

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 1

- א** וַיְהִי, בַּיָּמִי אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: הוּא אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, הַמֶּלֶךְ מֵהִדּוּ וְעַד-כוּשׁ--
שָׁבַע וָעֶשְׂרִים 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--
- ב** בַּיָּמִים, הָהֵם--כַּשָּׁבַת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, 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,
- ג** בַּשָּׁנָה שְׁלוֹשׁ, לְמַלְכוֹ, עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֶּה, לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו: חֵיל פָּרֶס וּמְדִי, הַפְּרָתִים 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;
- ד** בַּהֲרֵאתוֹ, אֶת-עֹשֶׁר כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ, וְאֶת-יָקָר, תַּפְאֶרֶת 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.
- ה** וּבְמָלוּאת הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה, עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ לְכָל-הָעָם הַנִּמְצָאִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה לְמַגְדוֹל וְעַד-קֶטָן מִשְׁתֶּה--
שָׁבַעַת יָמִים: בַּחֲצָר, גִּנַּת בֵּיתוֹ 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;
- ו** חוּר כַּרְפָּס וּתְכֵלֶת, אָחוּז בַּחֲבָלֵי-בוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן, עַל-גִּלְלֵי כֶסֶף, וְעַמּוּדֵי זָשׁ; מְטוֹת זָהָב וְכֶסֶף, עַל רֹצֶפֶת בֶּהֱט-וְנֹשֵׁשׁ--וְדָר וְסַחֲרָת.
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.

ז וְהִשְׁקוּת בְּכֵלֵי זָהָב, וְכֵלִים
מִכֵּלִים שׁוֹנִים; וַיֵּין מַלְכוּת רַב, כִּי
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.

ח וְהִשְׁתִּיה כַּדֵּת, אֵין אִנֶּס: כִּי-כֵן
יִסַּד הַמֶּלֶךְ, עַל כָּל-רַב בֵּיתוֹ--
לַעֲשׂוֹת, כְּרָצוֹן 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. {S}

ט גַּם וַשְׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה, עָשְׂתָה מִשְׁתֵּה
נָשִׁים--בֵּית, הַמַּלְכוּת, אֲשֶׁר, לַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחִשְׁוֶרֶשׁ. 9 Also Vashti the queen made a feast
for the women in the royal house which
belonged to king Ahasuerus.

י בַּיּוֹם, הַשְּׁבִיעִי, כָּטוֹב לֵב-הַמֶּלֶךְ,
בִּיָּין--אָמַר לְמַהוּמָן בִּזְזֶתָה סְרַבּוּנָא
בִּגְתָּא וְאַבְגָּתָא, זֶתָר וְכַרְפָּס, שְׁבַעַת
הַסָּרִיסִים, הַמְשָׁרְתִּים אֶת-פָּנָי
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחִשְׁוֶרֶשׁ. 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,

יא לָהֳבִיא אֶת-וַשְׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה, לִפְנֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ--בְּכֶתֶר מַלְכוּת: לְהִרְאוֹת
הָעַמִּים וְהַשָּׂרִים אֶת-יָפְיָהּ, כִּי-טוֹבַת
מֵרָאָה 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.

יב וַתִּמָּאֵן הַמַּלְכָּה וַשְׁתִּי, לָבוֹא
בְּדִבְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר, בִּיד הַסָּרִיסִים;
וַיִּקְצַף הַמֶּלֶךְ מְאֹד, וַתִּחַמְתּוּ בָּעֶרְהָ
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. {S}

יג וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לַחֲכָמִים יָדְעִי 13 Then the king said to the wise men,
who knew the times--for so was the

הָעֵתִים: כִּי-כֵן, דִּבֶּר הַמֶּלֶךְ, לִפְנֵי,
כָּל-יֹדְעֵי דֵת וְדִין. king's manner toward all that knew law
and judgment;

יָד וְהַקָּרֵב אֵלָיו, כַּרְשֶׁנָּא שֶׁתָּר 14 and the next unto him was Carshena,
אֲדַמְתָּא תַרְשִׁישׁ, מֶרֶס מַרְסָנָא, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres,
מְמוּכָן--שֶׁבַעַת שְׁרֵי פָרַס וּמְדִי, רָאִי Marsena, and Memucan, the seven
פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, הַיֹּשְׁבִים רְאשֻׁנָּה, princes of Persia and Media, who saw
בַּמַּלְכוּת. the king's face, and sat the first in the
kingdom:

טו כָּדָת, מַה-לַּעֲשׂוֹת, בַּמַּלְכָּה, 15 'What shall we do unto the queen
וַשְׁתִּי--עַל אֲשֶׁר לֹא-עָשְׂתָה, אֶת- Vashti according to law, forasmuch as
מֶאֱמַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ, בְּיַד she hath not done the bidding of the
הַפָּרְסִים. {ס} king Ahasuerus by the
chamberlains?' {S}

טז וַיֹּאמֶר מוּמְכָן (מְמוּכָן), לִפְנֵי 16 And Memucan answered before the
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַשָּׂרִים, לֹא עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ king and the princes: 'Vashti the queen
לְבַדּוֹ, עֲוֹתָהּ וַשְׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה: כִּי עַל- hath not done wrong to the king only,
כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים, וְעַל-כָּל-הָעַמִּים, אֲשֶׁר but also to all the princes, and to all the
בְּכָל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ. peoples, that are in all the provinces of
the king Ahasuerus.

יז כִּי-יֵצֵא דִבְרַת-הַמַּלְכָּה עַל-כָּל- 17 For this deed of the queen will come
הַנָּשִׁים, לְהַבְזֹת בְּעֵלֶיהֶן abroad unto all women, to make their
בְּעֵינֵיהֶן: בְּאֶמְרֹם, הַמֶּלֶךְ husbands contemptible in their eyes,
אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ אָמַר לְהָבִיא אֶת-וַשְׁתִּי when it will be said: The king
הַמַּלְכָּה לִפְנָיו--וְלֹא-בָאָה. Ahasuerus commanded Vashti the
queen to be brought in before him, but
she came not.

יח וְהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה תֵּאֱמַרְנָה שָׂרוֹת 18 And this day will the princesses of
פָּרַס-וּמְדִי, אֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ אֶת-דִּבְרֵי Persia and Media who have heard of the
הַמַּלְכָּה, לְכָל, שְׁרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְכֹדִי, deed of the queen say the like unto all
בְּזִיוֹן וְקֶצֶף. the king's princes. So will there arise
enough contempt and wrath.

יט אם-על-המלך טוב, יצא דבר-מלכות מלפניו, ויכתב בדת פֶּרֶס-ומדי, ולא יִעָבֹר: אשר לא-תבוא ונשתי, לפני המלך אחשורוש, ומלכותה יתן המלך, לרעותה הטובה ממנה.

