

The Book of Esther

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The Book of Esther

The Follies of a Despot

1These events happened in the time of Ahasuerus, who ruled over a hundred and twenty-seven provinces from India to Ethiopia from his royal throne in the fortified palace of Susa.

3In the third year of his reign, the king gave a feast for all his officers and courtiers. The commanders of the military forces of Persia and Media and provincial rulers were present while for one hundred and eighty days he showed them the glorious riches of his kingdom and the costliness of his magnificent regalia.

5When these days were ended, the king held a banquet for all the people who were present in the royal palace at Susa, high

and|strong = "H4428" low|strong = "H8213" alike|strong = "H3162".
 It|strong = "H6213" was|strong = "H3117" a|strong = "H6213"
 seven|strong = "H7651" days'|strong = "H3117" feast|strong = "H4960"
 in|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605" enclosed|strong = "H1004"
 garden|strong = "H1594" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605"
 royal|strong = "H4428" palace|strong = "H1002". ⁶ There|strong = "H8033"
 were|strong = "H5921" white|strong = "H2353" and|strong = "H3701"
 violet|strong = "H8504" cotton curtains|strong = "H3407"
 fastened|strong = "H8628" to|strong = "H5921" silver|strong = "H3701"
 rings|strong = "H1550" and|strong = "H3701" pillars|strong = "H5982"
 of|strong = "H5982" marble|strong = "H8336" with|strong = "H5921"
 cords|strong = "H2256" of|strong = "H5982" fine|strong = "H8336"
 purple|strong = "H8504" wool|strong = "H6785" and|strong = "H3701"
 linen|strong = "H8336". The|strong = "H5921" couches|strong = "H4296"
 were|strong = "H5921" of|strong = "H5982" gold|strong = "H2091"
 and|strong = "H3701" silver|strong = "H3701" placed|strong = "H5414"
 upon|strong = "H5921" a|strong = "H5921" mosaic|strong = "H7531"
 pavement|strong = "H7531" of|strong = "H5982" alabaster|strong = "H8336",
 white|strong = "H2353" marble|strong = "H8336",
 mother-of-pearl|strong = "H1858", and|strong = "H3701"
 dark|strong = "H2822" stone|strong = "H0068". ⁷ Drink|strong = "H8248"
 was|strong = "H4428" brought|strong = "H4428" in|strong = "H4428"
 vessels|strong = "H3627" of|strong = "H4428" gold|strong = "H2091" –
 which|strong = "H2091" were|strong = "H3027" all|strong = "H3605"
 different|strong = "H8133" – and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3027"
 king's|strong = "H4428" wine|strong = "H3196" was|strong = "H4428"
 provided|strong = "H8248" with|strong = "H3027" royal|strong = "H4438"
 liberality. ⁸ The|strong = "H3605" drinking|strong = "H8360"
 was|strong = "H4428" unrestricted|strong = "H4164", for|strong = "H3588"
 the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428" had|strong = "H4428"
 directed|strong = "H5090" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 officers|strong = "H7227" of|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H3605"
 household|strong = "H1004" to|strong = "H6213" let|strong = "H3651"
 each|strong = "H3605" man|strong = "H3605" do|strong = "H6213"
 as|strong = "H6213" he|strong = "H3588" pleased|strong = "H7522". ⁹
 Queen|strong = "H4436" Vashti|strong = "H2060" also|strong = "H1571"
 gave|strong = "H6213" a|strong = "H6213" feast|strong = "H4960"
 for|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213" women|strong = "H0802"
 in|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213" King|strong = "H4428"
 Ahasuerus'|strong = "H0325" royal|strong = "H4438"
 palace|strong = "H1004".

