

# ESTHER

For Such A Time As This



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**Long ago, in the mighty land of Persia, there was a great king named Ahasuerus.**

**His palace was filled with golden pillars, marble floors, and bright silk curtains that fluttered in the breeze.**

**He ruled over many lands and people, but he did not yet have a queen after queen Vashti was banished.**



**One day, the king decided it was time to choose a new queen. He sent messengers throughout the land to find the most kind and beautiful young women.**



**The whole kingdom buzzed with excitement as the young women prepared to go to the palace.**



In the city of Susa,  
there lived a young  
woman named **Esther**.  
She was kind, gentle,  
and full of faith.  
**Esther's** parents had  
died when she was a  
child, so her cousin  
**Mordecai** cared for her  
like his own daughter.

They were both  
Jewish, and they loved  
and trusted the G\_d of  
Israel.



When the king's servants came to Susa, they noticed **Esther's** beauty and grace.

They invited her to join the other young women at the palace.



Mordecai told her gently, **‘Do not tell anyone that you are Jewish.’** Esther nodded, trusting his wisdom.



Many women came before King Ahasuerus, each dressed in their finest robes. But when **Esther** entered the room, everyone noticed her calm spirit and kind eyes.

The king smiled and said, '**This is the one.**' He placed a royal crown upon her head and made her Queen of Persia.



One day, while sitting near the palace gate, **Mordecai** overheard two chamberlains plotting to harm the king.



He quickly sent a message to **Esther**, who told the king.

The two were caught, and the king's life was saved—but **Mordecai's** good deed was soon forgotten.



In the palace worked a powerful man named **Haman**.

He was proud and wanted everyone to bow down to him.



But **Mordecai** refused,  
for he would only bow  
before G\_d.



This made **Haman** **furious!** He began to hate **Mordecai**—and all the Jewish people.



**Haman** went to the king and said, ‘There are people in your kingdom who do not obey your laws. It would be best to get rid of them.’

The king, not realizing what **Haman** meant, agreed and gave him authority.

**Haman** sent out letters declaring that all Jews would be destroyed on a certain day.



The day was chosen by casting lots. It came up as the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

**Mordecai** saw the decree that was sent out by **Haman**.



When **Mordecai** learned about the terrible news, he tore his clothes and wept bitterly.

He sent a message to **Queen Esther**, begging her to go to the king and plead for her people's lives.



**Esther** was afraid—  
anyone who went to  
the king without being  
called could be  
put to death!



**Mordecai sent another message: ‘Do not think you will escape in the palace’.**

**‘Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?’**



**Esther felt  
courage rise in  
her heart. She told  
Mordecai,**

**‘Tell the people to fast  
and pray for three  
days. Then I will go  
to the king, even if it  
costs me my life.’**



After three days, **Esther** put on her royal robes and walked bravely to the throne room.

The king looked at her and smiled. He held out his golden scepter, showing she was welcome. 'What is it, my queen?' he asked. 'Whatever you ask, I will give it to you.'



Esther said, 'I would like to invite you and **Haman** to a special banquet today.'



**The king agreed. At the feast, he asked her again what she wished for.**



**Esther smiled and said, ‘Please come again tomorrow— then I will tell you my request.’**



That night, the king couldn't sleep. He asked his servants to read the royal records, and they found the story of **Mordecai** saving the king's life!



The king asked, 'What honor has **Mordecai** received for this?'  
When told 'none,' he decided to reward him.



**Haman** hated **Mordecai** so much because **Mordecai** would not bow before him.

That night he hatched an evil plan.

His rage would not be suppressed, so **Haman** built a pole on which to kill **Mordecai**.



The next morning, **Haman** came to ask permission to punish **Mordecai**. But before he could speak, the king asked what should be done to someone who the king wants to honor?

**Haman** thought that the king want to honor him.



The king said, 'Go, and honor **Mordecai** for his loyalty. Dress him in royal robes and parade him through the city!' **Haman's** face turned pale, but he had no choice. He was totally humiliated and vowed to get **Mordecai**.



