



בּוֹגְמַת אֶסְתֵּר

The Scroll of Esther



With English Translations



DailyZohar.com edition

No copyrights. Share freely

1. וַיְהִי, בַּיָּמִים אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: הוּא אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, הַמֶּלֶךְ מֵהַדוּ 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. בַּיָּמִים, הָהֵם--בְּשֶׁבֶת 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,

3. בְּשָׁנַת שְׁלוֹשׁ, לְמַלְכוּתוֹ, עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֵּה, לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו: חֵיל פָּרַס וּמְדֵי,
הַפְּרָתִמִּים וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינוֹת--לְפָנָיו

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. בַּהֲרֵאתוֹ, אֶת-עֹשֶׂר כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ, וְאֶת-יָקָר, תְּפָאֶרֶת גְּדוּלָתוֹ; יָמִים רַבִּים,
שְׁמוֹנִים וּמֵאָת 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. וּבְמִלּוֹאֵת הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה, עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ לְכָל-הָעַם הַנִּמְצְאִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה
לְמַגְדוֹל וְעַד-קֶטֶן מִשְׁתֵּה--שֶׁבַע 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. חוֹר כְּרֶפֶס וּתְכֵלֶת, אֲחוּז בְּחֻבְלֵי-בוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן, עַל-גְּלִילֵי כֶסֶף, וְעַמּוּדֵי שֵׁשׁ;
מִטּוֹת זָהָב וְכֶסֶף, עַל רִצְפַּת בֵּהַט-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, וְכֵלִים מִכֵּלִים 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. והשתיה כדת, אין אנס: כי-כן יסד המלך, על כל-רב ביתו--לעשות, כרצון איש-ואיש. {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. גם ושתיה המלכה, עשתה משתה נשים--בית, המלכות, אשר, למלך
אחשורוש

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

10. ביום, השביעי, בטוב לב-המלך, ביין--אמר למהומן בזתא חרבונא
בגתא ואבגתא, זתר וכרכס, שבעת הסריסים, המשרתים את-פני המלך
אחשורוש

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. להביא את-ושתיה המלכה, לפני המלך--בבית מלכות: להראות העמים
והשרים את-יפיה, כי-טובת מראה היא

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. ותמאן המלכה ושתיה, לבוא בדבר המלך, אשר, ביד הסריסים; ויקצף
המלך מאד, וחמתו בערה בו. {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. ויאמר המלך, לחכמים ידעי העתים: כי-כן, דבר המלך, לפני, כל-ידעי
דת ודין

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. והקרב אליו, כרשנא שתר אדמתא תרשיש, מרס מרסנא, ממוכן--
שבעת שרי פרס ומדי, ראי פני המלך, הישבים ראשנה, במלכות

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. כדת, מה-לעשות, במלכה, ושתיה--על אשר לא-עשתה, את-מאמר
המלך אחשורוש, ביד, הסריסים. {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 מוֹמְכָן (מְמוֹכָן), לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַשָּׂרִים, לֹא עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְבַדּוֹ, עֲוֹתָהּ וְשֹׁתֵי הַמַּלְכָּה: כִּי עַל-כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים, וְעַל-כָּל-הָעַמִּים, אֲשֶׁר, בְּכָל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשׁוּרוֹשׁ

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 בְּעֵינֵיהֶן: בְּאַמְרָם, הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשׁוּרוֹשׁ אָמַר לְהַבִּיא אֶת-וְשֹׁתֵי הַמַּלְכָּה לְפָנָיו-- 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 תִּנְאֲמַרְנָה שָׂרוֹת פָּרֶס-וּמְדִי, אֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ אֶת-דְּבַר הַמַּלְכָּה, לְכָל, שָׂרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ; וּכְדִי, 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, וַיִּכְתַּב בְּדַתִּי פָּרֶס-וּמְדִי, וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר: אֲשֶׁר לֹא-תָבוֹא וְשֹׁתֵי, לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשׁוּרוֹשׁ, 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, כִּי 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. וַיִּיטֵב, הַדְּבַר, בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְהַשָּׂרִים; וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ, כְּדְבַר מְמוֹכָן

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

22. וַיִּשְׁלַח סָפְרִים, אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ-- אֶל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה בְּכַתְּבָהּ, וְאֶל-עַם וְעַם בְּלִשׁוֹנוֹ: לְהִיּוֹת כָּל-אִישׁ שָׂרָר בְּבֵיתוֹ, וּמְדַבֵּר בְּלִשׁוֹן 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. אַחַר, הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, בְּשֵׁךְ, חַמַּת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ--זָכַר אֶת-וַשְׁתִּי וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָהּ, 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, מְשֻׁרְתָיו: יִבְקְשׁוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ נְעָרוֹת בְּתוּלוֹת, טוֹבוֹת מֵרָאֵה

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-מְדִינֹת מַלְכוּתוֹ, וַיִּקְבְּצוּ אֶת-כָּל-נְעָרָה-בְּתוּלָה טוֹבָה מֵרָאֵה אֶל-שׁוֹשַׁן הַבֵּיָרָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים, אֶל-יַד הֶגָּאֵ סָרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים; וְנָתַן, תַּמְרֻקִיָּהוּן

