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Open English Translation of the Bible

Ester

translated from the Greek Septuagint

Introduction

This Greek account of *Ester* follows a young Jewish woman who becomes queen in the empire of Paras (Persia). Her guardian Mordekai refuses to bow to the powerful official Haman, who responds by planning to destroy all the Yehudim (Jews) in the empire. Ester must decide whether to risk her own life by approaching the king and identifying herself with her threatened people.

Readers of the other OET account of Ester will recognise the main events, but this version also includes Mordekai's dream, prayers for rescue, royal letters, and further details about Ester's approach to the king. These passages explicitly describe the characters' dependence on God and his part in their rescue. The account also explains the celebration called 'Purim', when the people remember how their sorrow was turned into joy.

The book of Ester in the Greek Septuagint contains five additions that the traditional Hebrew text doesn't have. These additions are recognised as Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Romaios Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Russian Orthodox Churches. Those additions are enclosed in [square brackets]. Because the additions by themselves make little sense without the broader context of the book, we present here a translation of the whole book of Ester from the Greek.

We have chosen not to distract the reader with confusing out-of-order chapter numbers that would result from using the KJB versification, but rather merge these 5 additions as extensions at the beginning of 1:1 and after 3:13, 4:17, 8:12, and 10:3. This makes some verses (1:1, 5:1, and 8:12) really long, but it also makes the verses line up with the same verse numbers in Ester as translated from the traditional Hebrew text. Some of the proper names in this book have been changed to the more familiar Hebrew form instead of the direct transliteration from the Greek.

Main components of this account

Mordekai's dream and Ester's rise to become queen *1:1–2:23*
Haman's threat and the prayers of Mordekai and Ester *3:1–4:47*
Ester appeals to the king and Haman is executed *5:1–7:10*
The Yehudim defend themselves and establish Purim *8:1–9:32*
Mordekai's position and the explanation of his dream *10:1-14*

The DC editions are placed side by side by chapter only. Their verse numbering and textual contents differ; corresponding lines are not established equivalents.

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.

Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.

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Readers' Version

Mordekai's dream and the plot against the king

1:1 [In the second year of the reign of Ahashverosh (Ahasuerus) the great king, on the first day of Nisan, Mordekai the son of Yair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, of the tribe of Benyamin, a Yehudi (Jew) dwelling in the city Shushan (Susa), a great man, serving in the king's palace, saw a vision. Now he was one of the captives whom Nevukadnetsar (Nebuchadnezzar) king of Bavel (Babylon) had carried captive from Yerushalem (Jerusalem) with Yekaneyah the king of Yehudah (Judea). This was his dream: Listen, voices and a noise, thunders and earthquake, tumult on the earth. And two great serpents came out, both ready for conflict. A great voice came from them. Every nation was prepared for battle by their voice, even to fight against the nation of the just. Listen, a day of darkness and blackness, suffering and anguish, affection and tumult on the earth. And all the righteous nation was troubled, fearing their own afflictions. They prepared to die, and cried to God. Something like a great river from a little spring with much water, came from their cry. Light and the sun arose, and the lowly were exalted, and devoured the honourable.

Mordekai, who'd seen this vision and what God desired to do, having arisen, kept it in his heart, and desired by all means to interpret it, even until night.

Mordekai rested quietly in the palace with Gabatha and Teresh the king's two chamberlains, eunuchs who guarded the palace. He heard their conversation and searched out their plans. He learnt that they were preparing to lay hands on King Ahashverosh; and he informed the king about them. The king examined the two chamberlains. They confessed, and were led away and executed. The king wrote these things for a record. Mordekai also wrote about these matters. The king commanded Mordekai to serve in the palace, and gave gifts for this service. But Haman the son of Hamedata the Bugaean was honoured in the sight of the king, and he endeavoured to harm Mordekai and his people, because of the king's two chamberlains.][1]

King Ahashverosh's lavish feasts

And it happened after these things[2] in the days of Ahashverosh, —(this Ahashverosh ruled over one hundred and twenty-seven provinces from Hodu)— **2** in those days, when King Ahashverosh was on the throne in the city of Shushan, **3** in the third year of his reign, he made a feast for his friends, for people from the rest of the nations, for the leading citizens of the Persians and Madim (Medes), and for the chief of the local governors. **4** After this—after he'd shown them the wealth of his kingdom and the abundant glory of his wealth during one hundred and eighty days— **5** when the days of the wedding feast were completed, the king made a banquet lasting six days for the people of the nations who were present in the city, in the courtyard of the king's house, **6** which was adorned with fine linen and flax on cords of

Literal Version

1:1 "⟦Ἔτους⟧ secondly ⟦βασιλεύοντος⟧ Artaxerxou of_the great king the/this/who one of_the Nisan, dream to_perceive Mardokaios the/this/who of_the Yairou, of_the Semeiou, of_ _the Kisaiou, out_from tribe Beniamin, **1b** a_human Jewish to_ _dwell in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ the/this/who city, a_human great, to_serve/heal in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard of_the king. **1c** to_be but/and out_from the/this/who ⟦αἰχμαλωσίας⟧, to_be to_take_captive Nabouk̔odonosor king Babulōnos out_from Yerousalaʸm, with/after Yek̔oniou of_the king the/this/who Jewish/Judea. **1d** "and this/he/she/it he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there the/this/who dream; and look! voice/sound and commotion, thunder and ⟦σεισμὺς⟧, disturbance upon/to/against the/this/who earth. **1e** and look! two ⟦δράκοντες⟧ great, ⟦ἕτομοι⟧ to_go_before both ⟦παλαίειν⟧; and to_be he/she/it/self voice/sound great, **1f** and the/this/who voice/sound he/she/it/self ⟦ἡτοιμάσθη⟧ all Gentile_nation toward war, so to_fight just Gentile_nation. **1g** and look! day darkness and ⟦γνόφου⟧, pressure and hardship, oppression and disturbance great upon/to/against the/this/who earth. **1h** and to_trouble all Gentile_nation just to_fear the/this/who my/your/him-self evil/harm, and ⟦ἡτοιμάσθησαν⟧ to_destroy, and ⟦ἐβόησαν⟧ to/with the/this/who God; **1i** away_from but/and the/this/who ⟦βοῆς⟧ he/she/it/self to_be ⟦ὡσανεὶ⟧ away_from ⟦μικρᾶς⟧ flow river great, water much. **1k** and light and the/this/who sun to_rise, and the/this/who ⟦ταπεινοὶ⟧ ⟦ὑψώθησαν⟧, and to_devour the/this/who ⟦ἐνδόξους⟧. **1l** "and to_arouse Mardok̔aios the/this/who to_see the/this/who dream this/he/she/it, and one/which? the/this/who God ⟦βεβούλευται⟧ to_do/make, to_ _have/be he/she/it/self in/on/among the/this/who heart, and in/on/among all word to_will/desire to_come_to_know he/she/it/self until the/this/who night. **1m** and ⟦ἡσύχασε⟧ Mardok̔aios in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard. with/after Gabatha and Thaṛṛa the/this/who two ⟦εὐνούχων⟧ of_the king, the/this/who ⟦φυλασσόντων⟧ the/this/who palace/courtyard. **1n** to_hear and/both he/she/it/self the/this/who ⟦λογισμοὺς⟧, and the/this/who to_worry he/she/it/self ⟦ἐξηρεύνησεν⟧; and to_learn, that/since ⟦ἑτοιμάζουσι⟧ the/this/who hand to_put_on/seize Artaxerxaʸ the/this/who king; and to_show the/this/who king about he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self. **1o** and ⟦ἐξήτασεν⟧ the/this/who king the/this/who two ⟦εὐνούχους⟧, and to_ _confess/profess ⟦σαντες⟧ ⟦ἀπήχθησαν⟧. **1p** and to_write the/this/who king the/this/who word this/he/she/it toward memorial, and Mardok̔aios to_write about the/this/who word this/he/she/it. **1q** and to_command the/this/who king Mardok̔aiōi to_serve/heal in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard, and ⟦ἔδωκεων⟧ he/she/it/self gift about this/he/she/it. **1r** and to_be Aman Amadathou bully honoured before of_the king, and to_seek ⟦κακποιῆσαι⟧ the/this/who Mardok̔aion and the/this/who a_people he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, above/for the/this/who two ⟦εὐνούχων⟧ of_the king." **1s** and to_be with/after the/this/who word this/he/she/it in/on/among

1 **RV 1:1 · Note** Note: The Hebrew and some copies of LXX, don't have these first few lines.

2 **RV 1:1 · Note** Greek words.

Literal Version

the/this/who day Artaxerxou; this/he/she/it the/this/who Artaxerxaʸs away_from the/this/who [[Ἰνδικῆς]] hundred twenty-seven [[χωρῶν]] to_grasp/seize; 2 in/on/among he/she/it/self the/this/who day when [[ἐθρονίσθη]] king Artaxerxaʸs in/on/among [[Σούσοις]] the/this/who city, 3 in/on/among the/this/who [[τρίτῳ]] year [[βασιλεύοντος]] he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, banquet to_do/make the/this/who friendly/friend and the/this/who remaining Gentile_nation, and the/this/who Persōn and Maʸdōn honoured, and the/this/who ruler the/this/who [[σατραπῶν]]. 4 and with/after this/he/she/it with/after the/this/who to_ _show he/she/it/self the/this/who riches the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and the/this/who glory the/this/who joy of_the riches he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there in/on/among day hundred eighty. 5 when but/and [[ἀνεπληρώθησαν]] the/this/who/which day of_the wedding, to_do/make the/this/who king [[πότον]] the/this/who Gentile_nation the/this/who [[εὑρεθεῖσιν]] toward the/this/who city upon/to/against day six, in/on/among palace/courtyard house of_the king 6 [[κεκοσμημένῃ]] [[βυσσίνοις]] and [[καρπασίνοις]] [[τεταμένοις]] upon/to/against [[σχοινίοις]] [[βυσσίνοις]] and [[πορφυροῖς]], upon/to/against [[κύβοις]] [[χρυσοῖς]] and [[ἀργυροῖς]], upon/to/against [[στύλοις]] Parian and [[λιθίνοις]]; [[κλίναι]] [[χρυσαῖ]] and [[ἀργυραῖ]] upon/to/against [[λιθοστρώτου]] [[σμαραγδίτου]] stone, and [[πιννίνου]], and [[Παρίνου]] stone; and [[στρωμναὶ]] [[διαφανεῖς]] variously [[διηνθισμέναι]], surrounding [[ῥόδα]] [[πεπασμένα]]; 7 [[Ποτήρια]] golden and silver, and [[ἀνθράκινον]] small_cup to_ _set_before away_from talent [[τρισμυρίων]]; wine much and agreeable, which he/she/it/self the/this/who king [[ἔπινεν]]. 8 the/this/who but/and carousing this/he/she/it no according_to to_set_before law to_be; thus(-ly) but/and to_ _will/desire the/this/who king, and to_command the/this/who manager to_do/make the/this/who will/desire he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and the/this/who a_ _human. 9 and Astin the/this/who queen to_do/make [[πότον]] the/this/who woman in/on/among the/this/who palace, where(-ever) the/this/who king Artaxerxaʸs. 10 in/on/among but/and the/this/who day the/this/who seventh gladly to_be the/this/who king, to_say the/this/who Aman, and Bazan, and Thaʓʓa, and [[Βωραζὶ]], and Zatholtha, and Abataza, and Tharaba, the/this/who seven [[εὐνούχοις]] the/this/who servant of_the king Artaxerxou, 11 to_bring_in the/this/who [[βασίλισσαν]] to/with he/she/it/self, to_reign he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self, and [[περιθεῖναι]] he/she/it/self the/this/who diadem, and to_show he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self the/this/who ruler, and the/this/who Gentile_nation the/this/who beauty he/she/it/self, that/since good to_be. 12 and no [[εἰσήκουσεν]] he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there Astin the/this/who queen to_come/go with/after the/this/who [[εὐνούχων]]; and to_grieve the/this/who king and to_anger, 13 and to_say the/this/who friendly/friend

Readers' Version

fine linen and purple, fastened to golden and silver studs on pillars of white marble and stone. There were golden and silver couches on a pavement of emerald stone, and of mother-of-pearl, and of white marble, with transparent coverings variously flowered, having roses arranged around it. 7 There were gold and silver cups, and a small cup of carbuncle set out, of the value of thirty thousand talents, with abundant and sweet wine, which the king himself drank. 8 This banquet wasn't according to the appointed law, but as the king desired to have it. He charged the stewards to perform his will and that of the company.

Queen Vashti refuses the king's command

9 Also Vashti the queen made a banquet for the women in the palace where King Ahashverosh lived. 10 Now on the seventh day, the king, being merry, told Haman, Bazan, Teresh, Baraze, Zatholtha, Abataza, and Tharaba, the seven chamberlains, servants of King Ahashverosh, 11 to bring in the queen to him, to[3] enthrone her, and crown her with the diadem, and to show her to the princes, and her beauty to the nations, for she was beautiful. 12 But queen Vashti refused to come with the chamberlains; so the king was grieved and angered. 13 And he said to his friends, "This is what Vashti said. Therefore pronounce your legal judgement on this case."

14 So Arkesaeus, Sarsathaeus, and Malisear, the princes of the Persians and Madim (Medes), who were near the king, who sat chief in rank by the king, drew near to him, 15 and reported to him according to the laws what it was proper to do to queen Vashti, because she hadn't done the things commanded by the king through the chamberlains. 16 And Memukan said to the king and to the princes, "Queen Vashti hasn't wronged the king only, but also all the king's rulers and princes; 17 for he's told them the queen's words, and how she[4] disobeyed the king. As she then refused to obey King Ahashverosh, 18 so this day the other wives of the chiefs of the Persians and Madim, having heard what she said to the king, will dare in the same way to dishonour their husbands. 19 If then it seems good to the king, let him make a royal decree, and let it be written according to the laws of the Madim and Persians, and let him not alter it: 'Don't allow the queen to come in to him any more. Let the king give her royalty to a woman better than she.' 20 Let the king's law which he'll have made be widely proclaimed in his kingdom. Then all the women will give honour to their husbands, from the poor even to the rich." 21 This advice pleased the king and the princes; and the king did as Memukan had said, 22 and sent into all his kingdom through the several provinces, according to their language, so that men might be feared in their own houses.