10On|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6440" seventh|strong = "H7637"
 day|strong = "H3117", when|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6440"
 king|strong = "H4428" was|strong = "H3820" merry|strong = "H2896"

with|strong = "H6440" wine|strong = "H3196", he|strong = "H3117"
 commanded|strong = "H6680" Mehuman|strong = "H4104",
 Biztha|strong = "H0968", Harbona|strong = "H2726",
 Bigtha|strong = "H0903", Abagtha|strong = "H0005", Zathar
 and|strong = "H4428" Carkas|strong = "H3752", his|strong = "H6440"
 seven|strong = "H7651" eunuch|strong = "H5631"
 attendants|strong = "H5650" ¹¹ to|strong = "H6440" bring|strong = "H0935"
 Queen|strong = "H4436" Vashti|strong = "H2060" before|strong = "H6440"
 him|strong = "H6440" with|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440"
 royal|strong = "H4438" diadem|strong = "H6797" on|strong = "H7200"
 her|strong = "H7200" head|strong = "H8269", to|strong = "H6440"
 show|strong = "H7200" her|strong = "H7200" beauty|strong = "H3308"
 to|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440" people|strong = "H5971"
 and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" officials|strong = "H8269",
 for|strong = "H3588" she|strong = "H1931" was|strong = "H1931"
 very|strong = "H2896" beautiful|strong = "H2896". ¹² But|strong = "H4428"
 Queen|strong = "H4436" Vashti|strong = "H2060" refused|strong = "H3985"
 to|strong = "H3027" come|strong = "H2534" as|strong = "H1697"
 the|strong = "H1697" king|strong = "H4428" commanded|strong = "H6680"
 through|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H1697" eunuchs|strong = "H5631".
 Then|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H1697" king|strong = "H4428"
 became|strong = "H1697" very|strong = "H3966" angry|strong = "H7107"
 and|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H3027" fury|strong = "H2534"
 burned|strong = "H1197" within|strong = "H7130" him|strong = "H3027".

¹³The|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428" turned|strong = "H6256"
 to|strong = "H6256" the|strong = "H3605" wise|strong = "H2450"
 men|strong = "H2450" who|strong = "H3605" knew|strong = "H3045"
 the|strong = "H3605" precedents, for|strong = "H3588" it|strong = "H3588"
 was|strong = "H1697" his|strong = "H3605" custom|strong = "H3651"
 to|strong = "H6256" confer with|strong = "H6440" those|strong = "H3605"
 wise|strong = "H2450" in|strong = "H4428" law|strong = "H1881". ¹⁴
 Those|strong = "H3427" next|strong = "H7138" to|strong = "H6440"
 him|strong = "H6440" were|strong = "H8269" Carshena|strong = "H3771",
 Shethar|strong = "H8369", Admatha|strong = "H0133",
 Tarshish|strong = "H8659", Meres|strong = "H4825",
 Marsena|strong = "H4826" and|strong = "H4428"
 Memucan|strong = "H4462", seven|strong = "H7651"
 officials|strong = "H8269" of|strong = "H4428" Persia|strong = "H6539"
 and|strong = "H4428" Media|strong = "H4074" who|strong = "H3427"
 had|strong = "H4428" access|strong = "H7200" to|strong = "H6440"
 the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" and|strong = "H4428"
 were|strong = "H8269" highest|strong = "H8064" in|strong = "H3427"
 the|strong = "H6440" kingdom|strong = "H4438". ¹⁵
 'Queen|strong = "H4436" Vashti', the|strong = "H5921"

king|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H3982", 'has|strong = "H4428"
 failed|strong = "H3808" to|strong = "H6213" obey|strong = "H6213"
 my|strong = "H5921" royal|strong = "H4428" command|strong = "H3027" –
 the|strong = "H5921" command|strong = "H3027" of|strong = "H4428"
 King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325"
 conveyed|strong = "H1697" through|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H5921"
 eunuchs|strong = "H5631"! What|strong = "H4100" does|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H5921" law|strong = "H1881" say|strong = "H0559"
 should|strong = "H4100" be|strong = "H3808" done|strong = "H6213"
 to|strong = "H6213" her|strong = "H5921"?"

