

*Analysis of*  
**ESTHER**

**"GOD'S SOVEREIGN PROTECTION OF HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE"**

Mordecai to Esther: "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?"

Esther to Mordecai: "Go, assemble all the Jews who are found in Susa, and fast for me; do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my maidens also will fast in the same way. And thus I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish."  
Esther 4:14, 16

Analysis of ESTHER

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

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[WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)

Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

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# ESTHER

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  - D1 The king's command to Haman: "Take quickly the robes and the horse as you have said, and do so for Mordecai the Jew, who is sitting at the king's gate; do not fall short in anything of all that you have said!" 6:10
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  - D4 The humiliation of Haman 6:12
- C4 The somber prediction of Haman's wife and friends 6:13
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  - D5 The terror of Haman 7:6b
- C2 The execution of Haman 7:7-10
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    - E1 The king's return to the banquet area: Now when the king returned from the palace garden into the place where they were drinking wine,
    - E2 The pleading of Haman: Haman was falling on the couch where Esther was.
    - E3 The fury of the king: Then the king said, "Will he even assault the queen with me in the house?"
    - E4 The fate of Haman: As the word went out of the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face.
  - D4 The information from Harbonah: Then Harbonah, one of the eunuchs who *were* before the king said, "Behold indeed, the gallows standing at Haman's house fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai who spoke good on behalf of the king!" 7:9
  - D5 The order from the king: "Hang him on it!" 7:9

D6 The execution of Haman: So they hanged Haman on the gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai! And the king's anger subsided. 7:10

### **A3 JEWISH POWER 8 - 10**

#### **B1 National Self-Preservation 8 - 9**

C1 The king's authorizing of the Jews to defend themselves on "Extermination Day" 8

D1 The elevation of Mordecai to power 8:1-2

E1 King Ahasuerus' gift of the house of Haman to Queen Esther 8:1

E2 The king's elevation of Mordecai to the position of the late Haman 8:1-2

F1 Mordecai's coming before the king 8:1

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E3 Esther's setting Mordecai over the house of Haman 8:2

D2 Esther's beseeching of the king to protect the Jewish people 8:3-8

E1 Her initial plea 8:3

E2 Her acceptance by the king 8:4

E3 Her speech 8:5-6

F1 Her request to the king to revoke the laws of Haman to destroy the Jews 8:5

F2 Her personal distress at the prospect of watching her people destroyed 8:6

E4 The king's response 8:7-8

F1 His review to Mordecai and Esther of having hanged Haman 8:7

F2 His authorizing Mordecai and Esther to draft legislation protecting the Jews 8:8

D3 The description of the legislation 8:9-14

E1 The calling of the king's scribes 8:9

E2 The recipients of the legislation 8:9



- E3 The official nature of the legislation 8:10
- E4 The distribution of the legislation 8:10
- E5 The terms of the legislation 8:11-12
  - F1 The authorized action: ...the king granted the Jews who were in each and every city *the right* to assemble and to defend their lives, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate the entire army of any people or province which might attack them, including children and women, and to plunder their spoil 8:11
  - F2 The time framework: on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, the thirteenth *day* of the twelfth month (that is, the month Adar). 8:12
- E6 The publishing of the legislation in each province 8:13
- E7 The purpose of the legislation: so that the Jews would be ready for this day to avenge themselves on their enemies. 8:13
- E8 The departure of the couriers 8:14
- E9 The publication of the decree in Susa 8:14
- D4 The reaction to the legislation 8:15-17
  - E1 The splendor of Mordecai 8:15
  - E2 The joy in the city of Susa 8:15
  - E3 The gladness of the Jews 8:16
  - E4 The reaction in the provinces 8:17
    - F1 Joy in Jewry: ...gladness and joy for the Jews, a feast and a holiday.
    - F2 Conversion to Judaism: And many among the peoples of the land became Jews, for the dread of the Jews had fallen on them.