3 **RV 1:11 · Note** Greek to make her queen.

4 **RV 1:17 · Note** Greek contradicted.

Readers' Version

The search for a new queen

2:1 After this, the king's anger was pacified, and he no more mentioned Vashti, bearing in mind what she'd said, and how he'd condemned her. **2** Then the king's servants said, "Let chaste, beautiful young virgins be searched for for the king. **3** Let the king appoint local governors in all the provinces of his kingdom, and let them select beautiful, chaste young ladies and bring them to the city Shushan (Susa), into the women's apartment. Let them be consigned to the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women. Then let things for purification and other needs be given to them. **4** Let the woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti."

This thing pleased the king; and he did so.

5 Now there was a Yehudi (Jew) in the city Shushan, and his

Literal Version

he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, according_to this/he/she/it to_speak Astin, to_do/make therefore/then about this/he/she/it law and judgement. **14** and to_come_ _near/agree he/she/it/self Arkesaios, and Sarsathaios, and [[Μαλισεὰρ]], the/this/who ruler Persōn and Ma^{y}dōn, the/this/who near of_the king, the/this/who first [[παρακαθήμενοι]] the/this/who king, **15** and to_announce he/she/it/self according_to the/this/who law, which/how be_ _necessary to_do/make Astin the/this/who [[βασιλίσσῃ]], that/since no to_do/make the/this/who by/under of_the king [[προσταχθέντα]] through/because_of the/this/who [[εὐνούχων]]. **16** and to_say the/this/who Mouķaios to/with the/this/who king and the/this/who ruler, no the/this/who king alone/only to_harm Astin the/this/who queen, but and all the/this/who ruler and the/this/who to_govern of_the king; **17** and for to_relate_fully he/she/it/self the/this/who declaration the/this/who queen, and which/how [[ἀντεῖπε]] the/this/who king; which/how therefore/then [[ἀντεῖπε]] the/this/who king Artaxerxa^{y}, **18** thus(-ly) today the/this/who/which [[τυραννίδες]] the/this/who/which remaining the/this/who ruler Persōn and Ma^{y}dōn [[ἀκούσασαι]] the/this/who the/this/who king [[λεχθέντα]] by/under he/she/it/self, [[τολμήσουσιν]] similarly [[ἀτιμάσαι]] the/this/who man he/she/it/self. **19** to_be therefore/then to_ _think the/this/who king, [[προσταξάτω]] royal, and [[γραφήτω]] according_to the/this/who law Ma^{y}dōn and Persōn, and not otherwise [[χρησάσθω]], nor to_enter still the/this/who queen to/with he/she/it/self, and the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self to_give the/this/who king woman [[κρείττονι]] he/she/it/self. **20** and [[ἀκουσθήτω]] the/this/who law the/this/who by/under of_the king, which if to_do/make in/on/among the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there; and thus(-ly) all the/this/who/which woman [[περιθήσουσι]] honour the/this/who man my/your/him-self, away_from [[πτωχοῦ]] until rich. **21** and to_please the/this/who word the/this/who king and the/this/who ruler; and to_do/make the/this/who king as/just_as to_speak the/this/who Mouķaios, **22** and to_ _send toward all the/this/who kingdom according_to country, according_to the/this/who [[λέξιν]] he/she/it/self, so to_be fear he/she/it/self in/on/among the/this/who [[οἰκίαις]] he/she/it/self.

2:1 and with/after the/this/who word this/he/she/it to_ _abate the/this/who king of_the wrath, and no still to_ _remember the/this/who Astin, [[μνημονεύων]] such_as to_ _speak, and which/how to_condemn he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self. **2** and to_say the/this/who servant of_the king, [[ζητηθήτω]] the/this/who king [[κοράσια]] [[ἄφθορα]] good the/this/who appearance; **3** and to_ _appoint/conduct the/this/who king [[κωμάρχας]] in/on/among all the/this/who country the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there; and [[ἐπιλεξάτωσαν]] [[κοράσια]] [[παρθενικὰ]] good the/this/who appearance toward Sousan the/this/who city toward the/this/who [[γυναικῶνα]]; and [[παραδοθήτωσαν]] the/this/who [[εὐνούχῳ]] of_the king the/this/who [[φύλακι]] the/this/who woman; and [[δοθήτω]] beauty_treatment, and the/this/who [[λοιπὴ]] care. **4** and the/this/who woman the/this/who/which if to_please

Literal Version

the/this/who king, to_reign for Astin; and to_please
the/this/who king the/this/who thing, and to_do/make
thus(-ly). **5** and a_human to_be Jewish in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧
the/this/who city, and name
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there Mardokaios
the/this/who of_the Yairou, of_the Semeiou, of_the Kisaiou,
out_from tribe Beniamin, **6** which to_be captive out_from
Hierousalaʸm, which to_take_captive Nabouḳodonosor king
Babulōnos. **7** and to_be this/he/she/it child ⟦θρεπτή⟧, daughter
Aminadab brother father
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and name
he/she/it/self Esthaʸr; in/on/among but/and the/this/who
⟦μεταλλάξαι⟧ he/she/it/self the/this/who parent,
⟦ἐπαίδευσεν⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self
my/your/him-self toward woman; and to_be the/this/who girl
good the/this/who appearance. **8** and when to_hear
the/this/who of_the king an_order, to_assemble much
⟦κοράσια⟧ toward Sousan the/this/who city by/under hand
Gai, and to_bring Esthaʸr to/with Gai the/this/who ⟦φύλακα⟧
the/this/who woman. **9** and to_please he/she/it/self
the/this/who girl, and to_find/meet because_of/grace before
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there; and ⟦ἔσπευσε⟧ to_
_give he/she/it/self the/this/who beauty_treatment, and
the/this/who part, and the/this/who seven ⟦κοράσια⟧
the/this/who ⟦ὑποδεδειγμένα⟧ he/she/it/self out_from
⟦βασιλικοῦ⟧; and ⟦ἐχρήσατο⟧ he/she/it/self well and
the/this/who ⟦ἅβραις⟧ he/she/it/self in/on/among
the/this/who ⟦γυναικῶνι⟧; **10** and no to_show Esthaʸr
the/this/who family he/she/it/self and_not the/this/who
fatherland; the/this/who for Mardokaios to_order
he/she/it/self not to_announce. **11** according_to each but/and
day to_walk the/this/who Mardokaios according_to
the/this/who palace/courtyard the/this/who ⟦γυναικείαν⟧,
⟦ἐπισκοπῶν⟧ one/which? Esthaʸr ⟦συμβήσεται⟧.
12 this/he/she/it but/and to_be time/right_time ⟦κορασίου⟧
to_enter to/with the/this/who king, when(-ever) to_fulfil
month twelve; thus(-ly) for ⟦ἀναπληροῦνται⟧
the/this/who/which day the/this/who service, month six
⟦ἀλειφομέναις⟧ in/on/among ⟦σμυρνίνῳ⟧ olive_oil, and
month six in/on/among the/this/who ⟦ἀρώμασι⟧ and
in/on/among the/this/who ⟦σμήγμασι⟧ the/this/who woman,
13 and then to_enter to/with the/this/who king; and which if
to_say, to_deliver he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self
⟦συνεισέρχεσθαι⟧ he/she/it/self away_from of_the
⟦γυναικῶνος⟧ until the/this/who ⟦βασιλείων⟧; **14** ⟦Δείλης⟧ to_
_enter, and to/with day ⟦ἀποτρέχει⟧ toward the/this/who
⟦γυναικῶνα⟧ the/this/who secondly, which/whither Gai
the/this/who eunuch of_the king the/this/who a_guard
the/this/who woman, and no still to_enter to/with
the/this/who king, if not ⟦κληθῇ⟧ name. **15** in/on/among
but/and the/this/who ⟦ἀναπληροῦσθαι⟧ the/this/who time
Esthaʸr the/this/who daughter Aminadab brother father
Mardokaiou to_enter to/with the/this/who king, none
⟦ἠθέτησεν⟧ which to_order the/this/who eunuch
the/this/who a_guard the/this/who woman; to_be for Esthaʸr
⟦εὑρίσκουσα⟧ because_of/grace from_with all the/this/who to_
_see he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self. **16** and to_enter Esthaʸr
to/with Artaxerxaʸn the/this/who king the/this/who

Readers' Version

name was Mordekai, the son of Yair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish, of the tribe of Benyamin. **6** He'd been brought as a prisoner from Yerushalem (Jerusalem), whom Nevukadnetsar (Nebuchadnezzar) king of Bavel (Babylon) had carried into captivity. **7** He had a foster child, daughter of Aminadav his father's brother. Her name was Ester. When her parents died, he brought her up to womanhood as his own. This lady was beautiful. **8** And because the king's ordinance was published, many ladies were gathered to the city of Shushan under Hegay's hand; and Ester was brought to Hegay, the keeper of the women. **9** The lady pleased him, and she found favour in his sight. He hurried to give her the things for purification, her portion, and the seven maidens appointed her out of the palace. He treated her and her maidens well in the women's apartment. **10** But Ester didn't reveal her family or her kindred, for Mordekai had charged her not to tell. **11** But Mordekai used to walk every day by the women's courtyard, to see what'd become of Ester.

12 Now this was the time for a virgin to go into the king, when she'd completed twelve months; for so are the days of purification fulfilled, six months while they're anointing themselves with oil of myrrh, and six months with spices and women's purifications. **13** And then the lady goes in to the king. The officer that he commands to do so will bring her to come in with him from the women's apartment to the king's chamber. **14** She enters in the evening, and in the morning she departs to the second women's apartment, where Hegay the king's chamberlain is keeper of the women. She doesn't go in to the king again, unless she's called by name.

Ester becomes queen

15 And when the time was fulfilled for Ester the daughter of Aminadav the brother of Mordekai's father to go in to the king, she neglected nothing which the chamberlain, the women's keeper, commanded; for Ester found grace in the sight of all who looked at her. **16** So Ester went in to King Ahashverosh (Ahasuerus) in the twelfth month, which is Adar, in the seventh year of his reign. **17** The king loved Ester, and she found favour beyond all the other virgins. He put the queen's crown on her. **18** The king made a banquet for all his friends and great men for seven days, and he highly celebrated the marriage of Ester; and he granted a remission of taxes to those who were under his dominion.

Mordekai uncovers a plot against the king

19 Meanwhile, Mordekai served in the courtyard. **20** Now Ester hadn't revealed her country, for so Mordekai commanded her, to fear God, and perform his commandments, as when she was with him. Ester didn't change her manner of life.

21 Two chamberlains of the king, the chiefs of the body-guard, were grieved, because Mordekai was promoted; and they tried to kill King Ahashverosh. **22** And the matter was discovered by Mordekai, and he made it known to Ester, and she declared to the king the matter of the conspiracy. **23** And the king examined the two chamberlains and hanged them. Then the king gave orders to make a note for a memorial in the royal library of the

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goodwill shown by Mordekai, as a commendation.

Haman plans to annihilate the Yehudim

3:1 After this, King Ahashverosh highly honoured Haman the son of Hamedata, the Bugaean. He exalted him and set his seat above all his friends. **2** All in the palace bowed down to him, for so the king had given orders to do; but Mordekai didn't bow down to him. **3** And they in the king's palace said to Mordekai, "Mordekai, why do you transgress the king's commands?" **4** They questioned him daily, but he didn't listen to them; so they reported to Haman that Mordekai resisted the king's commands; and Mordekai had shown to them that he was a Yehudi (Jew). **5** When Haman understood that Mordekai didn't bow down to him, he was greatly enraged, **6** and plotted to utterly destroy all the Yehudim (Jews) who were under the rule of Ahashverosh.

7 In the twelfth year of Ahashverosh's reign, Haman made a decision by casting lots by day and month, to kill the race of Mordekai in one day. The lot fell on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar. **8** So he spoke to King Ahashverosh, saying, "There's a nation scattered among the nations in all your kingdom, and their laws differ from all the other nations. They disobey the king's laws. It isn't expedient for the king to tolerate them. **9** If it seem good to the king, let him make a decree to de-

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⟦δωδεκάτῳ⟧ month, which to_be Adar, the/this/who ⟦ἑβδόμῳ⟧ year the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **17** and ⟦ἠράσθη⟧ the/this/who king Esthaʸr, and to_find/meet because_of/grace from_with all the/this/who ⟦παρθένους⟧, and to_put/lay_on he/she/it/self the/this/who diadem the/this/who ⟦γυναικεῖον⟧. **18** and to_do/make the/this/who king ⟦πότον⟧ all the/this/who friendly/friend he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there and the/this/who power upon/to/against day seven, and to_lift_up the/this/who wedding Esthaʸr, and forgiveness to_do/make the/this/who by/under the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **19** the/this/who but/and Mardokaios to_serve/heal in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard. **20** the/this/who but/and Esthaʸr no to_show the/this/who fatherland he/she/it/self; thus(-ly) for to_order he/she/it/self Mardokaios, to_fear the/this/who God, and to_ _do/make the/this/who ⟦προστάγματα⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, as/just_as to_be with/after he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there; and Esthaʸr no ⟦μετήλλαξε⟧ the/this/who ⟦ἀγωγὴν⟧ he/she/it/self. **21** and to_grieve the/this/who two eunuch of_ _the king the/this/who ⟦ἀρχισωματοφύλακες⟧, that/since ⟦προήχθη⟧ Mardokaios, and to_seek to_kill Artaxerxaʸn the/this/who king. **22** and to_make_clear Mardokaiōi the/this/who word, and to_signify Esthaʸr, and he/she/it/self ⟦ἐνεφάνησε⟧ the/this/who king the/this/who the/this/who plot. **23** the/this/who but/and king ⟦ἤτασε⟧ the/this/who two ⟦εὐνούχους⟧, and ⟦ἐκρέμασεν⟧ he/she/it/self; and to_order the/this/who king ⟦καταχωρίσαι⟧ toward memorial in/on/among the/this/who ⟦βασιλικῇ⟧ a_library above/for the/this/who enthusiasm Mardokaiou, in/on/among ⟦ἐγκωμίῳ⟧.