16Memucan|strong = "H4462" replied|strong = "H0559"
 before|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
 and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" officials|strong = "H8269",
 'Queen|strong = "H4436" Vashti|strong = "H2060" has|strong = "H4428"
 done|strong = "H3605" wrong|strong = "H5753" not|strong = "H3808"
 only|strong = "H3588" to|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605"
 king|strong = "H4428" but|strong = "H3588" also|strong = "H4428"
 to|strong = "H5921" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 officials|strong = "H8269" and|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H5921"
 all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" peoples|strong = "H5971"
 in|strong = "H5921" all|strong = "H3605" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" provinces|strong = "H4082".
 17 The|strong = "H3605" refusal of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605"
 queen|strong = "H4436" will|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H3808"
 reported|strong = "H3318" to|strong = "H3318" all|strong = "H3605"
 the|strong = "H3605" women|strong = "H0802" with|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H3605" result|strong = "H6903" that|strong = "H3588"
 it|strong = "H5921" will|strong = "H4428" make|strong = "H3588"
 them|strong = "H5921" despise|strong = "H3988" their|strong = "H3605"
 husbands|strong = "H1167". They|strong = "H3588" will|strong = "H4428"
 say|strong = "H1697", "King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325"
 commanded|strong = "H6680" Queen|strong = "H4436"
 Vashti|strong = "H2060" to|strong = "H3318" be|strong = "H3808"
 brought|strong = "H3318" in|strong = "H5921" before|strong = "H6440"
 him|strong = "H6440", but|strong = "H3588" she|strong = "H3588"
 did|strong = "H3808" not|strong = "H3808" come|strong = "H3318"!" 18
 This|strong = "H2088" very|strong = "H2088" day|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H3605" ladies|strong = "H8282" of|strong = "H4428"
 Persia|strong = "H6539" and|strong = "H4428" Media|strong = "H4074"
 who|strong = "H3605" have|strong = "H1697" heard|strong = "H8085"
 of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" refusal of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H3605" queen|strong = "H4436" will|strong = "H4428"
 tell|strong = "H8085" it|strong = "H3117" to|strong = "H3117"
 all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428"

officials|strong = "H8269", and|strong = "H4428" there|strong = "H2088" will|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H1697" contempt|strong = "H0937" and|strong = "H4428" strife|strong = "H7379"! ¹⁹ If|strong = "H0518" it|strong = "H5414" seems|strong = "H2896" best|strong = "H2896" to|strong = "H3318" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428", let|strong = "H5414" him|strong = "H5414" send|strong = "H5414" out|strong = "H3318" a|strong = "H5414" royal|strong = "H4438" edict|strong = "H1697". Let|strong = "H5414" it|strong = "H5414" be|strong = "H3808" written|strong = "H3789" among|strong = "H4480" the|strong = "H6440" laws|strong = "H1881" of|strong = "H4428" Persia|strong = "H6539" and|strong = "H4428" Media|strong = "H4074", never|strong = "H3808" to|strong = "H3318" be|strong = "H3808" repealed|strong = "H5674", that|strong = "H1697" Vashti|strong = "H2060" may|strong = "H4428" never|strong = "H3808" again|strong = "H6440" come|strong = "H3318" before|strong = "H6440" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325". Let|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" give|strong = "H5414" her|strong = "H5414" place|strong = "H5414" as|strong = "H1697" queen|strong = "H4436" to|strong = "H3318" another|strong = "H7468" who|strong = "H4428" is|strong = "H1697" more|strong = "H4480" worthy|strong = "H2896" than|strong = "H4480" she|strong = "H5921". ²⁰ When|strong = "H3588" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" decree|strong = "H6599" which|strong = "H1931" he|strong = "H1931" makes|strong = "H6213" is|strong = "H1931" heard|strong = "H8085" throughout|strong = "H3605" his|strong = "H3605" kingdom|strong = "H4438" – great|strong = "H1419" as|strong = "H5704" it|strong = "H5414" is|strong = "H1931" – the|strong = "H3605" wives|strong = "H0802" of|strong = "H4428" all|strong = "H3605" classes will|strong = "H4428" give|strong = "H5414" honour|strong = "H3366" to|strong = "H5704" their|strong = "H3605" husbands|strong = "H1167".'