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.

כ ונשמע פתגם המלך אשר-יעשה בכל-מלכותו, כי רבה היא; וכל-הנשים, יתנו יקר לבעליהן--למגדול, ועד-קטן.

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.'

כא וייטב, הדבר, בעיני המלך, והשרים; ויעש המלך, כדבר ממון.

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

כב וישלח ספרים, אל-כל-מדינות המלך--אל-מדינה ומדינה ככתבה, ואל-עם ועם כלשונם: להיות כל-איש שרר בביתו, ומדבר כלשון עמו. {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. {S}

אסתר Chapter 2

א אחר, הדברים האלה, כשך, חמת המלך אחשורוש--זכר את-נשתי ואת אשר-עשתה, ואת אשר-נגזר עליה.

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.

ב ויאמרו נערי-המלך,

2 Then said the king's servants that

מִשְׁרָתָיו: יִבְקְשׁוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ נְעָרוֹת
בְּתוּלוֹת, טוֹבוֹת מְרָאָה.
ministered unto him: 'Let there be
sought for the king young virgins fair to
look on;

ג וַיִּפְקֹד הַמֶּלֶךְ פְּקִידִים, בְּכָל-
מְדִינֹת מַלְכוּתוֹ, וַיִּקְבְּצוּ אֶת-כָּל-
נְעָרָה-בְּתוּלָה טוֹבַת מְרָאָה אֶל-
שׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים, אֶל-
יָד הַגָּא סָרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים;
וְנָתַן, תְּמַרְקִיָּהוּ.
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;

ד וְהַנְּעָרָה, אֲשֶׁר תִּיטֵב בְּעֵינֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ--תִּמְלֹךְ, תַּחַת וּשְׁתִּי; 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. {S}

ה אִישׁ יְהוּדִי, הָיָה בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה;
וּשְׁמוֹ מֶרְדֳּכָי, בֶּן יָאִיר בֶּן-שִׁמְעִי
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,

ו אֲשֶׁר הֵגְלָה, מִירוּשָׁלַיִם, עִם-
הַגְּלָה אֲשֶׁר הֵגְלָתָהּ, עִם יְכֹנְיָה
מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה--אֲשֶׁר הֵגְלָה,
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.

ז וַיְהִי אִמֶּן אֶת-הַדַּסָּה, הִיא אֶסְתֵּר
בַּת-דָּדוּ--כִּי אֵין לָהּ, אָב וָאִם;
וְהַנְּעָרָה יָפֹת-תֹּאֵר, וְטוֹבַת מְרָאָה,
וּבְמֹת אָבִיהָ וָאִמָּהּ, לָקְחָהּ מֶרְדֳּכָי
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.

ח וַיְהִי, בְּהַשְׁמַע דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ,
וּבְהַקְבִּץ נְעָרוֹת רַבּוֹת אֶל-שׁוֹשַׁן
8 So it came to pass, when the king's
commandment and his decree was
published, and when many maidens

הַבִּירָה, אֶל-יָד הֶגַי; וַתִּלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר
אֶל-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-יָד הֶגַי שֹׁמֵר
הַנָּשִׁים.

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.

ט וַתִּיטֵב הַנַּעֲרָה בְּעֵינָיו, וַתִּשָּׂא
חֶסֶד לִפְנָיו, וַיְבַהֵל אֶת-תַּמְרוּקִיָּה
וְאֶת-מְנוּחָה לָתֵת לָהּ, וְאֶת שִׁבְעַת
הַנַּעֲרוֹת הָרְאיוֹת לָתֵת-לָהּ מִבֵּית
הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשְׁנֶה וְאֶת-נַעֲרוֹתֶיהָ 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.

י לֹא-הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר, אֶת-עַמָּהּ וְאֶת-
מוֹלְדֹתָהּ: כִּי מָרְדֳּכַי צִוָּה עָלֶיהָ,
אֲשֶׁר לֹא-תִגִּיד.

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

יא וּבְכָל-יוֹם וַיֵּלֶךְ מָרְדֳּכַי
מִתְהַלֵּךְ, לִפְנֵי חֲצַר בֵּית-
הַנָּשִׁים: לְדַעַת אֶת-שְׁלוֹם אֶסְתֵּר,
וַיַּעֲשֶׂה כֵּן.

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.

יב וּבְהִגִּיעַ תֹּר נַעֲרָה וְנַעֲרָה לְבוֹא
אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ, מִקֶּץ הַיּוֹת
לָהּ כִּדְת הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ--
כִּי כֵן יִמְלְאוּ, יְמֵי מְרוּקִיָּה: שִׁשָּׁה
חֳדָשִׁים, בְּשֶׁמֶן הַמֶּר, וְשִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים
בְּבַשְׂמִים, וּבְתַמְרוּקֵי הַנָּשִׁים.

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--

יג וּבָזָה, הַנַּעֲרָה בָּאָה אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ--
אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר תִּאֶמַר יִנָּתֵן לָהּ, לְבוֹא
עִמָּהּ, מִבֵּית הַנָּשִׁים, עַד-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ.

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.

יד בַּעֶרֶב הָיָא בָּאָה, וּבבֹקֶר הָיָא נְשָׁבָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנִי, אֶל-יָד שְׁעֶשְׂגַז סְרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ, שֹׁמֵר הַפִּילִגְשִׁים: לֹא-תָבֹא עוֹד אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, כִּי אִם-חֶפֶץ בָּהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנִקְרָאָה בְּשֵׁם.

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.

טו וּבַהֲגִיעַ תֹּר-אֶסְתֵּר בֵּת-אֲבִיחַיִל לֵד מְרִדְכַי אֲשֶׁר לָקַח-לוֹ לְבַת לָבֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֹא בִקְשָׁה דָּבָר--כִּי אִם אֶת-אֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר הַגִּי סְרִיס-הַמֶּלֶךְ, שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים; וַתְּהִי אֶסְתֵּר נְשֵׂאת חַן, בְּעֵינֵי כָל-רְאִיָּה.

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.

טז וַתִּלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ, אֶל-בֵּית מַלְכוּתוֹ, בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָעֲשִׁירִי, הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ טֵבֶת--בְּשָׁנַת-שִׁבְעָה, 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.

יז וַיֵּאָהֱב הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר מִכָּל-הַנָּשִׁים, וַתֵּשֶׂא-חַן וְחֹסֶד לְפָנָיו מִכָּל-הַבְּתוּלוֹת; וַיָּשֶׂם כֶּתֶר-מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשָׁהּ, וַיְמַלִּכָהּ תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי.

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.