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 בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבֵּיָרָה; וְשֵׁמוֹ מֹרְדֵכַי, בֶּן יָאִיר בֶּן-שִׁמְעִי בֶן-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 הֶגְלָהּ, מִירוּשָׁלַיִם, עִם-הֶגְלָהּ אֲשֶׁר הֶגְלָתָהּ, עִם יְכַנְיָה מֶלֶךְ-יְהוּדָה--אֲשֶׁר הֶגְלָהּ, 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 אִמֵּן אֶת-הַדָּסָה, הִיא אֶסְתֵּר בַּת-דָּדּוֹ--כִּי אֵין לָהּ, אָב וְאִם; וְהַנְּעִרָה יָפֵת-תֵּאֲרָה, וְטוֹבַת מְרֵאָה, וּבְמוֹת אָבִיהָ וְאִמָּהּ, לְקַחָהּ מֵרַדְכַּי 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, וּבְהַקְבִּיץ נְעוּרוֹת רַבּוֹת אֶל-שׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה, אֶל-יַד הֶגַּי; וְתִלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֶל-יַד הֶגַּי שְׁמֵר 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-תְּמָרוּקִיהָ וְאֶת-מְנוֹתָהּ לְתֵת לָהּ, וְאֶת שִׁבְעַת הַנְּעוּרוֹת הָרְאיוֹת לְתֵת-לָהּ מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשְׁנֶה וְאֶת-נְעוּרוֹתֶיהָ 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. לֹא-הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר, אֶת-עַמָּהּ וְאֶת-מוֹלְדֹתָהּ: כִּי מֵרַדְכַּי 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.

11. וּבְכָל-יוֹם וָיוֹם--מֵרַדְכַּי מִתְהַלֵּךְ, לְפָנָיו חֹצֵר בֵּית-הַנָּשִׁים: לְדַעַת אֶת-שְׁלוֹם אֶסְתֵּר, וּמָה-יַעֲשֶׂה בָּהּ

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. וּבְהִגִּיעַ תֵּרַח נְעִרָה וְנִעְרָה לְבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ, מִקֵּץ הַיּוֹת לָהּ בְּדַת הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ--כִּי בֵּן יַמְלֵאוֹ, יָמֵי מְרוּקִיהָ: שִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים, בְּשֶׁמֶן הַמֶּר, וְשִׁשָּׁה חֳדָשִׁים בְּבִשְׂמִים, וּבִתְמָרוּקֵי 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--

13. ובָּזָה, הַנְּעֵרָה בָּאָה אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ--אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר תֹּאמַר יִנָּתֵן לָהּ, לָבוֹא 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.

14. בְּעֶרֶב הָיָא בָּאָה, וּבִבְקָר הָיָא שָׁבָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנִי, אֶל-יַד שְׁעֵשְׂגֹז סָרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ, שֶׁמֶר הַפִּילִגְשִׁים: לֹא-תָבוֹא עוֹד אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, כִּי אִם-חֲפִץ בָּהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְנִקְרְאָה 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.

15. וּבִהְגִיעַ תּוֹר-אֶסְתֵּר בֵּת-אָבִיהֶיךָ דָּד מְרֻדְכַי אֲשֶׁר לָקַח-לוֹ לְבַת לָבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ, לֹא בִקְשָׁה דְבָר--כִּי אִם אֵת-אֲשֶׁר יֹאמַר הֵגַי סָרִיס-הַמֶּלֶךְ, שֶׁמֶר הַנָּשִׁים; וְתֵהִי אֶסְתֵּר נִשְׂאֵת חֵן, בְּעֵינָיו כָּל-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.

16. וַתִּלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, אֶל-בֵּית מְלָכוֹתוֹ, בְּחֹדֶשׁ הָעֵשְׂרִי, הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ טֵבֵת--בְּשָׁנַת-שֶׁבַע, לְמַלְכוֹתוֹ

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. וַיֵּאָהֵב הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר מִכָּל-הַנָּשִׁים, וַתִּשָּׂא-חֵן וְחֹסֶד לְפָנָיו מִכָּל-הַבָּתוּלוֹת; וַיִּשֶׂם כֶּתֶר-מְלָכוֹת 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 מְשֻׁתָּה גָדוֹל, לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו--אֵת, מְשֻׁתָּה אֶסְתֵּר; וַהֲנַחָה לְמַדְיָנוֹת עֲשָׂה, וַיִּתֵּן מִשָּׂאת כִּיד 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. וּבִהְקִבֵץ בְּתוּלוֹת, שְׁנִיָּת; וּמְרֻדְכַי, יָשָׁב בְּשַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ

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

20. אין אֶסְתֵּר, מִגִּדַת מוֹלְדוֹתָהּ וְאֶת-עַמָּהּ, כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה עָלֶיהָ, מִרְדֵּכָי; וְאֶת-מֵאִמֶּר מִרְדֵּכָי אֶסְתֵּר עָשָׂה, כַּאֲשֶׁר הִיְתָה בְּאִמְנָה אֵתוֹ. {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, וּמִרְדֵּכָי יוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ; קִצְף בְּגִתָּן וְתֵרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי-סְרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, מִשְׁמֵרֵי הַסֶּף, וַיִּבְקְשׁוּ לְשַׁלַּח יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ

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. וַיִּזְדַּע הַדָּבָר לְמִרְדֵּכָי, וַיַּגִּד לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה; וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְמֶלֶךְ, בְּשֵׁם מִרְדֵּכָי

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 וַיִּמָּצֵא, וַיִּתְּלוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם עַל-עֵץ; וַיִּכְתֹּב, בְּסֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים-- לְפָנֵי 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. אַחַר הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, גִּדַּל הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ אֶת-הָמָן בֶּן-הַמְּדֵתָא הָאֲגָגִי-- וַיִּנְשְׂאֵהוּ; וַיִּשֵׂם, אֶת-כִּסְאוֹ, 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, כְּרָעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לְהָמָן--כִּי-בֶן, צִוָּה-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ; וּמִרְדֵּכָי--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 עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר-בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ--לְמִרְדֵּכָי: מָדוּעַ אַתָּה עוֹבֵר, אֵת מִצְוֹת 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, בְּאִמְרָם (בְּאִמְרָם) אֲלֵיו יוֹם וָיוֹם, וְלֹא שָׁמַע, אֲלֵיהֶם; וַיִּגִּידוּ לְהֶמֶן, לְרֵאוֹת הַיַּעֲמֹדוֹ דְּבָרֵי מֶרְדֵּכָי--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 מֶרְדֵּכָי, כֹּרַע וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לוֹ; וַיִּמְלֵא הֶמֶן, חֲמָה

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

6. וַיִּבְזוּ בְּעֵינָיו, לְשַׁלַּח יָד בְּמֶרְדֵּכָי לְבַדּוֹ--כִּי-הִגִּידוּ לוֹ, אֶת-עַם מֶרְדֵּכָי; וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הֶמֶן, לְהַשְׁמִיד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְּהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְלָכוֹת אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--עַם מֶרְדֵּכָי

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 נִיסָן, בְּשָׁנַת שְׁתַּיִם עֶשְׂרֵה, לְמֶלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ: הַפִּיל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוֹרֵל לְפָנָי הֶמֶן, מִיוֹם לְיוֹם וּמִחֹדֶשׁ לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם--עֶשְׂר--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 הֶמֶן, לְמֶלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--יִשְׁנוּ עִם-אֶחָד מִפְּזָר וּמִפְּרָד בֵּין הָעַמִּים, בְּכָל מְדִינֹת מְלָכוֹתָי; וְדַתֵּיהֶם שְׁנוֹת מִכָּל-עַם, וְאֶת-דַּתִּי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵינָם עֹשִׂים, וְלְמֶלֶךְ אֵין-שׁוּהָ, לְהַנִּיחֵם

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 לְאַבְדָם; וְעֲשֵׂרֶת אֲלָפִים כֶּסֶף-כֶּסֶף, אֲשַׁקּוּל עַל-יְדֵי עֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה, לְהַבִּיא, אֶל-גְּנְזֵי 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. וַיִּסַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-טַבַּעְתּוֹ, מֵעַל יָדוֹ; וַיִּתְּנָהּ, לְהֶמֶן בֶּן-הַמְּדַתָּא הָאֲגָגִי--צֶרֶר 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 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.'

12. וַיִּקְרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן, בְּשָׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ, וַיִּכְתֹּב כָּכָל-

אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה הָמֶן אֶל אַחֲשֵׁדֶרְפָּנִי-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶל-הַפְּחוֹת אֲשֶׁר עַל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה

וְאֶל-שָׂרֵי עָם וְעַם, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה בְּכַתְּבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם בְּלִשׁוֹנוֹ: בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ

אַחֲשֵׁרֶשׁ 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.

13. וַנִּשְׁלַח סֹפְרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים, אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ--לְהַשְׁמִיד לְהָרַג

וּלְאַבֵּד אֶת-כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים מִנְּעַר וְעַד-זָקֵן טָף וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד, בְּשָׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר

לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם-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. פֶּתֶשֶׁגֶן הַכְּתָב, לְהַנְתִּין דָּת בְּכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, גְּלוּי, לְכָל-הָעַמִּים--

לְהִיּוֹת עֲתֻדִים, 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.