²¹The|strong = "H6213" proposal|strong = "H1697" pleased|strong = "H3190" the|strong = "H6213" king|strong = "H4428" and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6213" officials|strong = "H8269", and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6213" king|strong = "H4428" did|strong = "H6213" as|strong = "H1697" Memucan|strong = "H4462" advised|strong = "H0559". ²² He|strong = "H3605" sent|strong = "H7971" letters|strong = "H5612" to|strong = "H1696" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082", to|strong = "H1696" every|strong = "H3605" province|strong = "H4082" in|strong = "H1004" its|strong = "H3605" own|strong = "H1961" system of|strong = "H4428" writing|strong = "H3791" and|strong = "H7971" to|strong = "H1696" every|strong = "H3605" people|strong = "H5971" in|strong = "H1004" their|strong = "H3605" language|strong = "H3956", that|strong = "H5971" every|strong = "H3605" man|strong = "H3605" should|strong = "H4428"

be|strong = "H1961" master|strong = "H8323" in|strong = "H1004"
his|strong = "H3605" own|strong = "H1961" house|strong = "H1004"!

Choosing a Queen

2Some|strong = "H1697" time|strong = "H5921" later|strong = "H0310",
when|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H5921" wrath|strong = "H2534"
of|strong = "H4428" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325"
had|strong = "H4428" subsided|strong = "H7918", he|strong = "H6213"
remembered|strong = "H2142" what|strong = "H1697"
Vashti|strong = "H2060" had|strong = "H4428" done|strong = "H6213"
and|strong = "H4428" what|strong = "H1697" had|strong = "H4428"
been|strong = "H2142" decreed|strong = "H1504" against|strong = "H5921"
her|strong = "H5921". ² Then|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H1245"
king's|strong = "H4428" servants|strong = "H5288" who|strong = "H5288"
waited|strong = "H8334" upon|strong = "H4758" him|strong = "H1245"
said|strong = "H0559", 'Let|strong = "H7971" beautiful|strong = "H2896"
young|strong = "H5288" virgins|strong = "H1330" be|strong = "H4428"
sought|strong = "H1245" for|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H1245"
king|strong = "H4428", ³ and|strong = "H4428" let|strong = "H5414"
the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428" appoint|strong = "H6485"
commissioners|strong = "H5632" to|strong = "H5414" all|strong = "H3605"
the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082" of|strong = "H4428"
his|strong = "H3605" kingdom|strong = "H4438" to|strong = "H5414"
gather|strong = "H6908" them|strong = "H5414" all|strong = "H3605"
to|strong = "H5414" Susa|strong = "H7800" the|strong = "H3605"
royal|strong = "H4438" residence|strong = "H1004". Let|strong = "H5414"
them|strong = "H5414" be|strong = "H3027" brought|strong = "H5414"
into|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H3605" women's|strong = "H0802"
quarters|strong = "H1004" under|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H3605"
custody|strong = "H3027" of|strong = "H4428" Hegai|strong = "H1896",
the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" eunuch|strong = "H5631",
who|strong = "H3605" has|strong = "H4428" charge|strong = "H3027"
of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" women|strong = "H1330".
Then|strong = "H5414" give|strong = "H5414" them|strong = "H5414"
what|strong = "H2896" is|strong = "H3027" needed|strong = "H1767"
to|strong = "H5414" make|strong = "H5414" them|strong = "H5414"
beautiful|strong = "H2896", ⁴ and|strong = "H4428" let|strong = "H3651"
the|strong = "H6213" girl|strong = "H5291" who|strong = "H4428"
pleases|strong = "H5869" the|strong = "H6213" king|strong = "H4428"
be|strong = "H1697" queen|strong = "H4427" instead|strong = "H8478"
of|strong = "H4428" Vashti|strong = "H2060". The|strong = "H6213"
proposal|strong = "H1697" pleased|strong = "H3190" the|strong = "H6213"
king|strong = "H4428" so|strong = "H3651" he|strong = "H3651"
put|strong = "H6213" it|strong = "H6213" into|strong = "H6213"
action|strong = "H6213".