3:1 with/after but/and this/he/she/it to_glorify the/this/who king Artaxerxaʸs Aman Amadathou Bougaion, and to_lift_up he/she/it/self, and ⟦ἐπρωτοβάθρει⟧ all the/this/who friendly/friend he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, **2** and all the/this/who in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard to_worship he/she/it/self; thus(-ly) for to_order the/this/who king to_do/make; the/this/who but/and Mardokaios no to_ _worship he/she/it/self. **3** and to_speak the/this/who in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard of_the king the/this/who Mardokaiōi, Mardokaie, one/which? ⟦παρακούεις⟧ the/this/who by/under of_the king to_speak? **4** according_to each day to_speak he/she/it/self, and no ⟦ὑπήκουεν⟧ he/she/it/self; and ⟦ὑπέδειξαν⟧ the/this/who Aman, Mardokaion the/this/who of_the king word ⟦ἀντιτασσόμενον⟧, and to_show he/she/it/self the/this/who Mardokaios that/since Youdaios he_is. **5** and to_come_to_know Aman that/since no to_worship he/she/it/self Mardokaios, to_ _anger very, **6** and ⟦ἐβουλεύσατο⟧ ⟦ἀφανίσαι⟧ all the/this/who by/under the/this/who Artaxerxou kingdom Youdaious. **7** and to_do/make a_referendum in/on/among year ⟦δωδεκάτῳ⟧ the/this/who kingdom Artaxerxou, and to_throw lot day out_ _from day, and month out_from ⟦μηνὸς⟧, so to_destroy in/on/among one day the/this/who family Mardokaiou; and

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to_collapse the/this/who lot toward the/this/who fourteenth of_the ⟦μηνὸς⟧ which to_be Adar. **8** and to_speak to/with the/this/who king Artaxerxaʸn, to_speak, to_be Gentile_nation ⟦διεσπαρμένον⟧ in/on/among the/this/who Gentile_nation in/on/among all the/this/who kingdom you, the/this/who but/and ⟦νόμοι⟧ he/she/it/self ⟦ἔξαλλοι⟧ from_with all the/this/who Gentile_nation, the/this/who but/and ⟦νόμων⟧ of_the king ⟦παρακούουσι⟧, and no to_be_profitable the/this/who king ⟦ἐᾶσαι⟧ he/she/it/self. **9** if to_think the/this/who king, ⟦δογματισάτω⟧ to_destroy he/she/it/self, I/we/and_I ⟦διαγράψω⟧ toward the/this/who treasury of_the king money talent ⟦μύρια⟧. **10** and ⟦περιελόμενος⟧ the/this/who king the/this/who ring, to_give toward hand the/this/who Aman, ⟦σφραγίσαι⟧ according_to the/this/who to_write according_to the/this/who Jewish. **11** and to_say the/this/who king the/this/who Aman, the/this/who on_one_ _hand money to_have/be, the/this/who but/and Gentile_ _nation to_use which/how to_plan. **12** and ⟦ἐκλήθησαν⟧ the/this/who scribe of_the king month first the/this/who ⟦τρισκαιδεκάτῃ⟧, and to_write which/how to_command Aman the/this/who officer/magistrate and the/this/who ruler according_to all country away_from ⟦Ἰνδικῆς⟧ until the/this/who Aithiopias, the/this/who hundred twenty-seven country, the/this/who and/both ruler the/this/who Gentile_ _nation according_to the/this/who he/she/it/self ⟦λέξιν⟧, through/because_of Artaxerxou of_the king. **13** and to_send through/because_of ⟦βιβλιοφόρων⟧ toward the/this/who Artaxerxou kingdom, ⟦ἀφανίσαι⟧ the/this/who family the/this/who Jewish in/on/among day one ⟦μηνὸς⟧ ⟦δωδεκάτου⟧, which to_be Adar, and to_rob the/this/who to_be he/she/it/self. **13a** "the/this/who but/and epistle he_is the/this/who a_transcript ⟦τόδε⟧. king great Artaxerxaʸs the/this/who away_from the/this/who ⟦Ἰνδικῆς⟧ until the/this/who Aithiopias hundred twenty-seven ⟦χωρῶν⟧ ruler and ⟦τοπάρχαις⟧ ⟦ὑποτεταγμένοις⟧ this to_write. **13b** much ⟦ἐπάρξας⟧ Gentile_nation, and all ⟦ἐπικρατήσας⟧ world, to_ _plan, not the/this/who ⟦θράσει⟧ the/this/who authority ⟦ἐπαιρόμενος⟧, ⟦ἐπιεικέστερον⟧ but/and and with/after ⟦ἠπιότητος⟧ always ⟦διεξάγων⟧ the/this/who the/this/who ⟦ὑποτεταγμένων⟧ ⟦ἀκυμάντους⟧ always ⟦καταστῆσαι⟧ ⟦βίους⟧, the/this/who and/both kingdom ⟦ἥμερον⟧ and ⟦πορευτὴν⟧ until end ⟦παρεξόμενος⟧, ⟦ἀνανεώσασθαί⟧ and/both the/this/who ⟦ποθουμένην⟧ the/this/who all a_human peace. **13c** ⟦Πυθομένου⟧ but/and I/we the/this/who ⟦συμβούλων⟧, how?/how?! if ⟦ἀχθείη⟧ this/he/she/it upon/to/against end, the/this/who mental_soundness from_with I/we ⟦διενέγκας⟧, and in/on/among the/this/who enthusiasm ⟦ἀπαραλλάκτως⟧ and firm faith ⟦ἀποδεδειγμένος⟧, and secondly the/this/who ⟦βασιλειῶν⟧ an_honour ⟦ἀπενηνεγμένος⟧ Aman, **13d** ⟦ἐπέδειξεν⟧ I/we in/on/among all the/this/who according_to the/this/who world tribe ⟦ἀναμεμίχθαι⟧ ⟦δυσμενῆ⟧ a_people one, the/this/who ⟦νόμοις⟧ ⟦ἀντίθετον⟧ to/with all Gentile_nation, the/this/who and/both the/this/who king ⟦παραπέμποντας⟧ ⟦διηνεκῶς⟧ ⟦διατάγματα⟧, to/with the/this/who not ⟦κατατίθεσθαι⟧

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stroy them, and I'll remit into the king's treasury ten thousand talents of silver."

10 So the king took off his ring, and gave it into Haman's hands to seal the decrees against the Yehudim. **11** The king said to Haman, "Keep the silver, and treat the nation as you will." **12** So the king's recorders were called in the first month, on the thirteenth day, and they wrote as Haman commanded to the captains and governors in every province, from Hodu even to Kush (Ethiopia), to one hundred and twenty-seven provinces; and to the rulers of the nations according to their languages, in King Ahashverosh's name. **13** The message was sent by couriers throughout Ahashverosh's kingdom, to utterly destroy the race of the Yehudim on the first day of the twelfth month, which is Adar, and to plunder their goods.[5] [The following is the copy of the letter. "From the great King Ahashverosh to the rulers and the governors under them of one hundred and twenty-seven provinces, from Hodu even to Kush, who hold authority under him:

"Ruling over many nations and having obtained dominion over the whole world, I was determined (not elated by the confidence of power, but ever conducting myself with great moderation and gentleness) to make the lives of my subjects continually tranquil, desiring both to maintain the kingdom quiet and orderly to its utmost limits, and to restore the peace desired by all men. When I'd asked my counsellors how this should be brought to pass, Haman, who excels in soundness of judgement among us, and has been manifestly well inclined without wavering and with unshaken fidelity, and had obtained the second post in the kingdom, informed us that a certain ill-disposed people is scattered among all the tribes throughout the world, opposed in their law to every other nation, and continually neglecting the king's commands, so that the united government blamelessly administered by us isn't quietly established. Having then conceived that this nation is continually set in opposition to every man, introducing as a change a foreign code of laws, and injuriously plotting to accomplish the worst of evils against our interests, and against the happy establishment of the monarchy, we instruct you in the letter written by Haman, who's set over the public affairs and is our second governor, to destroy them all utterly with their wives and children by the swords of the enemies, without pitying or sparing any, on the fourteenth day of the twelfth month Adar, of the present year; that the people formerly and now ill-disposed to us having been violently consigned to death in one day, may in the future secure to us continually a well constituted and quiet state of affairs."] **14** Copies of the letters were published in every province; and an order was given to all the nations to be ready for that day. **15** This business was hastened also in Shushan (Susa). The king and Haman began to drink, but the city was confused.

5 **RV 3:13 · Note** Note: The part in brackets is not in Hebrew

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Mordekai asks Ester to help her people

4:1 But Mordekai, having perceived what was done, tore his clothes, put on sackcloth, and sprinkled dust on himself. Having rushed forth through the open street of the city, he cried with a loud voice, "A nation that's done no wrong is going to be destroyed!" **2** He came to the king's gate, and stood; for it wasn't lawful for him to enter into the palace wearing sackcloth and ashes. **3** And in every province where the letters were published, there was crying, lamentation, and great mourning on the part of the Yehudim. They wore sackcloth and ashes. **4** The queen's maids and chamberlains went in and told her; and when she'd heard what was done, she was deeply troubled. She sent clothes to Mordekai to replace his sackcloth, but he refused. **5** So Ester called for her chamberlain Hatak, who waited on her; and she sent to learn the truth from Mordekai. **7** Mordekai showed him what was done, and the promise which Haman had made the king of ten thousand talents to be paid into the treasury, that he might destroy the Yehudim. **8** And he gave him the copy of what was published in Shushan about their destruction to show to Ester; and told him to charge her to go in and entreat the king, and to beg him for the people. "Remember, he said, the days of your humble condition, how you were nursed by my hand; because Haman, who holds the next place to the king, has spoken against us to cause our death. Call on the master, and speak to the king about us, to deliver us from death."

9 So Hatak went in and told her all these words. **10** Ester said to Hatak, "Go to Mordekai, and say, **11** 'All the nations of the empire

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the/this/who by/under I/we ⟦κατευθυνομένην⟧ blamelessly ⟦συναρχίαν⟧. **13e** ⟦Διειληφότες⟧ therefore/then ⟦τόδε⟧ the/this/who Gentile_nation ⟦μονώτατον⟧ in/on/among ⟦ἀντιπαραγωγῇ⟧ all always a_human to_lay/be_appointed, ⟦διαγωγὴν⟧ ⟦νόμων⟧ ⟦ξενίζουσαν⟧ ⟦παραλλάσσον⟧, and ⟦δυσνοοῦν⟧ the/this/who our ⟦πράγμασι⟧ the/this/who ⟦χείριστα⟧ ⟦συντελοῦν⟧ evil/harm, and to/with the/this/who not the/this/who kingdom ⟦εὐσταθείας⟧ ⟦τυγχάνειν⟧; **13f** ⟦προστετάχαμεν⟧ therefore/then the/this/who ⟦σημαινομένους⟧ you in/on/among the/this/who to_write by/under Aman of_the ⟦τεταγμένου⟧ upon/to/against the/this/who thing, and secondly father I/we, all with ⟦γυναιξὶ⟧ and child to_destroy ⟦ὁλοριζὶ⟧, the/this/who the/this/who enemy ⟦μαχαίραις⟧, without all ⟦οἴκτου⟧ and ⟦φειδοῦς⟧, the/this/who fourteenth of_the ⟦δωδεκάτου⟧ ⟦μηνὸς⟧ Adar, of_the be_present ⟦ἔτους⟧, **13g** that the/this/who of_old and now ⟦δυσμενεῖς⟧ in/on/among day one forcibly toward the/this/who Hades to_descend, toward the/this/who afterward time ⟦εὐσταθῆ⟧ and ⟦ἀτάραχα⟧ ⟦παρέχωσιν⟧ I/we through/because_of goal/tax the/this/who ⟦πράγματα⟧." **14** the/this/who but/and ⟦ἀντίγραφα⟧ the/this/who epistle to_explain/expose according_to country; and ⟦προσετάγη⟧ all the/this/who Gentile_nation ready to_be toward the/this/who day this/he/she/it. **15** ⟦Ἐσπεύδετο⟧ but/and the/this/who thing, and toward Sousan; the/this/who but/and king and Aman ⟦ἐκωθωνίζοντο⟧; ⟦ἐταράσσετο⟧ but/and the/this/who city.

4:1 the/this/who but/and Mardokaios to_come_to_know the/this/who ⟦συντελούμενον⟧, to_tear the/this/who clothing my/your/him-self, and to_put_on ⟦σάκκον⟧, and ⟦κατεπάσατο⟧ ⟦σποδόν⟧; and ⟦ἐκπηδήσας⟧ through/because_of the/this/who wide the/this/who city, ⟦ἐβόα⟧ voice/sound great, to_take_up Gentile_nation nothing ⟦ἠδικηκός⟧. **2** and to_come/go until the/this/who gate of_the king, and to_stand; no for to_be he/she/it/self it_is_permitted to_enter toward the/this/who palace/courtyard, ⟦σάκκον⟧ to_have/be and ⟦σποδόν⟧. **3** and in/on/among all country which/whither to_explain/expose the/this/who something_written, shouting and lamentation and grief great the/this/who Youdaiois, ⟦σάκκον⟧ and ⟦σποδὸν⟧ to_spread my/your/him-self. **4** and to_enter the/this/who/which ⟦ἅβραι⟧ and the/this/who eunuch the/this/who queen, and to_report he/she/it/self; and to_ _trouble to_hear the/this/who to_be; and to_send ⟦στολίσαι⟧ the/this/who Mardokaion, and ⟦ἀφελέσθαι⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there the/this/who ⟦σάκκον⟧; the/this/who but/and no ⟦ἐπείσθη⟧. **5** the/this/who but/and Esthaʸr to_call_to/summon Akrathaion the/this/who ⟦εὐνοῦχον⟧ he/she/it/self, which ⟦παρειστήκει⟧ he/she/it/self, and to_send to_learn this/he/she/it from_with of_the Mardokaiou the/this/who ⟦ἀκριβές⟧. **7** the/this/who but/and Mardokaios to_show he/she/it/self the/this/who to_ _be, and the/this/who promise which to_profess Aman the/this/who king toward the/this/who Gazah talent myriad, in_order_that/to to_destroy the/this/who Youdaious. **8** and the/this/who a_transcript the/this/who in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ ⟦ἐκτεθὲν⟧ above/for of_the to_destroy he/she/it/self, to_give he/she/it/self to_show the/this/who