יח וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁתֵּה גָדוֹל, לְכָל-עָרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו--אֶת, מִשְׁתֵּה אֶסְתֵּר; וַהֲנִיחָהּ לַמְּדִינוֹת עֲשָׂה, וַיִּתֵּן מִשְׁאֵת כֶּנֶד 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.

יט וּבַהֲקָבֵץ בְּתוּלוֹת, שְׁנִית; **19** And when the virgins were gathered

וּמֶרְדֵּכַי, יָשָׁב בְּשַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ. together the second time, and Mordecai sat in the king's gate--

כ אֵין אֶסְתֵּר, מַגִּידַת מוֹלְדֹתָהּ וְאֶת-
עַמָּהּ, כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה עָלֶיהָ, מֶרְדֵּכַי;
וְאֶת-מֵאֲמַר מֶרְדֵּכַי אֶסְתֵּר עָשָׂה,
כְּאֲשֶׁר הִיָּתָה בְּאֻמָּנָה אִתּוֹ. {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-- {S}

כא בַּיָּמִים הֵהֵם, וּמֶרְדֵּכַי יוֹשֵׁב
בְּשַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ; קִצָּף בְּגִתָּן וְתֶרֶשׁ
שְׁנֵי-סָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִשְׁמָרֵי הַסֵּף,
וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ לִשְׁלַח יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ. 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.

כב וַיִּוָּדַע הַדָּבָר לְמֶרְדֵּכַי, וַיִּגֵּד
לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה; וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר
לַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּשֵׁם מֶרְדֵּכַי. 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.

כג וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הַדָּבָר וַיִּמָּצֵא, 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. {S}

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 3

א אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, גָּדַל הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ אֶת-הָמָן בֶּן-הַמִּדְיָתָא
הָאֲגָגִי--וַיִּנְשְׂאָהוּ; וַיָּשֶׂם, אֶת-כִּסְאוֹ,
מֵעַל, כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ. 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.

ב וְכָל-עֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר
הַמֶּלֶךְ, כָּרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לְהָמָן-- 2 And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed down, and prostrated themselves before Haman;

כִּי-כֵן, צִוָּה-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ; וּמֶרְדֵּכַי--לֹא יִכְרַע, וְלֹא יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה. for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him.

ג וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ--לְמֶרְדֵּכַי: מַדּוּעַ 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?'

ד וַיְהִי, בֹאמְרָם (כְּאֲמָרָם) אֵלָיו יוֹם יוֹם, וְלֹא שָׁמַע, אֲלֵיהֶם; וַיִּגִּדּוּ לְהָמָן, לְרֹאוֹת הַיַּעֲמָדוֹ דְּבָרֵי מֶרְדֵּכַי--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.

ה וַיֵּרָא הָמָן--כִּי-אִין מֶרְדֵּכַי, כָּרַע וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לוֹ; וַיִּמְלֵא הָמָן, חֲמָה. 5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him, then was Haman full of wrath.

ו וַיִּבְזּוּ בְּעֵינָיו, לְשַׁלַּח יָד בְּמֶרְדֵּכַי לְבַדּוֹ--כִּי-הִגִּידוּ לוֹ, אֶת-עַם מֶרְדֵּכַי; וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הָמָן, לְהַשְׁמִיד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְלָכוֹת אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--עַם מֶרְדֵּכַי. 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.

ז בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן, הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ נִסָּן, בִּשְׁנַת שְׁתַּיִם עָשָׂרָה, לְמֶלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: הַפִּיל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוּרָל לִפְנֵי הָמָן, מִיּוֹם לְיוֹם וּמִחֹדֶשׁ לְחֹדֶשׁ שָׁנִים-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. {S}

ח וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, לַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--
 יִשְׁנוּ עַם-אֶחָד מְפֹזֵר וּמִפְּרֵד בֵּין
 הָעַמִּים, בְּכָל מְדִינוֹת מַלְכוּתְךָ;
 וְדִתֵּיהֶם שְׁנוֹת מִכָּל-עַם, וְאֶת-דִּתֵּי
 הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵינָם עֹשִׂים, וְלַמֶּלֶךְ אֵין-
 שׁוּנָה, לְהִנָּיְתָם.

8 And Haman said unto king
 Ahasuerus: 'There is a certain people
 scattered abroad and dispersed among
 the peoples in all the provinces of thy
 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.

ט אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב, יִכָּתֵב
 לְאַבְדָּם; וְעֶשְׂרֵת אֲלָפִים כֶּסֶף-כֶּסֶף,
 אֲשֶׁקוּל עַל-יְדֵי עֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה,
 לְהָבִיא, 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.'

י וַיִּסֶּר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-טַבַּעְתּוֹ, מֵעַל
 יָדוֹ; וַיִּתְּנָהּ, לְהָמָן בֶּן-הַמְּדֵתָא
 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.

יא וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהָמָן, הַכֶּסֶף נָתוּן
 לְךָ; וְהָעָם, לַעֲשׂוֹת בּוֹ כַּטּוֹב
 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.'

יב וַיִּקְרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּחֹדֶשׁ
 הָרִאשׁוֹן, בַּשְּׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ,
 וַיִּכָּתֵב כָּכָל-אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה הָמָן אֶל
 אֲחַשְׁוֶרְפָּנֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶל-הַפָּחוֹת
 אֲשֶׁר עַל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְאֶל-שָׂרֵי
 עַם וְעַם, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כְּכַתְּבָהּ
 וְעַם וְעַם כְּלָשׁוֹנוֹ: בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ
 אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ נִכְתָּב, וְנִחְתָּם 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.

יג וַנִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים, אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ--לְהַשְׁמִיד לְהָרַג וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים מִנַּעַר וְעַד-זָקֵן טָף וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד, בַּשְּׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ שָׁנִים-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.

יד פֶּתִישְׁגֹּן הַכְּתָב, לְהַנָּתֵן יָת בְּכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, גָּלוּי, לְכָל-הָעַמִּים--לְהִיּוֹת עֵתָדִים, לַיּוֹם 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.

טו הָרָצִים יֵצְאוּ דְחוּפִים, בְּדֶבֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְהֵדַת נְתָנָה, בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן יִשְׁבּוּ לִשְׁתּוֹת, וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשָׁן 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. {S}

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 4

א וּמָרְדֳּכָי, יָדַע אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשָׂה, וַיִּקְרַע מָרְדֳּכָי אֶת-בְּגָדָיו, וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שָׂק וָאָפֶר; 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;

ב וַיָּבֹא, עַד לִפְנֵי שַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי אֵין לָבוֹא אֶל-שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּלִבוּשׁ שָׂק.

2 and he came even before the king's gate; for none might enter within the king's gate clothed with sackcloth.