That evening, the king and **Haman** came again to **Esther's** banquet.

Once more, the king asked, 'What is your request, my queen?' With courage and tears in her eyes, **Esther** said, 'My people and I are to be destroyed! Please spare us.'



Our enemy is  
this  
wicked man—  
**Haman!**



The king stood up in fury. ‘How dare you plan such evil against my queen and her people!’ **Haman** begged for his life, but it was too late.



The king ordered that  
**Haman**  
be punished—on the  
very pole he had built  
for **Mordecai**.



The king gave  
**Esther** and **Mordecai**  
permission to write  
a new law allowing  
the Jewish people to  
defend themselves.

When the day came,  
G\_d gave them victory.  
The people rejoiced,  
shouting with gladness  
and praise!



The king made **Mordecai** his new royal advisor, giving him robes of blue and white and a golden crown. The Jewish people celebrated their safety and honored **Mordecai's** wisdom.



The people of Israel held a great feast and named it **Purim**, a holiday to remember how G\_d saved them through **Queen Esther's** courage. Every year they would celebrate with food, gifts, and joy, thanking G\_d for His protection.



# PURIM

Even though G\_d's name is never mentioned in the story, His hand was guiding every part.

He placed **Esther** in the palace, gave **Mordecai** wisdom, and turned evil into good.



**Esther's** bravery saved her people. She showed that one person's faith and courage can change the world. She trusted G\_d even when she was afraid—and G\_d used her mightily.





And so, the brave **Queen Esther** became one of the greatest heroines in all of Scripture. Her story reminds us that G\_d is always at work, even when we cannot see Him.

## *What did We Learn?*



- Be brave even when you're scared.
- Pray and trust G\_d's timing.
- Stand up for what is right.
- G\_d can use anyone, big or small, to do great things!



Purim is one of the happiest holidays in the Bible! It celebrates the time when G\_d saved the Jewish people through a brave woman named **Queen Esther**.

**Purim** means “lots” in Hebrew—because the bad man **Haman** used lots to decide when to hurt the Jewish people, but G\_d turned his plan upside down!



We celebrate **Purim** to remember how G\_d took care of His people and how courage, faith, and truth can change everything.



**Purim** reminds us  
that G\_d is always  
working—sometimes  
even behind the  
scenes!



During **Purim**, Jewish families read the Megillah, which tells **Esther's** story.

Whenever **Haman's** name is read, everyone makes lots of noise with a special rattle called a gragger so his name gets “drowned out!”



On Purim, kids love to wear fun costumes! You can dress as **Queen Esther**, King Ahasuerus, **Mordecai**, or even as a superhero or animal.

Costumes remind us of how G\_d can work through ordinary people who look just like us!



**Purim** is a time for kindness!  
Families prepare baskets of food called **Mishloach Manot** and give them to friends and neighbors. It's a way to share joy and remind others that **G\_d** cares for everyone.



**Purim** is also about giving to those in need. Families donate money, food, or gifts to help others celebrate too.

Giving makes our hearts happy—just like G\_d's!



At the end of **Purim**, families gather for a big, joyful meal. There's singing, laughing, storytelling, and lots of delicious food!



Everyone loves **Hamantaschen**— triangle-shaped cookies filled with jam or chocolate! They're shaped like **Haman's** hat or ears, and eating them reminds us that G\_d's people had victory over evil.



Some communities have **Purim** parades where everyone marches in costumes, sings songs, and waves flags. It's a joyful celebration of G\_d's love and protection!



Music fills the air on  
**Purim!**

People sing songs  
about **Esther**, G\_d's  
faithfulness, and joy.  
Everyone dances and  
claps—because G\_d  
turned sadness into  
happiness!



**“Who knows if you  
were made queen for  
such a time as this?”  
— Esther 4:14**

**This verse reminds us  
that each person can  
do something special  
for G\_d, just like  
Esther did.**