Literal Version

Esthaʸr; and to_say he/she/it/self, ⟦ἐντείλασθαι⟧ he/she/it/self ⟦εἰσελθούσῃ⟧ ⟦παραιτήσασθαι⟧ the/this/who king, and ⟦ἀξιῶσαι⟧ he/she/it/self about of_the a_people, ⟦μνησθεῖσα⟧ day lowliness you, which/how ⟦ἐτράφης⟧ in/on/among hand I/we, because Aman the/this/who ⟦δευτερεύων⟧ the/this/who king to_speak according_to I/we toward death; ⟦ἐπικάλεσαι⟧ the/this/who lord, and ⟦λάλησον⟧ the/this/who king about I/we, to_deliver I/we out_from death. **9** to_enter but/and the/this/who Akṛathaios ⟦ἐλάλσεν⟧ he/she/it/self all the/this/who word this/he/she/it. **10** to_say but/and Esthaʸr to/with Akṛathaion, to_travel to/with Mardokaion, and to_say, **11** that/since the/this/who Gentile_ _nation all the/this/who kingdom to_know that/since all a_ _human or/than woman which to_enter to/with the/this/who king toward the/this/who palace/courtyard the/this/who inner uncalled, no to_be he/she/it/self salvation; but/however which ⟦ἐκτείνῃ⟧ the/this/who king the/this/who golden rod, this/he/she/it to_save; I/we/and_I no ⟦κέκλημαι⟧ to_enter to/with the/this/who king, to_be this/he/she/it day thirty. **12** and to_announce Akṛathaios Mardokaiōi all the/this/who word Esthaʸr. **13** and to_say Mardokaios to/with Akṛathaion, to_travel, and to_say he/she/it/self, Esthaʸr, not to_say ⟦σεαυτῇ⟧, that/since to_save abode in/on/among the/this/who kingdom from_with all the/this/who Youdaious; **14** which/how that/since if ⟦παρακούσῃς⟧ in/on/among this/he/she/it the/this/who time/right_time, ⟦ἄλλοθεν⟧ help and a_shelter to_be the/this/who Youdaiois; you but/and and the/this/who house of_the father you to_destroy; and one/which? to_perceive, if toward the/this/who time/right_ _time this/he/she/it to_reign? **15** and to_send_out/away Esthaʸr the/this/who ⟦ἤκοντα⟧ to/with he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self, to/with Mardokaion, to_ _speak, **16** ⟦βαδίσας⟧ ⟦ἐκκλησίασον⟧ the/this/who Youdaious the/this/who in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧, and ⟦νηστεύσατε⟧ upon/to/against I/we/my, and not to_eat nor to_drink upon/to/against day three night and day; I/we/and_I but/and and the/this/who/which ⟦ἄβραι⟧ I/we ⟦ἀσιτήσομεν⟧; and then to_enter to/with the/this/who king from_with the/this/who law, if and to_destroy I/we be_necessary. **17** and ⟦βαδίσας⟧ Mardokaios to_do/make just_as/how_much to_order he/she/it/self Esthaʸr; **17a** "and to_pray lord, ⟦μνημονεύων⟧ all the/this/who work lord, and to_say, **17b** lord lord king all to_ _grasp/seize, that/since in/on/among authority you the/this/who all he_is, and no to_be the/this/who ⟦ἀντιδοξῶν⟧ you in/on/among the/this/who to_will/desire you to_save the/this/who Israaʸl. **17c** that/since you to_ _do/make the/this/who heaven and the/this/who earth, and all ⟦θαυμαζόμενον⟧ in/on/among the/this/who by/under heaven. and lord to_be all, and no to_be which ⟦ἀντιτάξεταί⟧ you the/this/who lord. **17d** you all to_know; you to_perceive, lord, that/since no in/on/among ⟦ὕβρει⟧, and_not in/on/among ⟦ὑπερηφανείᾳ⟧, and_not in/on/among ⟦φιλοδοξίᾳ⟧ to_do/make this/he/she/it, the/this/who not to_ _worship the/this/who ⟦ὑπερήφανον⟧ Aman. that/since ⟦ηὐδόκουν⟧ ⟦φιλεῖν⟧ ⟦πέλματα⟧ foot

Readers' Version

know that any man or woman who goes in to the king into the inner courtyard without being called, that person must die, unless the king stretches out his golden sceptre; then he'll live. I haven't been called to go into the king for thirty days.' "

12 So Hatak reported to Mordekai all Ester's words. **13** Then Mordekai said to Hatak, "Go, and say to her, 'Ester, don't say to yourself that you alone will escape in the kingdom, more than all the other Yehudim. **14** Because if you keep quiet on this occasion, help and protection will come to the Yehudim from another place; but you and your father's house will perish. Who knows if you've been made queen for this occasion?' "

15 And Ester sent the messenger who came to her to Mordekai, saying, **16** "Go and assemble the Yehudim that are in Shushan (Susa), and all of you fast for me. Don't eat or drink for three days, night and day. My maidens and I'll also fast. Then I'll go in to the king contrary to the law, even if I must die."

17 So Mordekai went and did all that Ester commanded him.[6]

Mordekai prays for his people

18 [He prayed to the master, making mention of all the master's works. **19** He said, "master God, you're king ruling over all, for all things are in your power, and there's no one who can oppose you in your purpose to save Yisrael (Israel); **20** for you've made the heaven and the earth and every wonderful thing under heaven. **21** You're master of all, and there's no one who can resist you, master. **22** You know all things. You know, master, that it isn't in insolence, nor arrogance, nor love of glory, that I've done this, to refuse to bow down to the arrogant Haman. **23** Because I'd gladly have kissed the soles of his feet for the safety of Yisrael. **24** But I've done this that I might not set the glory of man above God's glory. I won't worship anyone except you, my master, and I won't do these things in arrogance. **25** And now, Oh master God, the King, the god of Avraham, spare your people, for our enemies are planning our destruction, and they've desired to destroy your ancient inheritance. **26** Don't overlook your people, whom you've redeemed for yourself out of the land of Mitsrayim (Egypt). **27** Listen to my prayer. Have mercy on your inheritance and turn our mourning into gladness, that we may live and sing praise to your name, Oh master. Don't utterly destroy the mouth of those who praise you, Oh master."

28 All Yisrael cried with all their might, for death was before their eyes.

Ester prays for courage and help

29 And queen Ester took refuge in the master, being taken as it were in the agony of death. **30** Having taken off her glorious clothing, she put on clothes of distress and mourning. Instead of grand perfumes she filled her head with ashes and dung. She greatly humbled her body, and she filled every place of her glad adorning with her tangled hair. **31** She implored the master God of Yisrael, and said, "Oh my master, you alone are our king. Help me. I'm destitute,

6 RV 4:17 · Note Note: The part between brackets, i.e. to the end of chapter 5 is not in the Hebrew

Readers' Version

and have no helper but you, **32** for my danger is near at hand.[7] **33** I've heard from my birth in the tribe of my kindred that you, master, took Yisrael out of all the nations, and our fathers out of all their kindred for a perpetual inheritance, and have done for them all that you've said. **34** And now we've sinned before you, and you've delivered us into our enemies' hands, **35** because we honoured their gods. You're righteous, Oh master. **36** But now they haven't been content with the bitterness of our slavery, but have laid their hands on the hands of their idols **37** to abolish the decree of your mouth, and utterly to destroy your inheritance, and to stop the mouth of those who praise you, and to extinguish the glory of your house and your altar, **38** and to open the mouth of the Gentiles to speak the[8] praises of vanities, and that a mortal king should be admired forever. **39** Oh master, don't surrender your sceptre to those who don't exist, and don't let them laugh at our fall, but turn their counsel against themselves, and make an example of him who's begun to injure us. **40** Remember us, Oh master! Manifest yourself in the time of our affliction. Encourage me, Oh King of gods, and ruler of all dominion! **41** Put harmonious speech into my mouth before the lion, and turn his heart to hate him who fights against us, to the utter destruction of those who agree with him. **42** But deliver us by your hand, and help me who am alone and have no one but you, Oh master. **43** You know all things, and know that I hate the glory of transgressors,[9] and that I abhor the bed of the uncircumcised and of every stranger. **44** You know my necessity, for I abhor the symbol of my proud station, which is on my head in the days of my[10] splendour. I abhor it as a menstruous cloth, and I don't wear it in the days of my tranquillity. **45** Your handmaid hasn't eaten at Haman's table, and I haven't honoured the banquet of the king, neither have I drunk wine of libations. **46** Neither has your handmaid rejoiced since the day of my promotion until now, except in you, Oh master God of Avraham. **47** Oh god, who has power over all, listen to the voice of the desperate, and deliver us from the hand of those who devise mischief. Deliver me from my fear.]

Literal Version

he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there to/with salvation Israa^{y}l. **17e** but to_do/make this/he/she/it, in_order_that/to not to_place glory a_human above glory God; and no to_ _worship none, but/however you of_the lord I/we, and no to_ _do/make he/she/it/self in/on/among ⟦ὑπερηφανείᾳ⟧. **17f** and now, lord the/this/who God the/this/who king the/this/who God Abra'am, ⟦φεῖσαι⟧ of_the a_people you, that/since ⟦ἐπιβλέπουσιν⟧ I/we toward ⟦καταφθορὰν⟧, and to_long_for to_destroy the/this/who out_from beginning inheritance you. **17g** not ⟦ὑπερίδῃς⟧ the/this/who part you, which yourself ⟦ἐλυτρώσω⟧ out_from earth Aiguptou. **17h** ⟦Ἐπάκουσον⟧ the/this/who petition I/we, and to_propitiate the/this/who ⟦κλήρῳ⟧ you, and to_turn the/this/who grief I/we toward ⟦εὐωχίαν⟧, in_order_that/to to_live ⟦ὑμνῶμέν⟧ you the/this/who name lord, and not ⟦ἀφανίσῃς⟧ mouth to_praise you lord. **17i** "and all Israa^{y}l ⟦ἐκέκραξεν⟧ out_from strength he/she/it/self, that/since death he/she/it/self in/on/among eye he/she/it/self. **17k** and Estha^{y}r the/this/who queen ⟦κατέφυγεν⟧ upon/to/against the/this/who lord in/on/among fight death ⟦κατειλημμένη⟧, and ⟦ἀφελομένη⟧ the/this/who clothing the/this/who glory he/she/it/self, to_put_on clothing ⟦στενοχωρίας⟧ and ⟦πένθους⟧, and for the/this/who ⟦ὑπερηφάνων⟧ ⟦ἡδυσμάτων⟧, ⟦σποδοῦ⟧ and ⟦κοπριῶν⟧ to_fill_ _up the/this/who head he/she/it/self; and the/this/who body he/she/it/self to_humble very, and all place world ⟦ἀγαλλιάματος⟧ he/she/it/self ⟦ἔπλησε⟧ ⟦στρεπτῶν⟧ hair he/she/it/self. "and to_pray lord God Israa^{y}l, and to_say, **17l** lord I/we king I/we you to_be alone, to_help I/we the/this/who abode, and not to_have/be ⟦βοηθὸν⟧ if not you, that/since danger I/we in/on/among hand I/we. **17m** I/we to_ _hear out_from birth I/we in/on/among tribe family_line I/we, that/since you lord to_take the/this/who Israa^{y}l out_from all the/this/who Gentile_nation, and the/this/who father I/we out_from all the/this/who parent/ancestor he/she/it/self toward inheritance eternal, and to_do/make he/she/it/self just_as/how_much ⟦ἐλάλησας⟧. **17n** and now ⟦ἡμάρτομεν⟧ before you, and to_deliver I/we toward hand the/this/who enemy I/we, for which ⟦ἐδοξάσαμεν⟧ the/this/who God he/she/it/self; just to_be lord. **17o** and now no ⟦ἱκανώθησαν⟧ in/on/among ⟦πικρασμῷ⟧ slavery I/we, but to_place the/this/who hand he/she/it/self upon/to/against the/this/who hand the/this/who idol he/she/it/self, ⟦ἐξᾶραι⟧ ⟦ὁρισμὸν⟧ mouth you, and ⟦ἀφανίσαι⟧ inheritance you, and ⟦ἐμφράξαι⟧ mouth to_praise you and to_extinguish glory house you and altar you, **17p** and to_open mouth Gentile_nation toward virtue futile, and to_marvel king ⟦σάρκινον⟧ toward an_ _age. **17q** "⟦Μὴπαραδῷς⟧ lord the/this/who ⟦σκῆπτρόνσουτοῖς⟧ ⟦μὴοὖσι⟧, and not ⟦καταγελασάτωσαν⟧ in/on/among the/this/who ⟦πτώσει⟧ I/we, but to_turn the/this/who plan he/she/it/self upon/to/against he/she/it/self; the/this/who but/and ⟦ἀρξάμενον⟧ upon/to/against I/we ⟦παραδειγμάτισον⟧. **17r** to_remember lord, ⟦γνώσθητι⟧

7 **RV 4:32 · Note** Greek in my hand.

8 **RV 4:38 · Note** Greek virtues.

9 **RV 4:43 · Note** Or, opinion.

10 **RV 4:44 · Note** Greek vision.

Literal Version

in/on/among time/right_time pressure I/we, and I/we ⟦θάρσυνον⟧, king the/this/who ⟦θεῶν⟧, and all beginning ⟦ἐπικρατῶν⟧. **17s** to_give word ⟦εὔρυθμον⟧ toward the/this/who mouth I/we before of_the lion, and ⟦μετάθες⟧ the/this/who heart he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there toward hatred of_the ⟦πολεμοῦντος⟧ I/we, toward ⟦συντέλειαν⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there and the/this/who ⟦ὁμονοούντων⟧ he/she/it/self. **17t** I/we but/and to_deliver in/on/among hand you, and to_help I/we the/this/who abode, and not to_have/be if not you lord; **17u** all knowledge/to_know to_have/be, and to_perceive that/since to_hate glory lawless, and to_abhor bed ⟦ἀπεριτμήτων⟧, and all ⟦ἀλλοτρίου⟧. **17w** you to_perceive the/this/who necessity I/we, that/since to_abhor the/this/who sign the/this/who ⟦ὑπερηφανίας⟧ I/we, the/this/who/which to_be upon/to/against the/this/who head I/we in/on/among day vision I/we; to_abhor he/she/it/self which/how a_cloth ⟦καταμηνίων⟧, and no ⟦φορῶ⟧ he/she/it/self in/on/among day quietness I/we. **17x** and no to_eat the/this/who female_ _slave you table Aman, and no to_glorify common_meal king, and_not to_drink wine ⟦σπονδῶν⟧. **17y** and no to_celebrate the/this/who female_slave you away_from day ⟦μεταβολῆς⟧ I/we until now, but/however upon/to/against you/your, lord the/this/who God Habra'am. **17z** the/this/who God the/this/who ⟦ἰσχύων⟧ upon/to/against all, ⟦εἰσάκουσον⟧ voice/sound ⟦ἀπηλπισμένων⟧, and to_deliver I/we out_from hand the/this/who ⟦πονηρευομένων⟧, and to_deliver I/we out_from of_the fear I/we.