ג וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מִגֵּיעַ--אֲבָל גְּדוֹל

3 And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree

לַיהוּדִים, וְצוֹם וּבְכִי וּמִסְפָּד; שָׁק
וְאָפֶר, יֵצַע לְרַבִּים.
came, there was great mourning among
the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and
wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and
ashes.

ד וַתְּבוֹאִינָהּ (וַתְּבוֹאֲנָהּ) נַעֲרוֹת
אֶסְתֵּר וְסָרִיסֶיהָ, וַיִּגִּדּוּ לָהּ,
וַתִּתְחַלֵּחַל הַמֶּלֶכָה, מְאֹד; וַתִּשְׁלַח
בְּגָדִים לְהַלְבִּישׁ אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי,
וּלְהַסִּיר שָׁקוֹ מֵעָלָיו--וְלֹא קִבַּל.
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.

ה וַתִּקְרָא אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתָּךְ מִסָּרִיסֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר הָעֵמִיד לְפָנֶיהָ,
וַתְּצַוֶּהוּ, 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.

ו וַיֵּצֵא הַתָּךְ, אֶל-מָרְדֳּכָי--אֶל-
רְחוֹב הָעִיר, אֲשֶׁר לְפָנֵי שַׁעַר-
הַמֶּלֶךְ.
6 So Hathach went forth to Mordecai
unto the broad place of the city, which
was before the king's gate.

ז וַיִּגַּד-לוֹ מָרְדֳּכָי, אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר
קָרָהוּ; וְאֵת פְּרִשְׁת הַכֶּסֶף, אֲשֶׁר
אָמַר הָמֶן לְשָׁקוֹל עַל-גִּנְזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
בִּיהוּדִיִּים (בְּיִהוּדִים)--לְאַבְדָּם.
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.

ח וְאֵת-פֶּתֶשֶׁן כְּתָב-הַדֵּת אֲשֶׁר-
נָתַן בְּשׁוּשָׁן לְהַשְׁמִידָם, נָתַן לוֹ--
לְהִרְאוֹת אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר, וּלְהַגִּיד לָהּ;
וּלְצַוּוֹת 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.

ט וַיָּבֹא, הַתָּךְ; וַיִּגַּד לְאֶסְתֵּר, אֵת
9 And Hathach came and told Esther

דְּבָרֵי מֶרְדֵּכָי. the words of Mordecai.

י וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתֵּד, וַתְּצַוֶּהוּ
אֶל-מֶרְדֵּכָי.

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

יא כָּל-עֲבָדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְעַם-מְדִינוֹת
הַמֶּלֶךְ יִדְעִים, אֲשֶׁר כָּל-אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה
אֲשֶׁר יָבוֹא-אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַחֲצָר
הַפְּנִימִית אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִקְרָא אַחַת דָּתוֹ
לְהַמִּית, לְבַד מֵאֲשֶׁר יוֹשִׁיט-לוֹ
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-שֵׁרֶבִיט הַזֶּהָב, וְחָיָה;
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.'

יב וַיִּגִּידוּ לְמֶרְדֵּכָי, אֶת דְּבָרֵי
אֶסְתֵּר.

12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's
words.

יג וַיֹּאמֶר מֶרְדֵּכָי, לְהָשִׁיב אֶל-
אֶסְתֵּר: אֶל-תִּדְמִי בְּנַפְשְׁךָ, לְהַמְלִיט
בֵּית-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.

יד כִּי אִם-הִחָרַשׁ תַּחֲרִישִׁי, בָּעֵת
הַזֹּאת--רְנוּחַ וְהַצָּלָה יַעֲמֹד לַיְּהוּדִים
מִמָּקוֹם אֲחֵר, וְאַתָּה וּבֵית-אָבִיךָ
תִּאבְדּוּ; וּמִי יוֹדֵעַ--אִם-לָעֵת כְּזֹאת,
הִגַּעְתָּ לְמַלְכוּת.

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

טו וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר, לְהָשִׁיב אֶל-
מֶרְדֵּכָי.

15 Then Esther bade them return
answer unto Mordecai:

טז לֵךְ כְּנוּס אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים
הַנִּמְצְאִים בְּשׁוּשָׁן, וְצוּמוּ עָלַי וְאֶל-

16 'Go, gather together all the Jews that
are present in Shushan, and fast ye for
me, and neither eat nor drink three days,

תֹּאכְלוּ וְאֵל-תִּשְׁתּוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת יָמִים
 לַיְלָה וַיּוֹם--גַּם-אֲנִי וְנַעֲרָתִי, אֲצוּם
 כֹּן; וּבִכֵּן אָבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר
 לֹא-כֹדֶת, וְכֹאֲשֶׁר אֲבָדֹתִי, אֲבָדֹתִי.
 17 So Mordecai went his way, and did
 according to all that Esther had
 commanded him.

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 5

- א וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, וַתִּלְבַּשׁ
 אֶסְתֵּר מַלְכוּת, וַתַּעֲמֹד בַּחֲצַר בֵּית-
 הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּנִימִית, נֹכַח בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ;
 וְהַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ,
 בְּבֵית הַמַּלְכוּת, 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.
- ב וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר
 הַמַּלְכָּה, עֹמֶדֶת בַּחֲצַר--נִשְׁאַה חֵן,
 בְּעֵינָיו; וַיּוֹשֹׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר, אֶת-
 שֶׁרְבִיט הַזָּהָב אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ, וַתִּקְרַב
 אֶסְתֵּר, וַתִּגַּע בְּרֹאשׁ הַשֶּׁרְבִיט.
 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.
- ג וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ, מַה-לָּךְ אֶסְתֵּר
 הַמַּלְכָּה; וַיֵּמָּה-בִּקְשָׁתְךָ עַד-חֲצִי
 הַמַּלְכוּת, וַיִּנָּתֶן לָךְ.
 3 Then said the king unto her: 'What
 wilt thou, queen Esther? for whatever
 thy request, even to the half of the
 kingdom, it shall be given thee.'
- ד וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר, אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ
 טוֹב--יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן הַיּוֹם, אֶל-
 הַמִּשְׁתֶּה 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.'

ה וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ--מְהֵרָה אֶת-הָמֶן, 5 Then the king said: 'Cause Haman to
לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-דְּבַר אֶסְתֵּר; וַיָּבֹא make haste, that it may be done as
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמֶן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר- Esther hath said.' So the king and
עָשְׂתָה אֶסְתֵּר. Haman came to the banquet that Esther
had prepared.