5 In|strong = "H1121" Susa|strong = "H7800" the|strong = "H1961" royal|strong = "H4438" residence|strong = "H1004" lived|strong = "H1961" a|strong = "H1961" Jew|strong = "H3064" named|strong = "H8034" Mordecai|strong = "H4782". He|strong = "H4782" was|strong = "H8034" son|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Jair|strong = "H2971", son|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Shimei|strong = "H8096", son|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Kish|strong = "H7027", a|strong = "H1961" Benjamite|strong = "H1145". ⁶ (Kish|strong = "H7027" had|strong = "H4428" been|strong = "H1961" carried|strong = "H1540" away|strong = "H1540" from|strong = "H1540" Jerusalem|strong = "H3389" with|strong = "H5973" the|strong = "H5973" exiles|strong = "H1473" who|strong = "H3063" were|strong = "H3063" deported|strong = "H1540" with|strong = "H5973" Jeconiah|strong = "H3204" king|strong = "H4428" of|strong = "H4428" Judah|strong = "H3063", whom|strong = "H0834" Nebuchadnezzar|strong = "H5019" the|strong = "H5973" king|strong = "H4428" of|strong = "H4428" Babylon|strong = "H0894" took|strong = "H4428" captive|strong = "H1540".) ⁷

Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H1961" adopted|strong = "H2388" Hadassah|strong = "H1919", that|strong = "H3588" is|strong = "H1931", Esther|strong = "H0635", his|strong = "H3947" uncle's|strong = "H1730" daughter|strong = "H1323", since|strong = "H3588" she|strong = "H1931" had|strong = "H1961" neither|strong = "H3808" father|strong = "H0001" nor|strong = "H8389" mother|strong = "H0517". The|strong = "H3588" girl|strong = "H5291" was|strong = "H1961" shapely and|strong = "H2896" beautiful|strong = "H3303"; and|strong = "H2896" after|strong = "H1961" her|strong = "H3947" father|strong = "H0001" and|strong = "H2896" mother|strong = "H0517" died|strong = "H4194", Mordecai|strong = "H4782" raised|strong = "H6965" her|strong = "H3947" as|strong = "H1961" if|strong = "H3588" she|strong = "H1931" was|strong = "H1961" his|strong = "H3947" own|strong = "H1961" daughter|strong = "H1323".

8 When|strong = "H1961" the|strong = "H8085" king's|strong = "H4428" command|strong = "H1697" and|strong = "H4428" decree|strong = "H1881" were|strong = "H1961" known|strong = "H8085", many|strong = "H7227" girls|strong = "H5291" were|strong = "H1961" gathered|strong = "H6908" together|strong = "H6908" to|strong = "H1961" Susa|strong = "H7800" the|strong = "H8085" capital|strong = "H3805" under|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H8085" custody|strong = "H3027" of|strong = "H4428" Hegai|strong = "H1896". Esther|strong = "H0635" was|strong = "H1961" also|strong = "H3027" taken|strong = "H3947" into|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H8085" king's|strong = "H4428" palace|strong = "H1004" and|strong = "H4428" placed|strong = "H3947" under|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H8085" custody|strong = "H3027" of|strong = "H4428" Hegai|strong = "H1896", who|strong = "H8104" had|strong = "H1961" charge|strong = "H3027" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H8085"

