

# ESTHER

**1-2 KING OF PERSIA'S GREATNESS**

BRING ME THE MOST BEAUTIFUL VIRGIN IN THE KINGDOM

DEGREE: ALL MY LITTLE SISTERS WILL BE YOUR WIVES

ESTHER REVEALS QUEEN & MORDECAI SAVED THE KING

**3A HAMAN ELEVATED**

AGAGITE = CANANITE

HAMAN

**3B HAMAN'S DECREE TO KILL THE JEWS**

ROLLS THE DICE

13<sup>th</sup> OF ADAR

BANQUET

**9-10 MORDECAI'S GREATNESS**

2<sup>nd</sup> FEAST DAYS PURIM

COMMEMORATES THE JEWS' DELIVERANCE FROM DESTRUCTION

QUEEN & MORDECAI SAVE THE JEWS

ENEMIES & HAMAN'S SONS

DEGREE

**8C MORDECAI ELEVATED**

**8B MORDECAI'S DECREE TO SAVE THE JEWS**

15<sup>th</sup> OF ADAR

ALL JEWS CAN DEFEND THEMSELVES AND DESTROY THEIR ENEMIES!

BANQUET

400 YEARS AFTER BABYLONIAN EXILE

SUSA = PERSIAN CAPITAL

MORDECAI

HADASSAH (ESTHER)

HAMAN

SEMI-ARABIC JEWISH COMMUNITY

**MORAL AMBIGUITY:**

- A LOT OF DRINKING, SEX AND MURDER
- VIOLATION OF [FORBIDDEN] COMMANDS

**THE POINT:**

DESPITE EXILE, "GOD'S ABSENCE" AND ISRAEL'S MORAL COMPROMISE, GOD HAS NOT ABANDONED HIS PROMISES

**CURIOUS FACT:**

- GOD IS NEVER MENTIONED
- INVITATION TO LOOK FOR GOD'S ACTIVITY
- "COINCIDENCE" & IRONIC REVERSAL

**THE STORY PIVOTS**

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MORDECAI: I FOUND

ESTHER: I'VE BEEN HIDDEN AWAY FOR 12 YEARS

LET ME BE

**4 ESTHER & MORDECAI PLAN TO REVERSE THE DECREE**

DELIVERANCE MUST COME FROM SOMEWHERE

PERHAPS YOU'VE BECOME QUEEN FOR THIS MOMENT

IF I PERISH, I PERISH

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ESTHER'S 1<sup>ST</sup> BANQUET

PLEASE COME TO MY BANQUET TOMORROW!

IMMEDIATELY AFTER

**8A ESTHER & MORDECAI PLAN TO REVERSE THE DECREE**

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ESTHER'S 2<sup>ND</sup> BANQUET

HAMANS PLOTTED TO KILL THE JEWS!

WHAT?!

IMMEDIATELY AFTER