ו וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר בְּמִשְׁתֵּה 6 And the king said unto Esther at the
הַיַּיִן, מִה-שְּׂאֵלָתְךָ וְיִנָּתֵן לָךְ; וּמִה- banquet of wine: 'Whatever thy petition,
בְּקִשְׁתְּךָ עַד-חֲצִי הַמַּלְכוּת, וְתַעֲשִׂי it shall be granted thee; and whatever
thy request, even to the half of the
kingdom, it shall be performed.'

ז וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר, וַתֹּאמֶר: שְׂאֵלָתִי, 7 Then answered Esther, and said: 'My
וּבְקִשְׁתִּי. petition and my request is--

ח אִם-מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, 8 if I have found favour in the sight of
וְאִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב, לָתֵת אֶת- the king, and if it please the king to
שְׂאֵלָתִי, וְלַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-בְּקִשְׁתִּי-- grant my petition, and to perform my
יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמֶן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה request--let the king and Haman come
אֲשֶׁר אֶעֱשֶׂה לָּהֶם, וּמָחָר אֶעֱשֶׂה, to the banquet that I shall prepare for
כְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ. them, and I will do to-morrow as the
king hath said.'

ט וַיֵּצֵא הָמֶן בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, שְׂמֵחַ 9 Then went Haman forth that day
וְטוֹב לֵב; וַכְּרָאוֹת הָמֶן אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי joyful and glad of heart; but when
בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְלֹא-קָם וְלֹא-זָע Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate,
מִמֶּנּוּ--וַיִּמְלֵא הָמֶן עַל-מָרְדֳּכָי, that he stood not up, nor moved for
חֲמָה. him, Haman was filled with wrath
against Mordecai.

י וַיִּתְאַפֵּק הָמֶן, וַיָּבוֹא אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ; 10 Nevertheless Haman refrained
וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיָּבֵא אֶת-אֲהֻבָּיו, וְאֶת-זֶרֶשׁ himself, and went home; and he sent
אִשְׁתּוֹ. and fetched his friends and Zeresh his
wife.

יא וַיְסַפֵּר לָהֶם הָמֶן אֶת-כְּבוֹד 11 And Haman recounted unto them the
עֲשָׂרוֹ, וְרֹב בָּנָיו; וְאֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר glory of his riches, and the multitude of
his children, and everything as to how

גִּדְּלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר נִשְׂאוֹ, עַל-
הַשָּׂרִים וְעַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ. the king had promoted him, and how he
had advanced him above the princes
and servants of the king.

יב וַיֹּאמֶר, הֲמֵן--אִף לֹא-הִבִּיאָהּ
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.

יג וְכָל-זֶה, אֵינְנוּ שׂוֹהֵ לִי: בְּכָל-
עֵת, אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי רֹאֶה אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי
הַיְּהוּדִי--יּוֹשֵׁב, בַּשַּׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ. 13 Yet all this availeth me nothing, so
long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at
the king's gate.'

יד וַתֹּאמֶר לוֹ זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ וְכָל-
אֶהְבָּיו, יַעֲשׂוּ-עֵץ גָּבֹהַ חֲמִשִּׁים
אַמָּה, וּבִבְקָר אָמַר לְמֶלֶךְ וַיִּתְּלוּ
אֶת-מָרְדֳּכָי עָלָיו, וּבֹא-עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה שָׂמֵחַ; וַיִּיטֹב הַדָּבָר
לְפָנֵי הֲמָן, 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. {S}

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 6

א בַּלַּיְלָהָ הַהוּא, נִדְּדָה שְׁנַת הַמֶּלֶךְ;
וַיֹּאמֶר, לְהָבִיא אֶת-סֵפֶר הַזְּכָרֹנוֹת
דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים, וַיְהִיו נִקְרָאִים, לְפָנֵי
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.

ב וַיִּמָּצֵא כָתוּב, אֲשֶׁר הִגִּיד מָרְדֳּכָי
עַל-בִּגְתָּנָא וְתֶרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי סָרִיסֵי 2 And it was found written, that
Mordecai had told of Bigthana and
Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains,

הַמֶּלֶךְ--מִשְׁמָרֵי הַסֵּף: אֲשֶׁר בִּקְשׁוּ
לְשַׁלֵּחַ יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ אֶחְשָׁרוּשׁ.

of those that kept the door, who had
sought to lay hands on the king
Ahasuerus.

ג וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ--מָה-נַּעֲשֶׂה יָקָר
וְגִדּוּלָה לְמֹרְדֵּכַי, עַל-זֶה; וַיֹּאמְרוּ
נַעֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִשְׁרָתָיו, לֹא-נַעֲשֶׂה
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.'

ד וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִי בְחָצָר; וְהֵמָּן
בָּא, לַחָצָר בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַחִיצוֹנָה,
לֵאמֹר לְמֶלֶךְ, לְתַלּוֹת אֶת-מֹרְדֵּכַי
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.--

ה וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֵלָיו--הִנֵּה
הָמָן, עֹמֵד בְּחָצָר; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ,
יָבוֹא.

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

ו וַיָּבוֹא, הָמָן, וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ,
מָה-לַּעֲשׂוֹת בָּאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חֲפֵץ
בִּיקְרוֹ; וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, בְּלִבּוֹ, לְמִי
יִחַפֵּץ 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?'--

ז וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ: אִישׁ,
אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חֲפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ.

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

ח יָבִיאוּ לְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת, אֲשֶׁר לְבִשׁ-
בוֹ 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;

ט וְנָתַן הַלְבוּשׁ וְהַסּוּס, עַל-יָד- 9 and let the apparel and the horse be

איש משרי המלך הפרתמים, והלבישו את-האיש, אשר המלך חפץ ביקרו; והרכיבהו על-הסוס, ברחוב העיר, וקראו לפניו, ככה יעשה לאיש אשר המלך חפץ ביקרו.

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.'

י ויאמר המלך להמן, מהר קח את-הלבוש ואת-הסוס כאשר דברת, ועשה-כן למרדכי היהודי, היושב בשער המלך: אל-תפל דבר, מפל אשר דברת.

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.'

יא ויקח המן את-הלבוש ואת-הסוס, וילבש את-מרדכי; וירכיבהו, ברחוב העיר, ויקרא לפניו, ככה יעשה לאיש אשר המלך חפץ ביקרו.

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.'

יב וישב מרדכי, אל-שער המלך; והמן נדחף אל-ביתו, אבל וחסוי ראש.

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

יג ויספר המן לזרש אשתו, ולכל-אֶהָבָיו, את, כל-אשר קרהו; ויאמרו לו חכמיו וזרש אשתו, אם מזרע היהודים מרדכי אשר החלום לנפל לפניו לא-תוכל לו--כי-נפול תפול, לפניו.

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.'