15. הָרָצִים יֵצְאוּ דְחוּפִים, בְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְהַדָּת נִתְּנָה, בְּשׁוֹשַׁן הַבִּירָה; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ

וְהָמֶן יֵשְׁבוּ לְשִׁתּוֹת, וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשַׁן 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. וּמְרֻדְכֵי, יָדַע אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשָׂה, וַיִּקְרַע מְרֻדְכֵי אֶת-בְּגָדָיו, וַיִּלְבַּשׁ שֵׁק

וְאַפָּר; וַיֵּצֵא בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר, וַיִּזְעַק זַעֲקָה גְּדוּלָּה וּמְרָה

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 לְפָנַי שַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי אֵין לְבוֹא אֶל-שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּלְבוּשׁ 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 דָּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מִגִּיעַ--אֶבֶל גָּדוֹל לַיְהוּדִים, וְצוּם וּבְכִי וּמִסְפָּד; שֶׁק וְאֶפֶר, יֵצַע לְרַבִּים

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) נְעוּרוֹת אֶסְתֵּר וְסָרִיסֶיהָ, וַיִּגִּדּוּ לָהּ, וַתַּתְּחַלְחַל הַמַּלְכָּה, מְאֹד; וַתִּשְׁלַח בְּגָדִים לְהַלְבִּישׁ אֶת-מֶרְדֵּכָי, וּלְהַסִּיר שָׂקוֹ 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.

5. וַתִּקְרָא אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתֵּךְ מִסָּרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אֲשֶׁר הָעֵמִיד לְפָנֶיהָ, וַתִּצְוֶהוּ, עַל-מֶרְדֵּכָי--לְדַעַת מָה-זֶה, וְעַל-מָה-זֶה-

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-מֶרְדֵּכָי--אֶל-רְחוֹב הָעִיר, אֲשֶׁר לְפָנַי 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 מֶרְדֵּכָי, אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר קָרְהוּ; וְאֵת פְּרִשְׁת הַכֶּסֶף, אֲשֶׁר אָמַר הָמָן לְשָׂקוֹל עַל-גְּנֹזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ 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-פֶּת שֶׁגֶן כְּתָב-הַדָּת אֲשֶׁר-נָתַן בְּשׁוֹשָׁן לְהַשְׁמִידֵם, נָתַן לוֹ--לְהִרְאוֹת אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר, וּלְהַגִּיד לָהּ; וּלְצוּוֹת עָלֶיהָ, לְבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַתְּחַנֵּן-לוֹ וּלְבַקֵּשׁ מִלְּפָנָיו--עַל-עַמָּה

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; וַיִּגַּד לְאֶסְתֵּר, אֵת דְּבָרֵי מֶרְדֵּכָי

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

10. ותאמר אסתר להתך, ותצוהו אל-מרדכי

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

11. כל-עבדי המלך ועם-מדינות המלך ידעים, אשר כל-איש ואשה אשר יבוא אל-המלך אל-החצר הפנימית אשר לא-יקרא אחת דתו להמית, לבד מאשר יושיט-לו המלך את-שרביט הזהב, וחייה; ואני, לא נקראתי לבוא אל-המלך--זה, שלושים יום

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. ויגידו למרדכי, את דברי אסתר

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

13. ויאמר מרדכי, להשיב אל-אסתר: אל-תדמי בנפשך, להמלט בית-המלך מכל-היהודים

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. כי אם-החרש תחרישי, בעת הזאת--רוח והצלה יעמוד ליהודים ממקום אחר, ואת ובית-אביך תאבדו; ומי יודע--אם-לעת בזאת, הגעת למלכות

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. ותאמר אסתר, להשיב אל-מרדכי

15. Then Esther bade them return answer unto Mordecai:

16. לך בנוס את-כל-היהודים הנמצאים בשושן, וצומו עלי ואל-תאכלו ואל-תשתו שלשת ימים לילה ויום--גם-אני ונערתי, אצום כן; ובכך אבוא אל-המלך, אשר לא-כדת, וכאשר אבדתי, אבדתי

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. ויעבר, מרדכי; ויעש, בכל אשר-צוה עלי אסתר

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

1. וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי, וַתִּלְבַּשׁ אֶסְתֵּר מַלְכוּת, וַתַּעֲמֵד בַּחֲצַר בַּיִת-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּנִימִית, נֹכַח בַּיִת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְהַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ, בְּבַיִת 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.

2. וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, עֹמֶדֶת בַּחֲצַר--נִשְׂאָה חֵן, בְּעֵינָיו; וַיִּשָּׂט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר, אֶת-שֵׁרְבִיט הַזָּהָב אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ, וַתִּקְרַב אֶסְתֵּר, וַתִּגַּע בְּרֹאשׁ הַשֵּׁרְבִיט

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-בְּקִשְׁתְּךָ עַד-חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת, וַיִּנָּתֵן 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--יָבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּן 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.'

5. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ--מִהְרֹו אֶת-הַמֶּן, לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-דְּבַר אֶסְתֵּר; וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּן, אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה 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 לְאֶסְתֵּר בְּמִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן, מַה-שְּׂאֵלְתְךָ וַיִּנָּתֵן לָךְ; וּמַה-בְּקִשְׁתְּךָ 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. וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר, וַתֹּאמֶר: שְׂאֵלְתִי, וּבְקִשְׁתִּי

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

8. אם-מצאתי חן בעיני המלך, ואם-על-המלך טוב, לתת את-שאלתי, ולעשות את-בקשתי--יבוא המלך והמן, אל-המשתה אשר אעשה להם, ומחר אעשה, בדבר המלך

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. ויצא המן ביום ההוא, שמח וטוב לב; וכראות המן את-מרדכי בשער המלך, ולא-קם ולא-זע ממנו--וימלא המן על-מרדכי, חמה

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. ויתאפק המן, ויבוא אל-ביתו; וישלח ויבא את-אהביו, ואת-זרש אשתו

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

11. ויספר להם המן את-כבוד עשרו, ורב בניו; ואת כל-אשר גדלו המלך ואת אשר נשאו, על-השרים ועבדי המלך

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. ויאמר, המן--אף לא-הביאה אסתר המלכה עם-המלך אל-המשתה אשר-עשתה, כי אם-אותי; וגם-למחר אני קרוא לה, עם-המלך

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. וכל-זה, איננו שוה לי: בכל-עת, אשר אני ראה את-מרדכי היהודי--
יושב, בשער המלך

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

14. ויתאמר לו זרש אשתו וכל-אהביו, יעשו-עץ גבה חמשים אמה, ובבקר אמר למלך ויתלו את-מרדכי עליו, ובא-עם-המלך אל-המשתה שמח; וייטב הדבר לפני המן, ויעש העץ. {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, נִדְדָה שְׁנַת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיֹּאמֶר, לְהַבִּיא אֶת-סֵפֶר הַזְּכָרֹנוֹת דְּבָרֵי 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. וַיִּמְצָא כְּתוּב, אֲשֶׁר הֶגִיד מְרֻדַּכַּי עַל-בְּגַתְנָא וְתֶרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי סְרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ-- מִשְׁמֵרֵי הַסֵּף: אֲשֶׁר בִּקְשׁוּ לְשַׁלַּח יָד, בַּמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ

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--מֵה-נַעֲשָׂה יִקָּר וּגְדוּלָה לְמְרֻדַּכַּי, עַל-זֶה; וַיֹּאמְרוּ נְעָרֵי 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 בַּחֲצַר; וְהָמֵן בָּא, לְחַצֵּר בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַחַיְצוֹנָה, לֵאמֹר לְמַלְכִּי, לְתַלּוֹת אֶת-מְרֻדַּכַּי 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, מֵה-לַעֲשׂוֹת בְּאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ; וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן, בְּלִבּוֹ, לְמִי יַחְפֹּץ הַמֶּלֶךְ לַעֲשׂוֹת יִקָּר, 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, אֵל-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 לְבִשׁ-בוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְסוּס, אֲשֶׁר רָכַב עָלָיו הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאֲשֶׁר נָתַן כְּתֹר מַלְכוּת, בְּרֵאשׁוֹ

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-יַד-אִישׁ מִשָּׂרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּרִתִּים, וְהַלְבִּישׁוּ אֶת-הָאִישׁ, אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ; וְהַרְכִּיבֵהוּ עַל-הַסּוּס, בְּרַחֲבֵי הָעִיר, וְקָרְאוּ לְפָנָיו, כְּכֹה יַעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ 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 לְהֶמֶן, מַהֲרָה קַח אֶת-הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת-הַסּוּס כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ, וַעֲשֶׂה-בֵּן לְמֹרְדֵכַי הַיְּהוּדִי, הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ: אֵל-תִּפֹּל דָּבָר, מִכֹּל 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 הֶמֶן אֶת-הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת-הַסּוּס, וַיִּלְבֹּשׁ אֶת-מֹרְדֵכַי; וַיַּרְכִּיבֵהוּ, בְּרַחֲבֵי הָעִיר, וַיִּקְרָא לְפָנָיו, כְּכֹה 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 מֹרְדֵכַי, אֶל-שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְהֶמֶן נִדְחַף אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ, אָבֵל וְחַפּוּי רֹאשׁ

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

13. וַיְסַפֵּר הֶמֶן לְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ, וּלְכָל-אֲהָבָיו, אֵת, כָּל-אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ; וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ חֲכָמָיו וְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ, אִם מִזֶּרַע הַיְּהוּדִים מֹרְדֵכַי אֲשֶׁר הַחֲלוֹת לְנַפְל לְפָנָיו לֹא-תוּכַל לוֹ--כִּי-נִפּוֹל תִּפּוֹל, לְפָנָיו