women|strong = "H5291". ⁹ The|strong = "H6440" girl|strong = "H5291" pleased|strong = "H3190" him|strong = "H5414" and|strong = "H4428" gained|strong = "H1214" his|strong = "H5375" favour|strong = "H6440", so|strong = "H5414" that|strong = "H7200" he|strong = "H1004" quickly|strong = "H4116" gave|strong = "H5414" her|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H6440" cosmetics|strong = "H8562" she|strong = "H6440" needed|strong = "H1767" to|strong = "H5414" enhance her|strong = "H5414" beauty|strong = "H3308" and|strong = "H4428" her|strong = "H5414" allowance|strong = "H0737" of|strong = "H4428" food|strong = "H1004" and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" seven|strong = "H7651" maids|strong = "H5291" selected|strong = "H7200" from|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440" king's|strong = "H4428" household|strong = "H1004". He|strong = "H1004" also|strong = "H4428" transferred|strong = "H5437" her|strong = "H5414" and|strong = "H4428" her|strong = "H5414" maids|strong = "H5291" to|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H6440" best|strong = "H2896" place|strong = "H5414" in|strong = "H1004" the|strong = "H6440" harem|strong = "H1004". ¹⁰ Esther|strong = "H0635" had|strong = "H3588" not|strong = "H3808" revealed|strong = "H1540" her|strong = "H5046" people|strong = "H5971" nor|strong = "H3808" her|strong = "H5046" family|strong = "H4940" background because|strong = "H3588" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H3588" ordered|strong = "H6680" her|strong = "H5046" not|strong = "H3808" to|strong = "H5921". ¹¹ Every|strong = "H3605" day|strong = "H3117" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" would|strong = "H6213" to|strong = "H1980" walk|strong = "H1980" in|strong = "H1980" front|strong = "H6440" of|strong = "H1004" the|strong = "H3605" courtyard|strong = "H2691" of|strong = "H1004" the|strong = "H3605" harem|strong = "H1004" and|strong = "H1980" ask|strong = "H7592" after|strong = "H3117" Esther's|strong = "H0635" health|strong = "H7965" and|strong = "H1980" what|strong = "H4100" was|strong = "H3117" happening to|strong = "H1980" her|strong = "H3605".

12The|strong = "H3588" girls|strong = "H5291" were|strong = "H1961" prepared|strong = "H3559" for|strong = "H3588" meeting|strong = "H4150" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" for|strong = "H3588" twelve|strong = "H8147" months|strong = "H2320": six|strong = "H8337" months|strong = "H2320" being|strong = "H1961" treated|strong = "H3190" with|strong = "H4390" oil|strong = "H8081" of|strong = "H4428" myrrh|strong = "H4753" and|strong = "H4428" six|strong = "H8337" months|strong = "H2320" with|strong = "H4390" perfumes|strong = "H7547" and|strong = "H4428" cosmetics|strong = "H8562". After|strong = "H7093" the|strong = "H3588" twelve|strong = "H8147" months|strong = "H2320", ¹³ each|strong = "H3605" girl|strong = "H5291" went|strong = "H4428" in|strong = "H1004" to|strong = "H5704" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428". She|strong = "H5704" was|strong = "H4428"

allowed|strong="H5414" to|strong="H5704" take|strong="H5414"
 with|strong="H5973" her|strong="H3605" whatever|strong="H3605"
 she|strong="H5704" wished|strong="H6634" from|strong="H5704"
 the|strong="H3605" women's|strong="H0802" quarters|strong="H1004",
¹⁴ and|strong="H7725" would|strong="H2654" enter|strong="H0935"
 the|strong="H3588" palace|strong="H1004" in|strong="H1004"
 the|strong="H3588" evening|strong="H6153" and|strong="H7725"
 return|strong="H7725" the|strong="H3588" next|strong="H3027"
 morning|strong="H1242" to|strong="H7725" another|strong="H8145"
 part|strong="H3027" of|strong="H4428" the|strong="H3588"
 harem|strong="H1004" under|strong="H3027" the|strong="H3588"
 care|strong="H3027" of|strong="H4428" the|strong="H3588"
 king's|strong="H4428" eunuch|strong="H5631"
 Shaashgaz|strong="H8190" who|strong="H1931" was|strong="H8034"
 in|strong="H1004" charge|strong="H3027" of|strong="H4428"
 concubines|strong="H6370". She|strong="H1931" would|strong="H2654"
 not|strong="H3808" go|strong="H7725" to|strong="H7725"
 the|strong="H3588" king|strong="H4428" again|strong="H7725"
 unless|strong="H3588" he|strong="H1931" desired|strong="H2654"
 her|strong="H7121" and|strong="H7725" summoned|strong="H7121"
 her|strong="H7121" by|strong="H3027" name|strong="H8034". ¹⁵
 When|strong="H3588" it|strong="H3588" was|strong="H1961"
 the|strong="H3605" turn|strong="H8447" of|strong="H4428"
 Esther|strong="H0635" (the|strong="H3605" girl|strong="H1323"
 adopted|strong="H2388" by|strong="H1961" Mordecai|strong="H4782",
 daughter|strong="H1323" of|strong="H4428" his|strong="H3605"
 uncle|strong="H1730" Abihail|strong="H0032") to|strong="H1961"
 go|strong="H1961" in|strong="H4428" to|strong="H1961"
 the|strong="H3605" king|strong="H4428", she|strong="H3588"
 only|strong="H3588" took|strong="H3947" with|strong="H1697"
 her|strong="H3605" those|strong="H3605" things|strong="H1697"
 that|strong="H3588" Hegai|strong="H1896", the|strong="H3605"
 king's|strong="H4428" eunuch|strong="H5631" in|strong="H4428"
 charge|strong="H8104" of|strong="H4428" the|strong="H3605"
 women|strong="H1323", had|strong="H1961" advised|strong="H0559"
 her|strong="H3605" to|strong="H1961" take|strong="H3947".
 Esther|strong="H0635" was|strong="H1961" liked|strong="H5869"
 by|strong="H1961" all|strong="H3605" who|strong="H3605"
 saw|strong="H7200" her|strong="H3605". ¹⁶ Esther|strong="H0635"
 was|strong="H1931" taken|strong="H3947" to|strong="H1004"
 King|strong="H4428" Ahasuerus|strong="H0325" in|strong="H8141"
 the|strong="H3947" royal|strong="H4438" palace|strong="H1004"
 in|strong="H8141" the|strong="H3947" tenth|strong="H6224"
 month|strong="H2320", the|strong="H3947" month|strong="H2320"
 of|strong="H4428" Tebeth|strong="H2887", in|strong="H8141"
 the|strong="H3947" seventh|strong="H7651" year|strong="H8141"