5:1 "and to_be in/on/among the/this/who day the/this/who third which/how to_cease to_pray, ⟦ἐξεδύσατο⟧ the/this/who clothing the/this/who service, and ⟦περιεβάλλετο⟧ the/this/who glory he/she/it/self. **1a** and ⟦γενηθεῖσα⟧ glorious, ⟦ἐπικαλεσαμένη⟧ the/this/who all ⟦ἐπόπτην⟧ God and saviour, to_take the/this/who two ⟦ἄβρας⟧, and the/this/who on_one_hand one ⟦ἐπηρείδετο⟧ which/how ⟦τρυφερευομένη⟧, the/this/who but/and other ⟦ἐπηκολούθει⟧ ⟦κουφίζουσα⟧ the/this/who ⟦ἔνδυσιν⟧ he/she/it/self. **1b** and he/she/it/self ⟦ἐρυθριῶσα⟧ at_this_moment ⟦κάλλους⟧ he/she/it/self; and the/this/who face he/she/it/self cheerful, which/how ⟦προσφιλές⟧; the/this/who but/and heart he/she/it/self ⟦ἀπεστενωμένη⟧ away_from of_the fear. **1c** and to_enter all the/this/who door, ⟦κατέστη⟧ before of_the king; and he/she/it/self to_sit upon/to/against of_the throne the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and all robe the/this/who appearing he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there ⟦ἐνδεδύκει⟧, all through/because_of gold/golden and stone ⟦πολυτελῶν⟧, and to_be fearful very. **1d** and to_take_up the/this/who face he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there to_burn glory/to_ _think, in/on/among at_this_moment wrath ⟦ἔβλεψεν⟧; and to_collapse the/this/who queen, and ⟦μετέβαλε⟧ the/this/who the_skin he/she/it/self in/on/among ⟦ἐκλύσει⟧; and ⟦κατεπέκυψεν⟧ upon/to/against the/this/who head the/this/who ⟦ἄβρας⟧ the/this/who ⟦προπορευομένης⟧. **1e** and

Readers' Version

Ester approaches the king

5:1 On the third day, when she'd finished praying, she took off her servant's dress and put on her glorious clothing. Being splendidly dressed and having called on God the Overseer and Preserver of all things, she took her two maids, and she leaned on one, as a delicate female, and the other followed bearing her train. She was blooming in the perfection of her beauty. Her face was cheerful and looked lovely, but her heart was filled with fear. Having passed through all the doors, she stood before the king. He was sitting on his royal throne. He'd put on all his glorious clothing, covered all over with gold and precious stones, and was very terrifying. And having raised his face resplendent with glory, he looked with intense anger. The queen fell, and changed her colour as she fainted. She bowed herself on the head of the maid who went before her. But God changed the king's spirit to gentleness, and in intense feeling, he sprang from off his throne, and took her into his arms, until she recovered. He comforted her with peaceful words, and said to her, "What's the matter, Ester? I'm your relative. Cheer up! You won't die, for our command is openly declared to you: 'Draw near.' "[11]

2 And having raised the golden sceptre, he laid it on her neck, and embraced her. He said, "Speak to me."

So she said to him, "I saw you, my lord, as an angel of God, and my heart was troubled for fear of your glory; for you, my lord,

11 RV 5:1 · Note From the first verse to the third, the Greek widely differs from the Hebrew

Readers' Version

are to be wondered at, and your face is full of grace." While she was speaking, she fainted and fell.

Then the king was troubled, and all his servants comforted her.
3 The king said, "What do you desire, Ester? What's your request? Ask even to the half of my kingdom, and it'll be yours."[12]
4 Ester said, "Today is a special day. So if it seems good to the king, let both him and Haman come to the feast which I'll prepare this day."
5 The king said, "Hurry and bring Haman here, that we may do as Ester said." So they both came to the feast about which Ester had spoken. 6 At the banquet, the king said to Ester, "What's your request, queen Ester? You'll have all that you require."
7 She said, "My request and my petition is: 8 if I've found favour in the king's sight, let the king and Haman come again tomorrow to the feast which I'll prepare for them, and tomorrow I'll do as I've done today."

Haman plans to hang Mordekai

9 So Haman went out from the king very glad and merry; but when Haman saw Mordekai the Yehudi (Jew) in the courtyard, he was greatly enraged. 10 Having gone into his own house, he called his friends, and his wife Zeresh. 11 He showed them his wealth and the glory with which the king had invested him, and how he'd promoted him to be chief ruler in the kingdom. 12 Haman said, "The queen has called no one to the feast with the king but me, and I'm invited tomorrow. 13 But these things don't please me while I see Mordekai the Yehudi in the courtyard.
14 Then Zeresh his wife and his friends said to him, "Let a fifty cubit tall[13] gallows be made for you. In the morning you speak to the king, and let Mordekai be hanged on the gallows; but you go in to the feast with the king, and be merry."
The saying pleased Haman, and the gallows was prepared.

Literal Version

⟦μετέβαλεν⟧ the/this/who God the/this/who spirit/breath of_
_the king toward gentleness, and ⟦ἀγωνιάσας⟧ ⟦ἀνεπήδησεν⟧
away_from of_the throne
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and ⟦ἀνέλαβεν⟧
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self upon/to/against
the/this/who arm he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there,
until which/whither ⟦κατέστη⟧; and to_plead/comfort
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self word ⟦εἰρηνικοῖς⟧, and to_
_say he/she/it/self, 1f one/which? to_be, Esthaʸr? I/we
the/this/who brother you, take_heart, no not ⟦ἀποθάνῃς⟧;
that/since common the/this/who an_order I/we to_be, to_
_come_near/agree. 2 "and to_take_up the/this/who golden
rod, to_put/lay_on upon/to/against the/this/who neck
he/she/it/self, and to_pay_respects_to
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self, and to_say, ⟦λάλησόν⟧ I/we.
2a and to_say he/she/it/self, to_perceive you lord which/how
angel God, and to_trouble the/this/who heart I/we away_from
fear the/this/who glory you, that/since marvellous to_be lord,
and the/this/who face you ⟦χαρίτων⟧ full. 2b in/on/among
but/and the/this/who ⟦διαλέγεσθαι⟧
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self, to_collapse away_from
⟦ἐκλύσεως⟧. and the/this/who king ⟦ἐταράσσετο⟧, and all
the/this/who service he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there
to_plead/comfort he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self." 3 and to_
_say the/this/who king, one/which? to_will/desire, Esthaʸr?
and one/which? you he_is the/this/who a_petition? until of_
_the half the/this/who kingdom I/we, and to_be you. 4 to_say
but/and Esthaʸr, day I/we notable today to_be; if
therefore/then to_think the/this/who king, to_come/go and
he/she/it/self and Aman toward the/this/who banquet, which
to_do/make today. 5 and to_say the/this/who king,
⟦κατασπεύσατε⟧ Aman, that to_do/make the/this/who word
Esthaʸr; and ⟦παραγίνονται⟧ both toward the/this/who
banquet, which to_say Esthaʸr. 6 in/on/among but/and
the/this/who ⟦πότῳ⟧ to_say the/this/who king to/with
Esthaʸr, one/which? he_is queen Esthaʸr? and to_be just_
_as/how_much ⟦ἀξιοῖς⟧. 7 and to_say, the/this/who request
I/we, and the/this/who a_petition; 8 if to_find/meet because_
_of/grace before of_the king, to_come/go the/this/who king
and Aman still the/this/who tomorrow toward the/this/who
banquet, which to_do/make he/she/it/self, and tomorrow to_
_do/make the/this/who he/she/it/self. 9 and to_go_out
the/this/who Aman away_from of_the king overjoyed to_
_celebrate; in/on/among but/and the/this/who to_perceive
Aman Mardokaion the/this/who Jewish in/on/among
the/this/who palace/courtyard, to_anger very. 10 and to_enter
toward the/this/who one's_own/private, to_call the/this/who
friendly/friend, and Zōsaran the/this/who woman
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, 11 and to_show
he/she/it/self the/this/who riches
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and the/this/who
glory which the/this/who king he/she/it/self to_put_on, and
which/how to_do/make he/she/it/self ⟦πρωτεύειν⟧ and to_
_govern the/this/who kingdom. 12 and to_say Aman, no to_call
the/this/who queen with/after of_the king none toward

12 **RV 5:3 · Note** From the first verse to the third, the Greek widely differs from the Hebrew
13 **RV 5:14 · Note** Greek a tree cut.

Literal Version

the/this/who banquet, but or/than I/we, and toward the/this/who tomorrow ⟦κέκλημαι⟧. **13** and this/he/she/it I/we no ⟦ἀρέσκει⟧, when(-ever) to_perceive Mardoḳaion the/this/who Jewish in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard. **14** and to_say to/with he/she/it/self Zōsara the/this/who woman he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and the/this/who friendly/friend, ⟦κοπήτω⟧ you wood cubit/hour fifty, dawn but/and to_say the/this/who king, and ⟦κρεμασθήτω⟧ Mardoḳaios upon/to/against of_the wood; you but/and to_enter toward the/this/who banquet with the/this/who king, and to_celebrate; and to_please the/this/who declaration the/this/who Aman, and ⟦ἡτοιμάσθη⟧ the/this/who wood.

6:1 the/this/who but/and lord to_leave the/this/who ⟦ὕπνον⟧ away_from he/she/it/self/the/this/who king the/this/who night that; and to_say the/this/who ⟦διακόνῳ⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there ⟦εἰσφέρειν⟧ something_written ⟦μνημόσυνα⟧ the/this/who day ⟦ἀναγινώσκειν⟧ he/she/it/self. **2** to_find/meet but/and the/this/who something_written the/this/who ⟦γραφέντα⟧ about Mardoḳaiou, which/how to_announce the/this/who king about the/this/who two ⟦εὐνούχων⟧ of_the king in/on/among the/this/who to_keep/guard he/she/it/self, and to_seek to_put_on/seize the/this/who hand Artaxerxa^{y}. **3** to_ _say but/and the/this/who king, which? glory or/than because_of/grace to_do/make the/this/who Mardoḳaiōi? and to_say the/this/who servant of_the king, no to_do/make he/she/it/self none. **4** in/on/among but/and the/this/who to_ _inquire the/this/who king about the/this/who enthusiasm Mardoḳaiou, look! Aman in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard; ⟦εἶπν⟧ but/and the/this/who king, one/which? in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard? the/this/who but/and Aman to_enter to_say the/this/who king, ⟦κρεμάσαι⟧ the/this/who Mardoḳaion upon/to/against the/this/who wood, which to_make_ready. **5** and to_say the/this/who servant of_the king, look! Aman to_stand in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard; and to_say the/this/who king, to_call he/she/it/self. **6** to_say but/and the/this/who king the/this/who Aman, one/which? to_ _do/make the/this/who a_human, which I/we to_will/desire to_glorify? to_say but/and in/on/among my/your/him-self Aman, which? to_will/desire the/this/who king to_glorify if not I/we? **7** to_say but/and to/with the/this/who king, a_ _human which the/this/who king to_will/desire to_glorify, **8** ⟦ἐνεγκάτωσαν⟧ the/this/who ⟦παῖδες⟧ of_the king robe ⟦βυσσίνην⟧ which the/this/who king ⟦περιβάλλεται⟧, and ⟦ἵππον⟧ upon/to/against which the/this/who king ⟦ἐπιβαίνει⟧, **9** and to_give one the/this/who friendly/friend of_the king the/this/who ⟦ἐνδόξων⟧, and ⟦στολισάτω⟧ the/this/who a_ _human, which the/this/who king to_love; and ⟦ἀναβιβασάτω⟧ he/she/it/self upon/to/against the/this/who ⟦ἵππον⟧, and ⟦κηρυσσέτω⟧ through/because_of the/this/who wide

Readers' Version

The king honours Mordekai

6:1 The master removed sleep from the king that night; so he told his servant to bring in the[14] books, the registers of daily events, to read to him. **2** And he found the[15] records written about Mordekai, how he'd told the king about the king's two chamberlains, when they were keeping guard, and tried to lay hands on Ahashverosh (Ahasuerus). **3** The king said, "What honour or favour have we done for Mordekai?"

The king's servants said, "You haven't done anything for him."

4 And while the king was enquiring about Mordekai's kindness, look, Haman was in the courtyard. The king said, "Who's in the courtyard? Now Haman had come in to speak to the king about hanging Mordekai on the gallows which he'd prepared. **5** The king's servants said, "Listen, Haman stands in the courtyard."

And the king said, "Call him!"

6 The king said to Haman, "What should I do for the man whom I wish to honour?"

Haman said within himself, "Whom would the king honour but myself?" **7** He said to the king, "As for the man whom the king wishes to honour, **8** let the king's servants bring the robe of fine linen which the king puts on, and the horse on which the king rides, **9** and let him give it to one of the king's noble friends, and let him dress the man whom the king loves. Let him mount him on the horse, and proclaim through the[16] streets of the city, saying, "This is what'll be done for every man whom the king honours!"

10 Then the king said to Haman, "You've spoken well. Do so for Mordekai the Yehudi (Jew), who waits in the palace, and let not a word of what you've spoken be neglected!"

11 So Haman took the robe and the horse, dressed Mordekai, mounted him on the horse, and went through the streets of the city, proclaiming, "This is what'll be done for every man whom the king wishes to honour." **12** Then Mordekai returned to the palace; but Haman went home mourning, with his head covered.

13 Haman related the events that'd happened to him to Zeresh

14 **RV 6:1 · Note** Greek letters.

15 **RV 6:2 · Note** Greek letters.

16 **RV 6:9 · Note** Or, wide space.