יד עודם מדברים עמו, וסריסי

14 While they were yet talking with

המלך הגיעו; ויבֹהֲלוּ לְהָבִיא אֶת-
הָמָן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה
אֶסְתֵּר.
him, came the king's chamberlains, and
hastened to bring Haman unto the
banquet that Esther had prepared.

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 7

א ויבֹא המלך והָמָן, לַמִּשְׁתֹּת עִם-
אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה.
1 So the king and Haman came to
banquet with Esther the queen.

ב ויאָמַר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר גַּם בַּיּוֹם
הַשֵּׁנִי, בַּמִּשְׁתֶּה הַזֶּה--מָה-שָּׂאֵלְתְּ
אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וְתִתֶּנְתִּי לָךְ; וּמָה-
בִּקְשָׁתְךָ עַד-חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת, וְתַעֲשֶׂה.
2 And the king said again unto Esther
on the second day at the banquet of
wine: 'Whatever thy petition, queen
Esther, it shall be granted thee; and
whatever thy request, even to the half of
the kingdom, it shall be performed.'

ג וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וַתֹּאמֶר--
אִם-מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאִם-
עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב: תִּתְּנֶנְתִּי-לִי נַפְשִׁי
בַּשָּׂאֵלְתִּי, וְעַמִּי בַּבִּקְשָׁתִּי.
3 Then Esther the queen answered and
said: 'If I have found favour in thy
sight, O king, and if it please the king,
let my life be given me at my petition,
and my people at my request;

ד כִּי נִמְכַּרְנוּ אֲנִי וְעַמִּי, לְהִשָּׁמִיד
לְהָרוֹג וּלְאַבֵּד; וְאִלּוּ לַעֲבָדִים
וּלְשִׁפְחוֹת נִמְכַּרְנוּ, הִחַרְשֵׁתִי--כִּי
אֵין הַצָּר שׁוֹה, בְּנֹזֶק 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.' {S}

ה ויאָמַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, 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?'

ו וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר--אִישׁ צָר וְאוֹיֵב,
הָמָן הָרָע הַזֶּה; וְהָמָן נִבְעַת, מִלִּפְנֵי
6 And Esther said: 'An adversary and an
enemy, even this wicked Haman.' Then
Haman was terrified before the king

and the queen. **וְהַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמַּלְכָּה.**

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

ח וְהַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁב מִגִּנֹּת הַבַּיִת אֶל-בֵּית מִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן, וְהָמָן נָפַל עַל-הַמָּטָה, אֲשֶׁר אֶסְתֵּר עָלֶיהָ, וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, הֲגַם לְכַבּוֹשׁ אֶת-הַמַּלְכָּה עָמִי בְּבַיִת; הַדָּבָר, יֵצֵא מִפִּי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וּפְנֵי הָמָן, חָכְוּ.

ט וַיֹּאמֶר חַרְבוֹנָה אֶחָד מִן-הַסֵּרִיסִים לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, גַּם הִנֵּה-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה הָמָן לְמָרְדֳּכָי אֲשֶׁר דָּבָר-טוֹב עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ עָמַד בְּבַיִת הָמָן--גְּבוּהָ, חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה; וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, תִּלְהֶוּ עָלָיו.

י וַיִּתְּלוּ, אֶת-הָמָן, עַל-הָעֵץ, אֲשֶׁר-הָכִין לְמָרְדֳּכָי; וַחֲמַת הַמֶּלֶךְ, שָׁכְכָה. {ס}

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 8

א בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשְׁוֵרוּשׁ לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, אֶת-

1 On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And

בית המן, צרר היהודיים
(היהודים); ומרדכי, בא לפני
המלך--כי-הגידה אסתר, מה הוא-
לה.

Mordecai came before the king; for
Esther had told what he was unto her.

ב ויסר המלך את-טבעתו, אשר
העביר מהמן, ויתנה, למרדכי;
ותשם אסתר את-מרדכי, על-בית
המן. {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. {S}

ג ותוסף אסתר, ותדבר לפני
המלך, ותפל, לפני רגליו; ותבק
ותתחנן-לו, להעביר את-רעת המן
האגגי, ואת מחשבתו, אשר חשב
על-היהודים.

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.

ד ויושט המלך לאסתר, את שרבת
הזהב; ותקם אסתר, ותעמד לפני
המלך.

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

ה ותאמר אם-על-המלך טוב ואם-
מצאתי חן לפניו, וכשר הדבר לפני
המלך, וטובה אני, בעיניו--יכתב
להשיב את-הספרים, מחשבת המן
בן-המדתא האגגי, אשר כתב לאבד
את-היהודים, אשר בכל-מדינות
המלך.

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;

ו כי איככה אוכל, וראיתי, ברעה,
אשר-ימצא את-עמי; ואיככה אוכל
וראיתי, באבדן מולדתי. {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?' {S}

ז וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשְׁוֶרֶשׁ לְאַסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה, וּלְמֹרְדֵּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי: הִנֵּה
בֵּית-הָמֶן נִתְּתִי לְאַסְתֵּר, וְאֹתוֹ תָּלוּ
עַל-הָעֵץ--עַל אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַח יָדוֹ,
בִּיהוּדִיִּים (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.

ח וְאַתֶּם כְּתֹבוּ עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים כְּטוֹב
בְּעֵינֵיכֶם, בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְחֹתְמוּ,
בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי-כָתַב אֲשֶׁר-
נִכְתָּב בְּשֵׁם-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְנִחְתָּוֶם בְּטַבַּעַת
הַמֶּלֶךְ--אִין 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.'

ט וַיִּקְרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ בָּעֵת-הַהִיא
בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁלִישִׁי הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ סִיוָן,
בַּשְּׁלוֹשָׁה וָעֶשְׂרִים בּוֹ, וַיִּכְתֹּב כָּכָל-
אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה מֹרְדֵּכַי אֶל-הַיְּהוּדִים וְאֶל
הָאֲחֻשְׁתָּרְפָּנִים-וְהַפָּחוֹת וְשָׂרֵי
הַמְּדִינֹת אֲשֶׁר מֵהַדָּו וְעַד-כּוּשׁ שִׁבְעַת
וָעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאַתָּה מְדִינָה, מְדִינָה
וּמְדִינָה כְּכֹתְבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם כָּל־שָׁנוּ;
וְאֶל-הַיְּהוּדִים--כְּכֹתְבָם, וְכָל־שׁוֹנָם.

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.

י וַיִּכְתֹּב, בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשְׁוֶרֶשׁ,
וַיִּחְתֹּם, בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשְׁלַח
סֹפְרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים בְּסוּסִים רָכָבִי
הָרָקֶשׁ, הָאֲחֻשְׁתָּרְנִים--בָּנֵי,
הָרִמְכִּים.