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. עוֹדִם מְדַבְּרִים עִמּוֹ, וְסָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הִגִּיעוּ; וַיְבַהֲלוּ לְהַבִּיא אֶת-הֶמֶן, 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--מֵה-שְׂאֵלֶתְךָ אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וְתַנְתֵּן לָךְ; וּמֵה-בְקִשְׁתְּךָ 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, וְתֹאמַר--אִם-מְצָאתִי חַן בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב: תִּנָּתֶן-לִי נַפְשִׁי בְשֵׂאלֶתִי, 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 נִמְכַרְנוּ אֲנִי וְעַמִּי, לְהִשָּׁמִיד לְהָרוּג וּלְאָבֵד; וְאִלּוּ לְעֲבָדִים וּלְשִׁפְחוֹת נִמְכַרְנוּ, הִחַרְשֵׁתִי--כִּי אֵין הָצָר שׁוֹה, 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 אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ, 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. וְתֹאמַר אֶסְתֵּר--אִישׁ צָר וְאוֹיֵב, הָמָן הָרַע הַזֶּה; וְהָמָן נִבְעַת, מִלְּפָנֵי 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-גִּנַּת, הַבַּיִת; וְהָמָן עָמַד, לְבַקֵּשׁ עַל-נַפְשׁוֹ מֵאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה--כִּי רָאָה, 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 מִגִּנַּת הַבַּיִת אֶל-בֵּית מִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן, וְהָמָן נָפַל עַל-הַמָּטָה אֲשֶׁר אֶסְתֵּר עָלֶיהָ, וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ, הֲגַם לְכַבּוֹשׁ אֶת-הַמַּלְכָּה עַמִּי בְּבַיִת; 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 חַרְבוֹנָה אֶחָד מִן-הַסְּרִיסִים לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, גַּם הִנֵּה-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה הַמֶּן לְמֹרְדֵכַי אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר-טוֹב עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ עֹמֵד בְּבַיִת הַמֶּן--גְּבוּהָ, 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-הַמֶּן, עַל-הָעֵץ, אֲשֶׁר-הֵכִין לְמֹרְדֵכַי; 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.

Chapter: 8

1. בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחְשֻׁרוּשׁ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, אֶת-בַּיִת הַמֶּן, עִיר הַיְהוּדִים (הַיְהוּדִים); וּמֹרְדֵכַי, בָּא לְפָנֵי 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. וַיִּסֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-טַבַּעְתּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר הֶעֱבִיר מֵהַמֶּן, וַיִּתְּנָהּ, לְמֹרְדֵכַי; וַתִּשֶׂם אֶסְתֵּר אֶת-מֹרְדֵכַי, עַל-בַּיִת הַמֶּן. {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. וַתּוֹסֵף אֶסְתֵּר, וַתְּדַבֵּר לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וַתִּפֹּל, לְפָנֵי רַגְלָיו; וַתִּבְךְּ וַתִּתְחַנֵּן-לוֹ, לְהֶעֱבִיר אֶת-רַעַת הַמֶּן הָאֲגָגִי, וְאֵת מַחְשְׁבֹתוֹ, אֲשֶׁר חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְהוּדִים

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. וַיּוֹשֵׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר, אֶת שֵׁרֶבֶט הַזָּהָב; וַתִּקַּם אֶסְתֵּר, וַתַּעֲמֵד לְפָנֵי 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-מִצָּאתִי חֵן לְפָנָיו, וְכִשֶּׁר הִדְבַּר לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְטוֹבָה אָנִי, בְּעֵינָיו--יִכְתַּב לְהָשִׁיב אֶת-הַסְּפָרִים, מִחֲשַׁבַת הַמֶּן בֶּן-הַמֶּדְתָּא הָאֲגָגִי, אֲשֶׁר כָּתַב לְאַבְד אֶת-הַיְהוּדִים, 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, וְרֵאִיתִי, בְּרָעָה, אֲשֶׁר-יִמְצָא אֶת-עַמִּי; וְאֵיכָכָה אוֹכֵל וְרֵאִיתִי, 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 אַחֲשֻׁרֶשׁ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וּלְמֹרְדֵכַי הַיְהוּדִי: הִנֵּה בֵּית-הַמָּן נִתְּתִי לְאַסְתֵּר, וְאֹתוֹ תָלוּ עַל-הָעֵץ--עַל אֲשֶׁר-שָׁלַח יָדוֹ, בַּיהוּדִים (בַּיהוּדִים)

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 כְּתֹבוּ עַל-הַיְהוּדִים כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֵיכֶם, בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְחַתְמוּ, בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ: כִּי-כָתַב אֲשֶׁר-נִכְתַּב בְּשֵׁם-הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְנִחַתּוּם 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 בַּעַת-הַהִיא בַּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁלִישִׁי הוּא--חֹדֶשׁ סִיוָן, בְּשָׁלוֹשָׁה וְעֶשְׂרִים בּוֹ, וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּכָל-אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה מֹרְדֵכַי אֶל-הַיְהוּדִים וְאֶל הָאַחֲשֻׁדְרָפְנִים--וְהַפְּחוֹת וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינֹת אֲשֶׁר מֵהַדָּו וְעַד--כּוֹשׁ שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כְּכַתְּבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם כְּלִשְׁוֹנוֹ; וְאֶל-הַיְהוּדִים--בְּכַתְּבָם, וּכְלִשְׁוֹנָם

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 אַחֲשֻׁרֶשׁ, וַיַּחֲתֹם, בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ; וַיִּשְׁלַח סֹפְרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים בְּסוּסִים רַכְבֵּי הָרֶכֶשׁ, הָאַחֲשֻׁדְרָפְנִים--בְּנֵי, הָרָמָכִים

