written unto them;

24. כִּי הָמָן בֶּן-הַמֶּדְתָּא הָאֲגָגִי, צִוָּר כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים--חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים, לְאַבְדֵם; וְהָפֵל פֹּר הוּא הַגּוֹרֶל, לְהָמָם וּלְאַבְדֵם

24. because Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast pur, that is, the lot, to discomfit them, and to destroy them;

25. וּבִבְאָהָ, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אָמַר עִם-הַסֵּפֶר, יָשׁוּב מִחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר-חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים עַל-רָאשׁוֹ; וְתָלוּ אוֹתוֹ וְאֶת-בָּנָיו, עַל-הָעֵץ

25. but when she came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he had devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head; and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

26. עַל-בֶּן קָרְאוּ לַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה פּוּרִים, עַל-שֵׁם הַפּוּר--עַל-בֶּן, עַל-כֵּן-דִּבְרֵי הָאֲגֵרָת הַזֹּאת; וּמָה-רָאוּ עַל-כָּכָה, וּמָה הִגִּיעַ אֵלֵיהֶם

26. Wherefore they called these days Purim, after the name of pur. Therefore because of all the words of this letter, and

of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and that which had come unto them,

27. קִימוּ וקִבְּלוּ (וְקִבְּלוּ) הַיְּהוּדִים עַל־יָהֵם וְעַל־זֶרְעָם וְעַל כָּל־הַנְּלוּיִם עֲלֵיהֶם, וְלֹא יַעֲבוּר--לִהְיוֹת עֲשִׂים אֶת שְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה, בְּכַתְּבָם וּבְזִמְנָם: בְּכָל־שָׁנָה, וּשְׁנָה

27. the Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to the writing thereof, and according to the appointed time thereof, every year;

28. וְהַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה נִזְכָּרִים וְנַעֲשִׂים בְּכָל־דּוֹר וָדוֹר, מִשְׁפָּחָהּ וּמִשְׁפָּחָהּ, מְדִינָהּ וּמְדִינָהּ, וְעִיר וָעִיר; וַיְמִי הַפְּעֻדִים הָאֵלֶּה, לֹא יַעֲבֹרוּ מִתּוֹךְ הַיְּהוּדִים, וְזָכָרָם, לֹא־יִסּוּף מִזֶּרְעָם. {ס}

28. and that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.

29. וַתִּכְתֹּב אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה בֵּת־אֲבִיחַיִל, וּמֶרְדֵּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי--אֶת־כָּל־תִּקְוָהּ: לְקַיֵּם, אֶת אֲגֻרַת הַפָּרִים הַזֹּאת--הַשְּׁנִית

29. Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordecai the Jew, wrote down all the acts of power, to confirm this second letter of Purim.

30. וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל־כָּל־הַיְּהוּדִים, אֶל־שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה--מַלְכוּת, אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: דְּבָרֵי שְׁלוֹם, וְאֱמֶת

30. And he sent letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus, with words of peace and truth,

31. לְקַיֵּם אֶת־יְמֵי הַפָּרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּזִמְנֵיהֶם, בְּאֲשֶׁר קִיָּם עֲלֵיהֶם מֶרְדֵּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי וְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וּבְאֲשֶׁר קִימוּ עַל־נַפְשָׁם, וְעַל־זֶרְעָם: דְּבָרֵי הַצּוּמוֹת, וְזִעְקָתָם

31. to confirm these days of Purim in their appointed times, according as Mordecai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had ordained for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry.

32. ומֵאֵמֶר אֶסְתֵּר--קַיִם, דְּבָרֵי הַפְּרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וְנִכְתָּב, בְּסֵפֶר. {ס}

32. And the commandment of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book.

Chapter: 10

1. וַיָּשֶׂם הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ (אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ) מִסַּעַל-הָאָרֶץ, וְאֵי הַיָּם

1. And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

2. וְכָל-מַעֲשֵׂה תְקָפוֹ, וְגִבּוֹרָתוֹ, וּפְרָשֶׁת גְּדֻלַּת מְרֹדֶכַי, אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ--  
הֵלֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים, לְמַלְכִּי, מְדֵי וּפְרָס

2. And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the full account of the greatness of Mordecai, how the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

3. כִּי מְרֹדֶכַי הִיְהוּדִי, מִשְׁנֶה לַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ, וְגָדוֹל לַיְּהוּדִים, וְרָצוּי  
לְרֹב אֲחָיו--דִּרְשׁ טוֹב לְעַמּוֹ, וּדְבַר שָׁלוֹם לְכָל-יִרְעוֹ. {ש}

3. For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren; seeking the good of his people and speaking peace to all his seed.

- End -