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;

יא אֲשֶׁר נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ לַיהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר
בְּכָל-עִיר-וָעִיר, לְהִקָּהֵל וּלְעֹמֵד עַל-
נַפְשָׁם--לְהַשְׁמִיד וּלְהָרֵג וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת-
כָּל-חַיִּיל עִם וּמְדִינָה הַצָּרִים אֹתָם,
טָר 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,

יב בְּיוֹם אֶחָד, בְּכָל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--בְּשָׁלוּשָׁה עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ
שָׁנִים-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.

יג פִּתְּשָׁגֹן הַכְּתָב, לְהַנָּתֵן 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.

יד הָרָצִים רֹכְבֵי הָרָכָשׁ,
הָאֲחַשְׁוֵתְרָנִים, יֵצְאוּ מִבְּהָלִים
וּדְחוּפִים, בְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְהָיְתָה נִתְּנָה,
בְּשׁוּשַׁן 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. {S}

טו וּמֹרְדֵכַי יָצָא מִלְּפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ,
בְּלְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וְנָחוּר, וְעֶטְרַת
זָהָב גְּדוּלָּה, וְתַכְרִיף בּוֹיץ וְאַרְגָּמָן;
וְהָעִיר שׁוּשָׁן, 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.

טז לַיהוּדִים, הָיְתָה אוֹרָה וְשִׂמְחָה,
וְשָׁשׂוֹן, וִיקָר.
16 The Jews had light and gladness, and
joy and honour.

יז וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וּבְכָל-עִיר
17 And in every province, and in every

וְעִיר, מִקּוֹם אֲשֶׁר דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ
 מִגִּיעַ, שְׂמֵחָה וְשִׂשׂוֹן לַיהוּדִים,
 מִשְׂתָּה וַיּוֹם טוֹב; וְרַבִּים מֵעַמֵּי
 הָאָרֶץ, מִתִּיבָהִים--כִּי-נָפַל פַּחַד-
 הַיְּהוּדִים, עָלֵיהֶם. 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.

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 9

א וּבִשְׁנָיִם עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ
 אָדָר, בַּשְּׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר
 הִגִּיעַ דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ,
 לַהַעֲשׂוֹת: בַּיּוֹם, אֲשֶׁר שָׁבְרוּ אֹיְבֵי
 הַיְּהוּדִים לְשָׁלוֹט בָּהֶם, וְנִהְפֹּךְ
 הוּא, אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלֹטוּ הַיְּהוּדִים הַמָּה
 בְּשֹׁנְאֵיהֶם. 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;

ב נִקְהָלוּ הַיְּהוּדִים בְּעָרֵיהֶם, בְּכָל-
 מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, לְשַׁלֵּחַ
 יָד, בַּמִּבְקָשִׁי רָעָתָם; וְאִישׁ לֹא-
 עָמַד לִפְנֵיהֶם, כִּי-נָפַל פַּחַדָּם 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.

ג וְכָל-שָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינֹת
 וְהָאֲחַשְׁוֵרְפָּנִים וְהַפָּחוֹת, וְעַשִׂי
 הַמֶּלָּאכָה אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ--מִנְּשָׂאִים,
 אֶת-הַיְּהוּדִים: כִּי-נָפַל פַּחַד-
 מֶרְדֵּכָי, עָלֵיהֶם. 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.

ד כִּי-גָדוֹל מֶרְדֵּכָי בְּבֵית הַמֶּלֶךְ,
 4 For Mordecai was great in the king's
 house, and his fame went forth

וְשָׁמְעוּ הוֹלָךְ בְּכָל-הַמְּדִינֹת: כִּי- throughout all the provinces; for the man
הָאִישׁ מֶרְדֵּכַי, הוֹלָךְ וְגָדוֹל. Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

5 And the Jews smote all their
ה' וַיַּכּוּ הַיְּהוּדִים בְּכָל-אֹיְבֵיהֶם, מַכַּת- enemies with the stroke of the
חֶרֶב וְהָרֶג וְאַבְדָּן; וַיַּעֲשׂוּ בְּשִׁנְאֵיהֶם, sword, and with slaughter and
כְּרָצוֹנָם. destruction, and did what they
would unto them that hated them.

6 And in Shushan the castle the
וּבְשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה, הָרְגוּ הַיְּהוּדִים Jews slew and destroyed five
וְאַבְדּוּ--חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת, {ר} אִישׁ. {ס} hundred men. {S}

7 And {S} Parshandatha,
ז וְאֵת {ר} פַּרְשַׁנְדָּתָא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} and {S} Dalphon,
{ר} דַּלְפוֹן, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אֶסְפָּתָא, and {S} Aspatha,
{ס}

8 and {S} Poratha, and {S} Adalia,
ח וְאֵת {ר} פּוֹרְתָא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} and {S} Aridatha,
אֲדַלְיָא, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרִידָתָא. {ס}

9 and {S} Parmashta,
ט וְאֵת {ר} פַּרְמַשְׁתָּא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} and {S} Arisai, and {S} Aridai,
{ר} אַרִיסַי, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרִידַי, and {S} Vaizatha, {S}
{ס} וְאֵת {ר} וַיְזָתָא. {ס}

10 the ten sons of Haman the son
י עֲשָׂרַת {ר} בְּנֵי הָמָן בֶּן-הַמְּדִתָּא, of Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy,
צָרַר הַיְּהוּדִים--הָרְגוּ; וּבִבְזָה--לֹא slew they; but on the spoil they
שָׁלְחוּ, אֶת-יָדָם. laid not their hand.

11 On that day the number of
יא בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, בָּא מִסְפַּר הַהָרוּגִים those that were slain in Shushan

בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה--לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ.

the castle was brought before the king.

יב וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה,
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה הָרְגוּ הַיְּהוּדִים וְאַבְדוּ
חֲמִשָּׁה מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וְאֵת עֲשָׂרַת בְּנֵי-
הָמֶן--בְּשָׂאֵר מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ, מֶה
עָשׂוּ; וּמֶה-שָּׂאֵלְתָּ וְיִנָּתֶן לָךְ, וּמֶה-
בְּקָשְׁתָּ עוֹד וְתַעֲשֶׂה.

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 thy petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever thy request further, it shall be done.'

יג וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר, אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ
טוֹב--יִנָּתֶן גַּם-מָחָר לַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר
בְּשׁוּשַׁן, לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּדַת הַיּוֹם; וְאֵת
עֲשָׂרַת בְּנֵי-הָמֶן, יִתְּלוּ עַל-הָעֵץ.

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

יד וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לַהֲעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן, וַתִּנָּתֶן
דָּת בְּשׁוּשַׁן; וְאֵת עֲשָׂרַת בְּנֵי-הָמֶן,
תָּלוּ.