Readers' Version

his wife and to his friends. His friends and his wife said to him, "If Mordekai is of the race of the Yehudim (Jews), and you've begun to be humbled before him, you'll assuredly fall; and you won't be able to withstand him, for the living god is with him." **14** While they were still speaking, the chamberlains arrived to rush Haman to the banquet which Ester had prepared.

Ester exposes Haman's plan

7:1 So the king and Haman went in to drink with the queen. **2** The king said to Ester at the banquet on the second day, "What's it, queen Ester? What's your request? What's your petition? It'll be done for you, up to half of my kingdom."

3 She replied, "If I've found favour in the sight of the king, let my life be granted as my petition, and my people as my request. **4** Because both I and my people are sold for destruction, pillage, and genocide. If both we and our children were sold for male and female slaves, I wouldn't have bothered you, for this[17] isn't worthy of the king's palace."

5 The king said, "Who's dared to do this thing?"

6 Ester said, "The enemy is Haman, this wicked man!"

Then Haman was terrified in the presence of the king and the queen. **7** The king rose up from the banquet to go into the garden. Haman began to beg the queen for mercy, for he saw that he was in serious trouble. **8** The king returned from the garden; and Haman had fallen on the couch, begging the queen for mercy. The king said, "Will you even assault my wife in my house?"

And when Haman heard it, his expression changed. **9** And Bigtan, one of the chamberlains, said to the king, "Listen, Haman has also prepared a gallows for Mordekai, who spoke about the king, and a fifty cubit high gallows has been set up on Haman's

Literal Version

the/this/who city, to_speak, thus(-ly) to_be all a_human which the/this/who king ⟦δοξάζει⟧. **10** to_say but/and the/this/who king the/this/who Aman, well ⟦ἐλάλησας⟧; thus(-ly) to_ _do/make the/this/who Mardoḳaiōi the/this/who Jewish, the/this/who ⟦θεραπεύοντι⟧ in/on/among the/this/who palace/courtyard, and not ⟦παραπεσάτω⟧ you word which ⟦ἐλάλησας⟧. **11** to_take but/and Aman the/this/who robe and the/this/who ⟦ἵππον⟧, and ⟦ἐστόλισε⟧ the/this/who Mardoḳaion, and ⟦ἀνεβίβασεν⟧ he/she/it/self upon/to/against the/this/who ⟦ἵππον⟧, and to_pass_through through/because_ _of the/this/who wide the/this/who city, and to_preach to_ _speak, thus(-ly) to_be all a_human which the/this/who king to_will/desire to_glorify. **12** to_turn but/and the/this/who Mardoḳaios toward the/this/who palace/courtyard; Haman but/and to_return toward the/this/who one's_own/private to_ _grieve according_to head. **13** and to_relate_fully Aman the/this/who ⟦συμβεβηκότα⟧ he/she/it/self Zōsara the/this/who woman he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and the/this/who friendly/friend; and to_say to/with he/she/it/self the/this/who friendly/friend, and the/this/who woman if out_from family Jewish Mardoḳaios, ⟦ἦρξαι⟧ to_ _humble before he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, to_ _collapse to_collapse; and no not be_able he/she/it/self ⟦ἀμύνασθαι⟧, that/since God to_live with/after he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **14** still he/she/it/self to_speak, ⟦παραγίνονται⟧ the/this/who eunuch, ⟦ἐπισπεύδοντες⟧ the/this/who Aman upon/to/against the/this/who ⟦πότον⟧ which to_make_ready Esthaʸr.

7:1 to_enter but/and the/this/who king and Aman, ⟦συμπιεῖν⟧ the/this/who ⟦βασιλίσσῃ⟧. **2** to_say but/and the/this/who king Esthaʸr the/this/who secondly day in/on/among the/this/who ⟦πότῳ⟧, one/which? to_be, Esthaʸr queen, and one/which? the/this/who request you? and one/which? the/this/who a_petition you? and to_be you until half the/this/who kingdom I/we. **3** and to_answer, to_say, if to_ _find/meet because_of/grace before of_the king, ⟦δοθήτω⟧ the/this/who soul the/this/who ⟦αἰτήματί⟧ I/we, and the/this/who a_people I/we the/this/who ⟦ἀξιώματί⟧ I/we. **4** ⟦Ἐπράθημεν⟧ for I/we and/both and the/this/who a_people I/we toward destruction and ⟦διαρπαγὴν⟧ and slavery, I/we and the/this/who child I/we toward child and maidservant, and ⟦παρήκουσα⟧; no for worthy the/this/who devilish/the_ _Devil the/this/who palace/courtyard of_the king. **5** to_say but/and the/this/who king, one/which? this/he/she/it, who/which be_bold to_do/make the/this/who thing this/he/she/it? **6** to_say but/and Esthaʸr, a_human enemy Aman, the/this/who evil/bad this/he/she/it. Aman but/and to_trouble away_from of_the king and the/this/who queen. **7** the/this/who but/and king ⟦ἐξανέστη⟧ away_from of_the ⟦συμποσίου⟧ toward the/this/who garden; the/this/who but/and Aman ⟦παρῃτεῖτο⟧ the/this/who ⟦βασίλισσαν⟧; ⟦ἐώρα⟧ for my/your/him-self in/on/among ⟦κακοῖς⟧ to_be. **8** to_turn but/and the/this/who king out_from of_the ⟦κήπου⟧. Aman but/and ⟦ἐπιπεπτώκει⟧ upon/to/against the/this/who bed, ⟦ἀξιῶν⟧ the/this/who ⟦βασίλισσαν⟧; ⟦εἶπν⟧ but/and

17 **RV 7:4 · Note** see Hebrew: slanderer

Literal Version

the/this/who king, so and the/this/who woman ⟦βιάζῃ⟧ in/on/among the/this/who home I/we? Aman but/and to_ _hear ⟦διετράπη⟧ the/this/who face. **9** to_say but/and Bougathan one the/this/who ⟦εὐνούχων⟧ to/with the/this/who king, look! and wood to_make_ready Aman Mardoḳaiōi the/this/who ⟦λαλήσαντι⟧ about of_the king, and ⟦ὥρθωται⟧ in/on/among the/this/who Aman wood cubit/hour fifty; to_say but/and the/this/who king, to_crucify upon/to/against he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **10** and ⟦ἐκρεμάσθη⟧ Aman upon/to/against of_the wood the/this/who/which ⟦ἡτοιμάσθη⟧ Mardoḳaiōi; and then the/this/who king to_abate of_the wrath.

8:1 and in/on/among he/she/it/self the/this/who day the/this/who king Artaxerxaʸs to_give Esthaʸr just_as/how_ _much to_be Aman the/this/who devilish/the_Devil; and Mardoḳaios ⟦προσεκλήθη⟧ by/under of_the king; to_show for Esthaʸr, that/since ⟦ἐνοικείωται⟧ he/she/it/self. **2** to_take but/and the/this/who king the/this/who ring which ⟦ἀφείλατο⟧ Aman, and to_give he/she/it/self Mardoḳaiōi; and to_appoint/conduct Esthaʸr Mardoḳaion upon/to/against all the/this/who Aman. **3** and ⟦προσθεῖσα⟧ to_speak to/with the/this/who king, and to_fall/beat to/with the/this/who foot he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and to_deem_worthy to_remove the/this/who Aman evil, and just_as/how_much to_ _do/make the/this/who Youdaiois. **4** to_stretch_out but/and the/this/who king Esthaʸr the/this/who rod the/this/who golden; ⟦ἐξηγέρθη⟧ but/and Esthaʸr ⟦παρεστηκέναι⟧ the/this/who king, **5** and to_say Esthaʸr, if to_think you, and to_find/meet because_of/grace, ⟦πεμφθήτω⟧ ⟦ἀποστραφῆναι⟧ the/this/who something_written the/this/who to_send by/under Aman, the/this/who ⟦γραφέντα⟧ to_destroy the/this/who Youdaious, the/this/who/which to_be in/on/among the/this/who kingdom you. **6** how?/how?! for ⟦δυνήσομαι⟧ to_perceive the/this/who oppression of_the a_ _people I/we, and how?/how?! ⟦δυνήσομαι⟧ to_save in/on/among the/this/who destruction the/this/who ⟦πατρίδος⟧ I/we? **7** and to_say the/this/who king to/with Esthaʸr, if all the/this/who to_be Aman to_give and ⟦ἐχαρισάμην⟧ you, and he/she/it/self ⟦ἐκρέμασα⟧ upon/to/against wood, that/since the/this/who hand ⟦ἐπήνεγκε⟧ the/this/who Youdaiois, one/which? still ⟦ἐπιζητεῖς⟧? **8** ⟦Γράψατε⟧ and you out_from of_the name I/we, which/how to_think you, and ⟦σφραγίσατε⟧ the/this/who ⟦δακτυλίῳ⟧ I/we; just_as/how_much for ⟦γράφεται⟧ of_the king ⟦ἐπιτάξαντος⟧, and ⟦σφραγισθῇ⟧ the/this/who ⟦δακτυλίῳ⟧ I/we, no to_be he/she/it/self to_contradict. **9** ⟦Ἐκλήθησαν⟧ but/and the/this/who scribe in/on/among the/this/who first month, which he_is Nisan, third and ⟦εἰκάδι⟧ of_the he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there ⟦ἔτους⟧, and to_write the/this/who Youdaiois, just_as/how_

Readers' Version

property."

The king said, "Let him be[18] hanged on it!" **10** So Haman was hanged on the gallows that'd been prepared for Mordekai. Then the king's anger was abated.

The Yehudim are allowed to defend themselves

8:1 On that day, King Ahashverosh (Ahasuerus) gave to Ester all that belonged to Haman the slanderer. The king called Mordekai, for Ester had told that he was related to her. **2** The king took the ring which he'd taken away from Haman and gave it to Mordekai. Ester appointed Mordekai over all that'd been Haman's. **3** She spoke yet again to the king, and fell at his feet, and implored him to undo Haman's mischief and all that he'd done against the Yehudim. **4** Then the king extended the golden sceptre to Ester; and Ester arose to stand near the king. **5** Ester said, "If it seems good to you, and I've found favour in your sight, let an order be sent that the letters sent by Haman may be reversed—letters that were written for the destruction of the Yehudim who are in your kingdom. **6** Because how could I see the affliction of my people, and how could I survive the destruction of my[19] kindred?"

7 Then the king said to Ester, "If I've given and freely granted you all that was Haman's, and hanged him on a gallows because he laid his hands on the Yehudim (Jews), what more do you seek? **8** Write in my name whatever seems good to you, and seal it with my ring; for whatever is written at the king's command, and sealed with my ring, can't be countermanded. **9** So the scribes were called in the first month, which is Nisan, on the twenty-third day of the same year; and orders were written to the Yehudim, whatever the king had commanded to the[20] local governors and chiefs of the local governors, from Hodu even to Kush—one hundred and twenty-seven local governors, according to the several provinces, in their own languages. **10** They were written by order of the king, sealed with his ring, and the letters were sent by the couriers. **11** In them, he charged them to use their own laws in every city, to help each other, and to treat their adversaries and those who attacked them as they pleased, **12** on one day in all Ahashverosh's kingdom, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is Adar.

18 **RV 7:9 · Note** Or, impaled.

19 **RV 8:6 · Note** Greek country.

20 **RV 8:9 · Note** Greek stewards.

Readers' Version

The king's letter protecting the Yehudim

13 Let the copies be posted in conspicuous places throughout the kingdom. Let all the Yehudim be ready against this day, to fight against their enemies. The following is a copy of the letter containing orders:

[The great King Ahashverosh (Ahasuerus) sends greetings to the rulers of provinces in one hundred and twenty-seven local governance regions, from Hodu to Kush (Ethiopia), even to those who are faithful to our interests. Many who've been frequently honoured by the most abundant kindness of their[21] benefactors have conceived ambitious designs, and not only endeavour to hurt our subjects, but moreover, not being able to bear prosperity, they also endeavour to plot against their own benefactors. They not only would utterly abolish gratitude from among men, but also, elated by the boastings of men who are strangers to all that's good, they supposed that they'd escape the sin-hating vengeance of the ever-seeing God. And often evil exhortation has made partakers of the guilt of shedding innocent blood, and has involved in irremediable calamities many of those who'd been appointed to offices of authority, who'd been entrusted with the management of their friends' affairs; while men, by the false sophistry of an evil disposition, have deceived the simple goodwill of the ruling powers. And it's possible to see this, not so much from more ancient traditional accounts, as it's immediately in your power to see it by examining what things have been wickedly[22] perpetrated by the baseness of men unworthily holding power. It's right to take heed with regard to the future, that we may maintain the government in undisturbed peace for all men, adopting needful changes, and ever judging those cases which come under our notice with truly equitable decisions. Because whereas Haman, a person from Makedonia, the son of Hamedata, in reality an alien from the blood of the Persians, and differing widely from our mild course of government, having been hospitably entertained by us, obtained so large a share of our universal kindness as to be called our father, and to continue the person next to the royal throne, reverenced of all; he however, overcome by[23] pride, endeavoured to deprive us of our dominion, and our life;[24] having by various and subtle artifices demanded for destruction both Mordekai our deliverer and perpetual benefactor, and Ester the blameless consort of our kingdom, along with their whole nation. Because by these methods he thought, having surprised us in a defenceless state, to transfer the dominion of the Persians to the people from Makedonia. But we find that the Yehudim, who've been consigned to destruction by the[25] most abominable of men, aren't malefactors, but living according to the most just laws, and being the sons of