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 לַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-עִיר-וָעִיר, לְהִקָּהֵל וְלַעֲמֹד עַל--נַפְשָׁם--לְהַשְׁמִיד וְלַהֲרֹג וְלֹאבֹד 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. בַּיּוֹם אֶחָד, בְּכָל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁרוּשׁ--בְּשִׁלוּשָׁה עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם-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. פֶּתֶשֶׁגֶן הַכְּתָב, לְהַנְתִּין דָּת בְּכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, גְּלוּי, לְכָל-הָעַמִּים; וְלַהֲיוֹת הַיְהוּדִים (הַיְהוּדִים) עֵתוּדִים (עֵתִידִים) 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, הָאֲחֻשְׁתָּרַנִּים, יֵצְאוּ מִבְּהַלִּים וּדְחוּפִים, בְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְהָדַת 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. וּמֶרְדֵּכַי יֵצֵא מִלְּפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, בְּלְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וְחוּר, וְעֹטָרַת זָהָב גְּדוּלָּה, וְתִכְרִיף בּוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן; וְהָעִיר שׁוֹשַׁן, 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 rob of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan shouted and was glad.

16. לַיְהוּדִים, הִיְתָה אֹרֶה וְשִׂמְחָה, וְשִׂשׂוֹן, וִיקָר

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

17. וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וּבְכָל-עִיר וְעִיר, מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ, שִׂמְחָה וְשִׂשׂוֹן לַיְהוּדִים, מִשְׁתָּה וַיּוֹם טוֹב; וְרַבִּים מֵעַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ, מִתִּיְהָדִים--כִּי-נָפַל פֶּחַד-הַיְהוּדִים, 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.

1. ובשנים עשר חדש הוא-חדש אדר, בשלושה עשר יום בו, אשר הגיע דבר-
המלך ודתו, להעשות: ביום, אשר שברו איבי היהודים לשלוט בהם, ונהפוך
הוא, אשר ישלטו היהודים המה בשנאייהם

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. נקהלו היהודים בעריהם, בכל-מדינות המלך אחשורוש, לשלח יד,
במבקשי רעתם; ואיש לא-עמד לפנייהם, כי-נפל פחדם על-כל-העמים

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. וכל-שרי המדינות והאחשדרפנים והפחות, ועשי המלאכה אשר למלך--
מנשאים, את-היהודים: כי-נפל פחד-מרדכי, עליהם

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. כי-גדול מרדכי בבית המלך, ושמעו הולך בכל-המדינות: כי-האיש
מרדכי, הולך וגדול

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. ויכו היהודים בכל-איביהם, מכת-חרב והרג ואבדן; ויעשו בשנאייהם,
ברצונם

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. ובשושן הבירה, הרגו היהודים ואבד--חמש מאות, {ר} איש. {ס}

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

7. ואת {ר} פרשנדתא {ס} ואת {ר} דלפון, {ס} ואת {ר} אספתא. {ס}

7. And Parshandatha, and Dalphon, and Aspatha,

8. ואת {ר} פורתא {ס} ואת {ר} אדליא, {ס} ואת {ר} ארידתא. {ס}

8. and Poratha, and Adalia, and Aridatha,

9. וְאֵת {ר} פָּרְמִשְׁתָּא {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרְיַסִי, {ס} וְאֵת {ר} אַרְיַדִי {ס} וְאֵת {ר} וַיִּזְתְּאוּ. {ס}

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

10. עֲשֶׂרֶת {ר} בְּנֵי הָמָן בֶּן-הַמְּדַתָּא, צִרַר הַיְהוּדִים--הָרְגוּ; 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. בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, בָּא מִסְפַּר הַהֲרוּגִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה--לְפָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

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

12. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה הָרְגוּ הַיְהוּדִים וְאַבְדוּ חַמִּשָּׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי-הָמָן--בְּשָׂאֵר מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ, מֶה עָשׂוּ; וּמַה--שָׂאֲלֶתֶךְ וַיִּנָּתֶן לָךְ, וּמַה-בְּקִשְׁתֶּךָ עוֹד וְתַעֲשִׂי

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. וְתֹאמְרִי אֶסְתֵּר, אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב--יִנָּתֶן גַּם-מִחֶרֶת לַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוּשַׁן, לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּדַת הַיּוֹם; וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי-הָמָן, 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 to-morrow also according unto this day's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged upon the gallows.'

14. וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן, וְתִנָּתֶן דָּת בְּשׁוּשַׁן; וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי-הָמָן, תֵּלּוּ

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. וַיִּקְהֻלוּ הַיְהוּדִים (הַיְהוּדִים) אֲשֶׁר-בְּשׁוּשַׁן, גַּם בַּיּוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, וַיְהַרְגוּ בְּשׁוּשַׁן, שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ; וּבְבִזָּה--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.