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.

טו וַיִּקְהֻלוּ הַיְּהוּדִיִּים (הַיְּהוּדִים)
אֲשֶׁר-בְּשׁוּשַׁן, גַּם בַּיּוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר
לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, וַיַּהַרְגוּ בְּשׁוּשַׁן, שְׁלֹשׁ
מֵאוֹת אִישׁ; וּבִבְזָה--לֹא שָׁלְחוּ, אֶת-
יָדָם.

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.

טז וְשָׂאֵר הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּמְדִינֹת
הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְהָלוּ וַעֲמָד עַל-נַפְשָׁם, וְנוֹת
מֵאִיְבֵיהֶם, וְהָרוּג בְּשִׁנְאֵיהֶם, חֲמִשָּׁה
וּשְׁבָעִים אָלֶף; וּבִבְזָה--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 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.

יז ביום-שלושה עשר, לחדש אדר; ונוח, בארבעה עשר בו, ועשה אתו, יום משתה ושמחה.

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.

יח והיהודיים (והיהודים) אשר- בשושן, נקהלו בשלושה עשר בו, ובארבעה עשר בו; ונוח, בחמשה עשר בו, ועשה אתו, יום משתה ושמחה.

19 Therefore do the Jews of the villages, that dwell in the unwalled 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.

יט על-כן היהודים הפרושים (הפרזים), הישבים בערי הפרזות-- עשים את יום ארבעה עשר לחדש אדר, שמחה ומשתה ויום טוב; ומשלח מנות, איש לרעהו.

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,

כ ויכתב מרדכי, את-הדברים האלה; וישלח ספרים אל-כל- היהודים, אשר בכל-מדינות המלך אמשורוש--הקרובים, והרחוקים.

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

כא לקים, עליהם--להיות עשים את יום ארבעה עשר לחדש אדר, ואת יום-חמשה עשר בו: בכל-שנה, ושנה.

22 the days wherein the Jews had rest from their enemies, and the month which was turned unto them from sorrow to gladness,

כב פמים, אשר-נחו בהם היהודים מאיביהם, והחדש אשר נהפך להם מיגון לשמחה, ומאבל ליום טוב;

לַעֲשׂוֹת אוֹתָם, יְמֵי מִשְׁתָּה וְשִׂמְחָה,
וּמִשְׁלַח מְנוֹת אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ, וּמִתְּנוּת
לְאֶבְיָנִים.

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.

כג וְקִבְּלוּ הַיְּהוּדִים, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-הֵחֵלוּ,
לַעֲשׂוֹת; וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-כָּתַב מֶרְדֳּכַי,
אֲלֵיהֶם.

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

כד כִּי הָמָן בֶּן-הַמֶּדְתָּא הָאֲגָגִי, צָרָר
כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים--חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים,
לְאַבְדָּם; וְהָפֵל פֹּר הוּא הַגּוֹרֵל,
לְהָמָם וּלְאַבְדָּם.

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;

כה וּבִבְאָהָ, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אָמַר עַם-
הַסֶּפֶר, יָשׁוּב מִחֲשָׁבְתוֹ הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר-
חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְּהוּדִים עַל-רֹאשׁוֹ; וְתָלוּ
אֹתוֹ 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.

כו עַל-כֵּן קָרְאוּ לַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה
פּוּרִים, עַל-שֵׁם הַפּוּר--עַל-כֵּן, עַל-
כָּל-דְּבָרֵי הָאֲגָרָת הַזֹּאת; וּמָה-רָאוּ
עַל-כִּכָּה, וּמָה הִגִּיעַ אֲלֵיהֶם.

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,

כז קִיָּמוּ וְקִבְּלוּ (וְקִבְּלוּ) הַיְּהוּדִים
עֲלֵיהֶם וְעַל-זֶרְעָם וְעַל כָּל-הַגּוֹלִים
עֲלֵיהֶם, וְלֹא יַעֲבוּר--לְהִיּוֹת עֲשִׂים
אֶת שְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה, בְּכֻתָּבָם

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

וּכְזִמְנָם: בְּכָל-שָׁנָה, וְשָׁנָה. the writing thereof, and according to the appointed time thereof, every year;

כח וְהַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה גִּזְכָּרִים וְנַעֲשִׂים בְּכָל-דּוֹר וָדוֹר, מִשְׁפָּחָה וּמִשְׁפָּחָה, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, וְעִיר וְעִיר; וַיְמִי הַפֻּרִים הָאֵלֶּה, לֹא יִעָבְרוּ מִתּוֹךְ הַיְּהוּדִים, וְזָכָרָם, לֹא-יִסּוּף מִזֶּרַעָם. {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. {S}

כט וַתִּכְתֹּב אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה בַת-אֲבִיהָ, וּמֶרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי--אֶת-כָּל-תִּקְוָהּ: לְקִיָּם, אֶת אֲגֶרֶת הַפָּרִים הַזֹּאת--הַשֵּׁנִית. 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.

ל וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים, אֶל-שִׁבְעֵי וָעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה--מַלְכוּת, אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: דְּבָרֵי שָׁלוֹם, וָאֱמֶת. 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,

לא לְקִיָּם אֶת-יְמֵי הַפָּרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּזִמְנֵיהֶם, כַּאֲשֶׁר קִיָּם עָלֵיהֶם מֶרְדֳּכַי הַיְּהוּדִי וְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וְכַאֲשֶׁר קִיָּמוּ עַל-נַפְשָׁם, וְעַל-זֶרַעָם: דְּבָרֵי הַצּוּמוֹת, וְזַעֲקָתָם. 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.

לב וּמֵאֵמֶר אֶסְתֵּר--קִיָּם, דְּבָרֵי הַפָּרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וְנִכְתָּב, בַּסֵּפֶר. {ס} 32 And the commandment of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book. {S}

אֶסְתֵּר Chapter 10

א וַיָּשֶׂם הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ (אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ) מִסַּעַר-הָאָרֶץ, וְאֵי הַיָּם.
1 And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

ב וְכָל-מַעֲשֵׂה תְקָפוֹ, וּגְבוּרָתוֹ, וּפְרָשֵׁת גְּדֻלַּת מָרְדֳּכָי, אֲשֶׁר גִּדְּלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ--הֵלֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים, לְמַלְכֵי, מֵדִי וּפָרְס.
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?

ג כִּי מָרְדֳּכָי הַיְּהוּדִי, מִשָּׁנָה לְמָלְכוֹ אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ, וְגָדוֹל לַיהוּדִים, וְרָצוּי לְרַב אָחִיו--דֹּרֵשׁ טוֹב לְעַמּוֹ, וְדֹבֵר שְׁלוֹם 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. {P}