Literal Version

_much to_order the/this/who manager and the/this/who ruler the/this/who ⟦σατραπῶν⟧, away_from the/this/who ⟦Ἰνδικῆς⟧ until the/this/who Aithiopias, hundred twenty-seven ⟦σατράπαις⟧ according_to country and country, according_to the/this/who he/she/it/self ⟦λέξιν⟧. **10** to_write but/and through/because_of of_the king, and ⟦ἐσφραγίσθη⟧ the/this/who ⟦δακτυλίῳ⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there; and to_send_ _out/away the/this/who something_written through/because_ _of ⟦βιβλιοφόρων⟧, **11** which/how to_command he/she/it/self ⟦χρῆσθαι⟧ the/this/who ⟦νόμοις⟧ he/she/it/self in/on/among all city, to_help and/both my/your/him-self, and ⟦χρῆσθαι⟧ the/this/who ⟦ἀντιδίκοις⟧ he/she/it/self and the/this/who ⟦ἀντικειμένοις⟧ he/she/it/self, which/how ⟦βούλονται⟧, **12** in/on/among day one in/on/among all the/this/who kingdom Artaxerxou, the/this/who ⟦τρισκαιδεκάτῃ⟧ of_the ⟦δωδεκάτου⟧ ⟦μηνὸς⟧, which to_be Adar. **12a** which to_be a_ _transcript the/this/who epistle the/this/who ⟦ὑπογεγραμμένα⟧; **12b** "king great Artaxerxaʸs the/this/who away_from the/this/who ⟦Ἰνδικῆς⟧ until the/this/who Aithiopias hundred twenty-seven ⟦σατραπείαις⟧ ⟦χωρῶν⟧ ruler, and the/this/who the/this/who our to_reason, to_ _rejoice. **12c** much the/this/who ⟦πλείστῃ⟧ the/this/who ⟦εὐεργετούντων⟧ kindness often ⟦τιμώμενοι⟧, great ⟦ἐφρόνησαν⟧, and no alone/only the/this/who ⟦ὑποτεταγμένους⟧ I/we to_seek ⟦κακοποιεῖν⟧, the/this/who and/both ⟦κόρον⟧ no be_able to_bear/lead, and the/this/who my/your/him-self ⟦εὐεργέταις⟧ ⟦ἐπιχειροῦσι⟧ ⟦μηχανᾶσθαι⟧; **12d** and the/this/who thankfulness no alone/only out_from the/this/who a_human ⟦ἀνταναιροῦντες⟧, but and the/this/who the/this/who ⟦ἀπειραγάθων⟧ ⟦κόμποις⟧ ⟦ἐπαρθέντες⟧, of_the the/this/who all ⟦κατοπτεύοντος⟧ always God ⟦μισοπόνηρον⟧ ⟦ὑπολαμβάνουσιν⟧ ⟦ἐκφεύξεσθαι⟧ condemnation. **12e** often but/and and much the/this/who upon/to/against authority ⟦τεταγμένεν⟧ the/this/who ⟦πιστευθέντων⟧ ⟦χειρίζειν⟧ friendly/friend the/this/who ⟦πράγματα⟧, comfort partaker blood ⟦ἀθώων⟧ ⟦καταστήσασα⟧ ⟦περιέβαλε⟧ ⟦συμφοραῖς⟧ ⟦ἀνηκέστοις⟧, **12f** the/this/who the/this/who malice lie ⟦παραλογισμῷ⟧ ⟦παραλογισαμένων⟧ the/this/who the/this/who ⟦ἐπικρατούντων⟧ ⟦ἀκέραιον⟧ ⟦εὐγνωμοσύνην⟧. **12g** to_watch_out but/and it_is_permitted, no so_great out_from the/this/who ⟦παλαιοτέρων⟧ which/how to_deliver ⟦ἱστοριῶν⟧, just_as/how_much he_is from_with foot you ⟦ἐκζητοῦντας⟧ ⟦ἀνοσίως⟧ ⟦συντετελεσμένα⟧ the/this/who the/this/who ⟦ἀναξίᾳ⟧ ⟦δυναστευόντων⟧ ⟦λοιμότητι⟧; **12h** and to_watch_out toward the/this/who with/after this/he/she/it, toward the/this/who the/this/who kingdom ⟦ἀτάραχον⟧ the/this/who all a_human with/after peace ⟦παρεξόμεθα⟧ **12i** to_use the/this/who ⟦μεταβολαῖς⟧, the/this/who but/and by/under the/this/who face to_come/go ⟦διακρίνοντες⟧ always with/after ⟦ἐπιεικεστέρας⟧ ⟦ἀπαντήσεως⟧.

21 **RV 8:13 · Note** perhaps rulers, see Luke 22. 25.

22 **RV 8:13 · Note** Greek contrived.

23 **RV 8:13 · Note** Greek not having borne.

24 **RV 8:13 · Note** Greek spirit.

25 **RV 8:13 · Note** Greek thrice guilty.

Literal Version

12k "which/how for Aman Amadathou Makedōn the/this/who ⟦ἀληθείαις⟧ another's of_the the/this/who Persōn blood, and much ⟦διεστηκὼς⟧ the/this/who our kindness ⟦ἐπιξενωθεὶς⟧ I/we, **12l** ⟦ἔτυχεν⟧ which to_have/be to/with all Gentile_nation ⟦φιλανθρωπίας⟧ upon/to/against so_great, so ⟦ἀναγορεύεσθαι⟧ I/we father, and ⟦προσκυνούμενον⟧ by/under all the/this/who secondly of_the ⟦βασιλικοῦ⟧ throne face ⟦διατελεῖν⟧. **12m** no to_bear/lead but/and the/this/who ⟦ὑπερηφανίαν⟧, ⟦ἐπετήδευσε⟧ the/this/who beginning ⟦στερῆσαι⟧ I/we, and of_the spirit/breath, **12n** the/this/who and/both our saviour and always ⟦εὐεργέτην⟧ Mardokaion, and the/this/who ⟦ἄμεμπτον⟧ the/this/who kingdom participant Esthaʸr with all the/this/who this/he/she/it Gentile_nation, ⟦πολυπλόκοις⟧ ⟦μεθόδων⟧ ⟦παραλογισμοῖς⟧ ⟦αἰτησάμενος⟧ toward destruction. **12o** through/because_of for the/this/who ⟦τρόπων⟧ this/he/she/it ⟦ᾠήθη⟧ to_take I/we deserted, the/this/who the/this/who Persōn ⟦ἐπικράτησιν⟧ toward the/this/who Makedonas ⟦μετάξαι⟧. **12p** I/we but/and the/this/who by/under of_the ⟦τρισαλιτηρίου⟧ ⟦παραδεδομένους⟧ toward ⟦ἀφανισμὸν⟧ Youdaious, to_ _find/meet no criminal to_be ⟦δικαιοτάτοις⟧ but/and ⟦πολιτευομένους⟧ ⟦νόμοις⟧, **12q** to_be but/and son of_the highest ⟦μεγίστου⟧ to_live God, of_the ⟦κατευθύνοντος⟧ I/we and/both and the/this/who parent/ancestor I/we the/this/who kingdom in/on/among the/this/who ⟦καλλίστῃ⟧ ⟦διαθέσει⟧. **12r** "well therefore/then to_do/make not ⟦προσχρησάμενοι⟧ the/this/who by/under Aman Amadathou ⟦ἀποσταλεῖσι⟧ something_written, through/because_of the/this/who he/she/it/self the/this/who this/he/she/it ⟦ἐξεργασάμενον⟧ to/with the/this/who Sousōn ⟦πύλαις⟧ ⟦ἐσταυρῶσθαι⟧ with the/this/who whole_family, the/this/who ⟦καταξίαν⟧ of_the the/this/who all ⟦ἐπικρατοῦντος⟧ God ⟦διατάχους⟧ ⟦ἀποδόντος⟧ he/she/it/self judgement. **12s** the/this/who but/and a_transcript the/this/who epistle this/he/she/it ⟦ἐκθέντες⟧ in/on/among all place with/after boldness, if the/this/who Youdaious ⟦χρῆσθαι⟧ the/this/who my/your/him-self ⟦νομίμοις⟧, and ⟦συνεπισχύειν⟧ he/she/it/self, that the/this/who in/on/among time/right_ _time pressure ⟦ἐπιθεμένους⟧ he/she/it/self, ⟦ἀμύνωνται⟧ the/this/who ⟦τρισκαιδεκάτῃ⟧ of_the ⟦δωδεκάτου⟧ ⟦μηνὸς⟧ Adar the/this/who he/she/it/self day; **12t** this/he/she/it for the/this/who the/this/who all ⟦δυναστεύων⟧ God ⟦ἀντ'⟧ ⟦ὀλεθρίας⟧ of_the ⟦ἐκλεκτοῦ⟧ family, to_do/make he/she/it/self ⟦εὐφροσύνην⟧. **12u** "and you therefore/then in/on/among the/this/who ⟦ἐπωνύμοις⟧ you ⟦ἑορταῖς⟧, notable day with/after all ⟦εὐωχίας⟧ ⟦ἄγετε⟧, that and now and with/after this/he/she/it salvation to_be I/we, and the/this/who ⟦εὐνοοῦσι⟧ Persais, the/this/who but/and I/we ⟦ἐπιβουλεύουσι⟧, memorial the/this/who destruction. **12x** all but/and city or/than country the/this/who ⟦σύνολον⟧, who/which according_to this/he/she/it not to_do/make, ⟦δόρατι⟧ and fire ⟦καταναλωθήσεται⟧ with/after wrath; no alone/only a_human impassable, but and ⟦θηρίοις⟧ and ⟦πετεινοῖς⟧ toward the/this/who all time ⟦ἔχθιστος⟧

Readers' Version

the living god, the most high and[26] mighty, who maintains the kingdom, to us as well as to our forefathers, in the most excellent order. You'll therefore do well in refusing to obey the letter sent by Haman the son of Hamedata, because he who's done these things has been hanged with his whole family at Shushan's (Susa's) gates, Almighty God having swiftly returned to him a worthy punishment. We enjoin you then, having openly published a copy of this letter in every place, to give the Yehudim permission to use their own lawful customs and to strengthen them, that on the thirteenth of the twelfth month Adar, on the self-same day, they may defend themselves against those who attack them in a time of affliction. Because in the place of the destruction of the chosen race, Almighty God has granted them this time of gladness. Therefore you also, among your notable feasts, must keep a distinct day with all festivity, that both now and in the future it may be a day of deliverance to us and who are well disposed towards the Persians, but to those that plotted against us a memorial of destruction. And every city and province collectively, which won't do accordingly, will be consumed with vengeance by spear and fire. It'll be made not only inaccessible to men, but most hateful to wild animals and birds forever.][27] Let the copies be posted in conspicuous places throughout the kingdom and let all the Yehudim be ready against this day, to fight against their enemies. **14** So the horsemen went forth quickly to perform the king's commands. The ordinance was also published in Shushan.

15 Mordekai went out robed in royal clothing, wearing a golden crown and a diadem of fine purple linen. The people in Shushan saw it and rejoiced. **16** The Yehudim had light and gladness **17** in every city and province where the ordinance was published. Wherever the official announcement took place, the Yehudim had joy and gladness, feasting and mirth. Many of the Gentiles were circumcised and became Yehudim for fear of the Yehudim.

26 RV 8:13 · Note Greek greatest.

27 RV 8:13 · Note the passages in brackets are not in the Hebrew.

Readers' Version

The Yehudim defeat their enemies

9:1 Now in the twelfth month, on the thirteenth day of the month, which is Adar, the letters written by the king arrived. **2** In that day, the adversaries of the Yehudim perished; for no one resisted, through fear of them. **3** Because the chiefs of the local governors, and the princes and the royal scribes, honoured the Yehudim; for the fear of Mordekai was on them. **4** Because the order of the king was in force, that he should be celebrated in all the kingdom. **6** In the city Shushan the Yehudim killed five hundred men, **7** including Pharsannes, Delphon, Phasga, **8** Pharadatha, Barea, Sarbaca, **9** Marmasima, Ruphaeus, Arsaeus, and Zabuthaeus, **10** the ten sons of Haman the son of Hamedata the Bugaean, the enemy of the Yehudim; and they plundered their property on the same day. **11** The number of those who perished in Shushan was reported to the king.

12 Then the king said to Ester, "The Yehudim have slain five hundred men in the city Shushan. What do you think they've done in the rest of the country? What more do you ask, that it may be done for you?"

13 Ester said to the king, "Let it be granted to the Yehudim to do the same to them tomorrow. Also, hang the bodies of the ten sons of Haman."

14 He permitted it to be done; and he gave up to the Yehudim of the city the bodies of the sons of Haman to hang. **15** The Yehudim assembled in Shushan on the fourteenth day of Adar and killed three hundred men, but plundered no property.

16 The rest of the Yehudim who were in the kingdom assembled, and helped one another, and obtained peace and security from their enemies; for they destroyed fifteen thousand of them on the thirteenth day of Adar, but took no spoil. **17** They rested on the fourteenth of the same month, and kept it as a Rest Day with joy and gladness.

18 The Yehudim in the city of Shushan assembled also on the fourteenth day and rested; and they also observed the fifteenth

Literal Version

⟦κατασταθήσεται⟧." **13** the/this/who but/and ⟦ἀντίγραφα⟧ ⟦ἐκτιθέσθωσαν⟧ clear_to_the_eyes in/on/among all the/this/who kingdom, ready and/both to_be all the/this/who Youdaious toward this/he/she/it the/this/who day, to_fight he/she/it/self the/this/who opposed. **14** the/this/who on_ _one_hand therefore/then horseman to_go_out ⟦σπεύδοντες⟧ the/this/who by/under of_the king to_speak to_complete; ⟦ἐξετέθη⟧ but/and the/this/who an_order and in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧. **15** the/this/who but/and Mardokaios ⟦ἐξῆλθεγ⟧ ⟦ἐστολισμένος⟧ the/this/who royal robe, and crown to_ _have/be golden, and diadem fine_linen purple; to_perceive but/and the/this/who in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ to_rejoice. **16** the/this/who but/and Youdaiois to_be light and joy **17** according_to city and country, which/whither if ⟦ἐξετέθη⟧ the/this/who an_order; which/whither if ⟦ἐξετέθη⟧ the/this/who public_notice, joy and joy the/this/who Youdaiois, toasting and joy; and much the/this/who Gentile_ _nation ⟦περιετέμοντο⟧, and ⟦Ἰουδάϊζον⟧ through/because_of the/this/who fear the/this/who Jewish.