16. וּשְׂאֵר הַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּמְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְהְלוּ וְעָמְדוּ עַל-נַפְשָׁם, וְנוֹחַ

מֵאִיבֵיהֶם, וְהָרוּג בְּשִׁנְאֵיהֶם, חֲמִשָּׁה וְשִׁבְעִים אָלֶף; וּבְבִזָּה--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, לְחֹדֶשׁ 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. וְהַיְהוּדִים (וְהַיְהוּדִים) אֲשֶׁר-בְּשׁוּשָׁן, נִקְהְלוּ בְּשְׁלוֹשָׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ, וּבְאַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר, בּוֹ; וְנוֹחַ, בְּחַמְשָׁה 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-בֵּן הַיְהוּדִים הַפְּרוּזִים (הַפְּרוּזִים), הַיֹּשְׁבִים בְּעָרֵי הַפְּרוּזוֹת--עֹשִׂים אֵת יוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, שִׂמְחָה וּמְשֻׁתָּה וְיוֹם טוֹב; וּמְשַׁלַּח מְנוֹת, אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ

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.

20. וַיִּכְתֹּב מֶרְדֳּכָי, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיִּשְׁלַח סְפָרִים אֶל-כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים, אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְדִינוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ--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. לְקִיָּם, עֲלֵיהֶם--לְהִיּוֹת עֹשִׂים אֵת יוֹם אַרְבָּעָה עָשָׂר לְחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר, וְאֵת יוֹם-חַמְשָׁה 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 בָהֶם הַיְהוּדִים מֵאִיְבֵיהֶם, וְהַחֹדֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר נִהְפָּךְ לָהֶם מִיָּגוֹן לְשִׂמְחָה, וּמֵאֵבֶל לְיוֹם טוֹב; לַעֲשׂוֹת אוֹתָם, יְמֵי מְשֻׁתָּה וְשִׂמְחָה, וּמְשַׁלַּח מְנוֹת אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ, וּמִתְּנוֹת 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, הַיְהוּדִים, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-הִחֵלוּ, לַעֲשׂוֹת; וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-כָּתַב מֶרְדֳּכָי, אֲלֵיהֶם

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, צָרַר כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים--חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְהוּדִים, לְאַבְדֵם; וְהִפֵּל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוּרְלָה, לְהִמָּס 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. וּבְבֹאָהּ, לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, אָמַר עִם-הַסֵּפֶר, יָשׁוּב מִחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר-חָשַׁב עַל-הַיְהוּדִים 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.

26. עַל-בֶּן קָרְאוּ לַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה פּוּרִים, עַל-שֵׁם הַפּוּר--עַל-בֶּן, עַל-כָּל-דְּבָרֵי הָאֲגָרָת הַזֹּאת; וְמָה-רָאוּ עַל-כִּכָּה, 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. קִיְמוּ וּקְבִלוּ (וּקְבִלוּ) הַיְהוּדִים עֲלֵיהֶם וְעַל-זֶרְעָם וְעַל כָּל-הַנְּלוּיִם עֲלֵיהֶם, וְלֹא יַעֲבוּר--לְהִיזוֹת עֲשִׂים אֶת שְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה, כְּכַתְּבָם וְכִזְמָנָם: 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 וְנִעְשִׂים בְּכָל-דּוֹר וְדוֹר, מִשְׁפָּחָה וּמִשְׁפָּחָה, מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה, וְעִיר וְעִיר; וַיְמִי הַפּוּרִים הָאֵלֶּה, לֹא יַעֲבֹרוּ מִתּוֹךְ הַיְהוּדִים, וְזִכְרָם, 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. וְתִכְתֹּב אֶסְתֵּר הַמֶּלְכָּה בֵּת-אֲבִיחַיִל, וּמֹרְדֵכַי הַיְהוּדִי--אֶת-כָּל-תִּקְוָהּ: לְקַיֵּם, אֶת אֲגָרַת 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-הַיְהוּדִים, אֶל-שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה--מְלָכוֹת, אַחֲשֻׁרוּשׁ: דְּבָרֵי שְׁלוֹם, וְאַמֶּת

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 הַפְּרִים הָאֵלֶּה בְּזִמְנֵיהֶם, בְּאֲשֶׁר קָיִם עֲלֵיהֶם מֶרְדֵּכַי הַיְהוּדִי וְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה, וְכַאֲשֶׁר קִיְמוּ עַל-נַפְשָׁם, וְעַל-זְרָעָם: דְּבַרֵי 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.

32. וּמֵאֲמַר אֶסְתֵּר--קָיִם, דְּבַרֵי 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. וַיֵּשֶׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ (אַחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ) מִסַּעַל-הָאָרֶץ, וְאֵיִי הַיָּם

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

2. וְכָל-מַעֲשֵׂה תְקִפּוֹ, וְגִבּוֹרָתוֹ, וּפְרָשֶׁת גְּדֻלַּת מֶרְדֵּכַי, אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ-- הַלּוֹא-הֵם כְּתוּבִים, עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבַרֵי הַיָּמִים, לְמַלְכֵי, 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 מֶרְדֵּכַי הַיְהוּדִי, מְשֻׁנָּה לְמֶלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרֶשׁ, וְגָדוֹל לַיְהוּדִים, וְרָצוּי לְרַב אַחֲיוֹ--דִּרְשׁ טוֹב לְעַמּוֹ, וְדִבֵּר שְׁלוֹם לְכָל-זְרָעוֹ. {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 -