- C2 The Jews' defense of themselves 9:1-16
  - D1 The summary of the Jewish victory 9:1
    - E1 The date: The twelfth month (...Adar), ... the thirteenth day
    - E2 The hoped for result: ...when the enemies of the Jews hoped to gain the mastery over them,
    - E3 The actual result: it was turned to the contrary so that the Jews themselves gained the mastery over those who hated them.
  - D2 The invincibility of the Jews 9:2-4
    - E1 Their preparation: The Jews' assembly "in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus to lay hands on those who sought their harm; 9:2
    - E2 Their invincibility: and no one could stand before them 9:2
      - F1 Their psychological superiority: for the dread of them had fallen on all the peoples 9:2
      - F2 Their governmental support: Even all the princes of the provinces, the satraps, the governors, and those who were doing the king's business assisted the Jews, 9:3a
      - F3 The greatness of Mordecai 9:3-4
        - G1 In the eyes of the officials: because the dread of Mordecai had fallen on them. 9:3b
        - G2 In the king's house 9:4
        - G3 In the provinces 9:4
  - D3 The Jews' victory in Susa 9:5-15
    - E1 The summary of their victory: Thus the Jews struck all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying; and they did what they pleased to those who hated them. 9:5
    - E2 The number of enemies killed in Susa: 500 9:6
    - E3 The identity of the ten sons of Haman killed; the foregoing of any plunder 9:7-10

- E4 The extension of the engagement in Susa 9:11-15
  - F1 The report to the king of the number killed by Jews in Susa 9:11
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  - F3 His asking of Esther a further request 9:12
  - F4 Esther's request 9:13
    - G1 For a one-day extension for Jews in Susa
    - G2 For Haman's ten sons to be hanged [i.e., displayed] on the gallows
  - F5 The king's compliance 9:14
  - F6 The results of the extension (on the fourteenth of Adar) 9:15
    - G1 The killing of 300 additional men
    - G2 The foregoing of any plunder
- D4 The Jews' victory in the provinces 9:16
  - E1 Their killing of 75,000 of those who hated them
  - E2 Their foregoing of plunder
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  - D1 The origins of the celebration of the victory 9:17-19
    - E1 In the rural areas 9:17
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- E3 The description of the Jewish rural celebration 9:19
  - F1 Rejoicing
  - F2 Feasting
  - F3 "Sending portions *of food* to one another"
- D2 The institutionalizing of the Feast of Purim 9:20-32
  - E1 The first letter: From Mordecai 9:20-28
    - F1 The summary of the letter 9:20-21
      - G1 His recording of the events 9:20
      - G2 His sending letters to all the Jews in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus 9:20
      - G3 His obligating them to celebrate the 14th and 15th of Adar annually 9:21
    - F2 The purpose of the celebration 9:22
      - G1 The memorializing of victory: [B]ecause on those days the Jews rid themselves of their enemies
      - G2 The memorializing of national joy: [A]nd *it was* a month which was turned for them
        - H1 From sorrow into gladness
        - H2 And from mourning into a holiday
    - F3 The procedure of the celebration: [T]hat they should make them days 9:22
      - G1 [O]f feasting and rejoicing
      - G2 [A]nd sending portions *of food* to one another
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    - F5 The history behind the celebration 9:24-25
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- F6 The naming of the celebration: Purim (plural of Pur) 9:26a
- F7 The perpetuation of the celebration 9:26b-
  - G1 The impetus for the celebration 9:26b
    - H1 The instructions of the letter
    - H2 Their own experiences
  - G2 The establishment of the custom of celebrating the two days annually 9:27
  - G3 The plan for the celebration: *So these days were to be remembered and celebrated* 9:28
    - H1 The extent of the celebration: throughout every generation, every family, every province and every city;
    - H2 The duration of the celebration: and these days of Purim were not to fail from among the Jews, or their memory fade from their descendants.
- E2 The second letter: From Esther and Mordecai 9:29-32
  - F1 The authors of the second letter about Purim: Queen Esther and Mordecai the Jew 9:29
  - F2 The addressees: ...all the Jews, to the 127 provinces of the kingdom of Ahasuerus ... 9:30
  - F3 The addition to the previous customs: instructions for their times of fasting and their lamentations. 9:31
  - F4 The results of the second letter: The command of Esther established these customs for Purim, and it was written in the book. 9:32

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- C2 The annals of the king 10:2
  - D1 The subject of the annals
    - E1 The king's accomplishments
    - E2 Mordecai's greatness
  - D2 The record of the annals: The Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Media and Persia.

- C3 The greatness of Mordecai 10:3
  - D1 In relation to the king: "For Mordecai the Jew was second *only* to King Ahasuerus
  - D2 In relation to the Jews: and great among the Jews,
    - E1 and in favor with many of his kinsmen,
    - E2 one who sought the good of his people
    - E3 and one who spoke for the welfare of his whole nation."

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