9:1 in/on/among for the/this/who ⟦δωδεκάτῳ⟧ month ⟦τρισκαιδεκάτῃ⟧ of_the ⟦μηνός⟧, which to_be Adar, ⟦παρῆν⟧ the/this/who something_written the/this/who ⟦γραφέντα⟧ by/under of_the king. **2** in/on/among he/she/it/self the/this/who day to_destroy the/this/who be_an_opponent the/this/who Youdaiois; none for to_oppose, to_fear he/she/it/self. **3** the/this/who for ruler the/this/who ⟦σατραπῶν⟧, and the/this/who tyrants, and the/this/who ⟦βασιλικοὶ⟧ scribe ⟦ἐτίμων⟧ the/this/who Youdaious; the/this/who for fear Mardokaiou ⟦ἐνέκειτο⟧ he/she/it/self. **4** to_fall/beat for the/this/who an_order of_the king ⟦ὀνομασθῆναι⟧ in/on/among all the/this/who kingdom. **6** and in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ the/this/who city to_kill the/this/who Jewish man ⟦πεντακοσίους⟧, **7** the/this/who and/both ⟦Φαρσαννὲς⟧, and ⟦Δελτφὼν⟧, and Fasga, and ⟦Φαραδαθὰ⟧, **8** and weighty, and ⟦Σαρβακὰ⟧, **9** and Marmasima, and ⟦Ῥουφαῖον⟧, and Arsaion, and ⟦Ζαβουθαῖον⟧, **10** the/this/who ten son Aman Amadathou Bougean of_the enemy the/this/who Jewish, and ⟦διήρπασαν⟧ **11** in/on/among he/she/it/self the/this/who day; to_give/deliver and/both the/this/who number the/this/who king the/this/who ⟦ἀπολωλότων⟧ in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧. **12** to_say but/and the/this/who king to/with Esthaʸr, ⟦ἀπώλεσαν⟧ the/this/who Jewish in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ the/this/who city man ⟦πεντακοσίους⟧, in/on/among but/and the/this/who surrounding_region how?/how?! ⟦οἵει⟧ ⟦ἐχρήσαντο⟧? one/which? therefore/then ⟦ἀξιοῖς⟧ still, and to_be you? **13** and to_say Esthaʸr the/this/who king, ⟦δοθήτω⟧ the/this/who Youdaiois ⟦χρῆσθαι⟧ likewise the/this/who tomorrow, so the/this/who ten son Aman ⟦κρεμάσαι⟧. **14** and to_permit thus(-ly) to_be, and ⟦ἐξέθηκε⟧ the/this/who Youdaiois the/this/who city the/this/who body the/this/who son Aman ⟦κρεμάσαι⟧; **15** and to_assemble the/this/who Jewish in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ the/this/who fourteenth of_the Adar, and to_kill man ⟦τριακοσίους⟧, and none ⟦διήρπασαν⟧. **16** the/this/who but/and remaining the/this/who Jewish the/this/who in/on/among the/this/who kingdom to_ _assemble, and my/your/him-self ⟦ἐβοήθουν⟧, and

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⟦ἀνεπαύσαντο⟧ away_from the/this/who ⟦πολεμίων⟧; ⟦ἀπώλεσαν⟧ for he/she/it/self myriad five_thousand the/this/who ⟦τρισκαιδεκάτῃ⟧ of_the Adar, and none ⟦διήρπασαν⟧. **17** and ⟦ἀνεπαύσαντο⟧ the/this/who fourteenth of_the he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there ⟦μηνός⟧, and ⟦ἦγον⟧ he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self day ⟦ἀναπαύσεως⟧ with/after joy and joy. **18** the/this/who but/and Jewish in/on/among ⟦Σούσοις⟧ the/this/who city to_assemble and the/this/who fourteenth, and ⟦ἀνεπαύσαντο⟧; ⟦ἦγον⟧ but/and and the/this/who ⟦πεντεκαιδεκάτην⟧ with/after joy and joy. **19** through/because_of this/he/she/it therefore/then the/this/who Jewish the/this/who ⟦διεσπαρμένοι⟧ in/on/among all country the/this/who out/outside(r), to_ _bring the/this/who fourteenth of_the Adar day good-doer with/after joy, ⟦ἀποστέλλοντες⟧ ⟦μερίδας⟧ each the/this/who near/neighbour. **20** to_write but/and Mardokaios the/this/who word this/he/she/it toward scroll, and to_send_out/away the/this/who Youdaiois, just_as/how_much to_be in/on/among the/this/who Artaxerxou kingdom the/this/who near and the/this/who long/distant, **21** to_stand the/this/who day this/he/she/it good-doer, to_bring and/both the/this/who fourteenth and the/this/who ⟦πεντεκαιδεκάτην⟧ of_the Adar. **22** in/on/among for this/he/she/it the/this/who day ⟦ἀνεπαύσαντο⟧ the/this/who Jewish away_from the/this/who enemy he/she/it/self; and the/this/who month in/on/among which to_turn he/she/it/self, which to_be Adar, away_from ⟦πένθους⟧ toward joy, and away_from ⟦ὀδύνης⟧ toward good-doer day, to_bring all good-doer day wedding and joy, ⟦ἐξαποστέλλοντας⟧ ⟦μερίδας⟧ the/this/who friendly/friend, and the/this/who poor. **23** and ⟦προσεδέξαντο⟧ the/this/who Jewish, as/just_as to_write he/she/it/self the/this/who Mardokaios; **24** how?/how?! Aman Amadathou the/this/who Makedōn ⟦ἐπολέμει⟧ he/she/it/self, as/just_as to_place a_referendum and lot ⟦ἀφανίσαι⟧ he/she/it/self, **25** and which/how to_enter to/with the/this/who king, to_ _speak, ⟦κρεμάσαι⟧ the/this/who Mardokaion; just_as/how_ _much but/and ⟦ἐπεχείρησεν⟧ ⟦ἐπάξαι⟧ upon/to/against the/this/who Youdaious evil/harm, upon/to/against he/she/it/self to_be, and ⟦ἐκρεμάσθη⟧ he/she/it/self, and the/this/who child he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **26** through/because_of this/he/she/it ⟦ἐπεκλήθησαν⟧ the/this/who/which day this/he/she/it lots through/because_ _of the/this/who lot, that/since the/this/who language he/she/it/self to_call lots; through/because_of the/this/who word the/this/who epistle this/he/she/it, and just_as/how_ _much to_suffer through/because_of this/he/she/it, and just_ _as/how_much he/she/it/self to_be, **27** and to_stand; and ⟦προσεδέχοντο⟧ the/this/who Jewish upon/to/against my/your/him-self and upon/to/against the/this/who seed he/she/it/self and upon/to/against the/this/who ⟦προστεθειμένοις⟧ upon/to/against he/she/it/self, and_not certainly/month otherwise ⟦χρήσονται⟧. the/this/who/which but/and day this/he/she/it memorial ⟦ἐπιτελούμενον⟧ according_to generation and generation, and city, and

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with joy and gladness. **19** On this account then, the Yehudim dispersed in every foreign land keep the fourteenth of Adar as a[28] holy day with joy, each sending gifts of food to his neighbour.

The celebration named 'Purim'

20 Mordekai wrote these things in a book and sent them to the Yehudim, as many as were in Ahashverosh's (Ahasuerus') kingdom, both those who were near and those who were far away, **21** to establish these as joyful days and to keep the fourteenth and fifteenth of Adar; **22** for on these days the Yehudim obtained rest from their enemies; and in that month, which was Adar, in which a change was made for them from mourning to joy, and from sorrow to a holiday, to spend the whole of it in good days of[29] feasting and gladness, sending portions to their friends and to the poor. **23** And the Yehudim consented to this as Mordekai wrote to them, **24** showing how Haman the son of Hamedata the person from Makedonia fought against them, how he made a decree and threw[30] lots to destroy them utterly; **25** also how he went in to the king, telling him to hang Mordekai; but all the calamities he tried to bring on the Yehudim came on himself, and he was hanged, along with his children. **26** Therefore these days were called Purim, because of the lots (for in their language they're called Purim) because of the words of this letter, and because of all they suffered on this account, and all that happened to them. **27** Mordekai established it, and the Yehudim took on themselves, on their offspring, and on those who were joined to them to observe it, neither would they on any account behave differently; but these days were to be a memorial kept in every generation, city, family, and province. **28** These days of Purim must be kept forever, and their memorial must never be forgotten in any generation.

29 Queen Ester the daughter of Aminadav and Mordekai the Yehudi (Jew) wrote all that they'd done, and gave the confirmation of the letter about Purim. **31** Mordekai and Ester the queen established this decision on their own, pledging their own well-being to their plan. **32** And Ester established it by a command forever, and it was written for a memorial.

28 **RV 9:19 · Note** Greek good day.

29 **RV 9:22 · Note** Greek weddings.

30 **RV 9:24 · Note** Greek lot.

Readers' Version

Mordekai's greatness

10:1 The king levied a tax on his kingdom both by land and sea. **2** As for his strength and valour, and the wealth and glory of his kingdom, look, they're written in the book of the Persians and Madim (Medes) for a memorial.

3 Mordekai[31] was viceroy to King Ahashverosh (Ahasuerus), and was a great man in the kingdom, honoured by the Yehudim (Jews), and lived his life loved by all his nation.[32]

Mordekai explains his dream

4 [Mordekai said, "These things have come from God. **5** Because I remember the dream which I had about these matters; for not one detail of them has failed. **6** There was the little spring which became a river, and there was light, and the sun and much water. The river is Ester, whom the king married and made queen. **7** The two serpents are Haman and me. **8** The nations are those which combined to destroy the name of the Yehudim. **9** But as for my nation, this is Yisrael (Israel), even those who cried to God and were delivered; for the master delivered his people. The master rescued us out of all these calamities; and God worked such signs and great wonders as haven't been done among the nations. **10** Therefore he ordained two lots. One for God's people, and one for all the other nations. **11** And these two lots came for an appointed season, and for a day of judgement, before God, and for all the nations. **12** God remembered his people and vindicated his inheritance. **13** They must observe these days in the month Adar, on the fourteenth and on the fifteenth day of the month, with an assembly, joy, and gladness before God, throughout the generations forever among his people Yisrael. **14** In the fourth year of the reign of Ptolemaios (Ptolemy) and Kleopatra (Cleopatra), Dositheos, who said he was a priest and Levite, and Ptolemaios his son brought this letter of Purim, which they said was authentic, and that Lusimakos the son of Ptolemaios, who was in Yerushalem (Jerusalem), had interpreted.]

Literal Version

⟦πατριὰν⟧, and country. **28** the/this/who/which but/and day this/he/she/it the/this/who lots ⟦ἀχθήσονται⟧ toward the/this/who all time, and the/this/who memorial he/she/it/self no not to_fail out_from the/this/who generation. **29** and to_write Esthaʸr the/this/who queen daughter Aminadab, and Mardokaios the/this/who Jewish, just_as/how_much to_do/make, the/this/who, and/both firmness the/this/who epistle the/this/who lots. **31** and Mardokaios and Esthaʸr the/this/who queen to_stand my/your/him-self according_to my/your/him-self, and then to_stand according_to the/this/who ⟦ὑγιείας⟧ my/your/him-self, and the/this/who plan he/she/it/self. **32** and Esthaʸr word to_stand toward the/this/who an_age, and to_write toward memorial.

10:1 to_write but/and the/this/who king upon/to/against the/this/who kingdom the/this/who and/both earth and the/this/who sea. **2** and the/this/who strength he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there and ⟦ἀνδραγαθίαν⟧, riches and/both and glory the/this/who kingdom he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, look! to_write in/on/among scroll king Persōn and Maʸdōn, toward memorial. **3** the/this/who but/and Mardokaios ⟦διεδέχετο⟧ the/this/who king Artaxerxaʸn, and great to_be in/on/among the/this/who kingdom, and ⟦δεδοξασμένος⟧ by/under the/this/who Jewish; and ⟦φιλούμενος⟧ ⟦διηγεῖτο⟧ the/this/who ⟦ἀγωγὴν⟧ all the/this/who Gentile_nation he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **3a** "and to_say Mardokaios, from_with of_the God to_be this/he/she/it. **3b** to_ _remember for about of_the ⟦ἐνυπνίου⟧ which/whither to_ _perceive about the/this/who word this/he/she/it; and_not for to_pass_by away_from he/she/it/self word; **3c** the/this/who small flow the/this/who/which to_be river, and to_be light and sun and water much. Esthaʸr to_be the/this/who river, which to_marry the/this/who king, and to_do/make ⟦βασίλισσαν⟧. **3d** the/this/who but/and two ⟦δράκοντες⟧, I/we to_be and Aman. **3e** the/this/who but/and Gentile_nation, the/this/who ⟦ἐπισυναχθέντα⟧ to_destroy the/this/who name the/this/who Jewish. **3f** the/this/who but/and Gentile_nation the/this/who my, this/he/she/it to_be Israaʸl, the/this/who ⟦βοήσαντες⟧ to/with the/this/who God, and ⟦σωθέντες⟧; and to_save lord the/this/who a_people he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and to_deliver lord I/we out_from all the/this/who evil/harm this/he/she/it; and to_do/make the/this/who God the/this/who sign, and the/this/who wonders the/this/who great, which no to_be in/on/among the/this/who Gentile_nation. **3g** through/because_of this/he/she/it to_do/make lot two, one the/this/who a_people of_the God, and one all the/this/who Gentile_nation. **3h** and to_come/go the/this/who two ⟦κλῆροι⟧ this/he/she/it toward hour and time/right_time, and toward day judgement, before of_the God and all the/this/who Gentile_nation. **3i** and to_remember the/this/who God of_the a_people he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and to_

31 **RV 10:3 · Note** Greek succeeded to Or, came into the place of.

32 **RV 10:3 · Note** the passages in brackets are not in the Hebrew.

Literal Version

_justify the/this/who inheritance
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self. **3k** and to_be he/she/it/self
the/this/who/which day this/he/she/it, in/on/among month
Adar, the/this/who fourteenth and the/this/who
⟦πεντεκαιδεκάτῃ⟧ of_the ⟦μηνὸς⟧, with/after synagogue and
joy and joy before of_the God, according_to generation toward
the/this/who an_age in/on/among the/this/who a_people
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there Israaʸl. **3l** "⟦Ἔτους⟧
fourth ⟦βασιλεύοντος⟧ Ptolemaiou and Kleopatras, ⟦εἰσήνεγκε⟧
Dositheos, which to_say to_be priest and Leuitaʸs, and
Ptolemaios the/this/who son
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, the/this/who
⟦προκειμένην⟧ epistle the/this/who lots, which ⟦ἔφασαν⟧ to_
_be, and ⟦ἡρμηνευκέναι⟧ Lusimaḳon Ptolemaiou, the/this/who
in/on/among Hierousalaʸm."

ESG · OET-LV v0.2.0 (DC set)

Readers' Version

ESG · OET-RV v0.4.3

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