of|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H3947" reign|strong = "H4438". ¹⁷
 And|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
 loved|strong = "H0157" her|strong = "H3605" more|strong = "H3254"
 than|strong = "H4428" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 other|strong = "H3605" women|strong = "H1330", and|strong = "H4428"
 she|strong = "H6440" became|strong = "H4427" his|strong = "H3605"
 favourite and|strong = "H4428" won|strong = "H1589" his|strong = "H3605"
 affection|strong = "H2836". He|strong = "H3605" placed|strong = "H7760"
 the|strong = "H3605" royal|strong = "H4438" diadem|strong = "H6797"
 on|strong = "H7760" her|strong = "H3605" head|strong = "H7218"
 and|strong = "H4428" made|strong = "H7760" her|strong = "H3605"
 queen|strong = "H4427" instead|strong = "H8478" of|strong = "H4428"
 Vashti|strong = "H2060". ¹⁸ Then|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H3605"
 king|strong = "H4428" gave|strong = "H5414" a|strong = "H6213"
 great|strong = "H1419" feast|strong = "H4960" to|strong = "H6213"
 all|strong = "H3605" his|strong = "H3605" officials|strong = "H8269"
 and|strong = "H4428" courtiers in|strong = "H6213" honour|strong = "H3519"
 of|strong = "H4428" Esther|strong = "H0635", and|strong = "H4428"
 he|strong = "H6213" remitted the|strong = "H3605" taxes|strong = "H4061"
 of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082"
 and|strong = "H4428" distributed|strong = "H2505" gifts|strong = "H4864"
 with|strong = "H6213" royal|strong = "H4428" liberality.

19All|strong = "H6908" the|strong = "H6908" time|strong = "H8145"
 the|strong = "H6908" virgins|strong = "H1330" were|strong = "H3427"
 assembled|strong = "H6908" again|strong = "H8145",
 Mordecai|strong = "H4782" was|strong = "H4428" sitting|strong = "H3427"
 as|strong = "H3427" an|strong = "H3427" official at|strong = "H3427"
 the|strong = "H6908" king's|strong = "H4428" gate|strong = "H8179". ²⁰
 Esther|strong = "H0635" had|strong = "H1961" not|strong = "H6213"
 revealed|strong = "H1540" her|strong = "H5046" people|strong = "H5971"
 or|strong = "H6213" family|strong = "H4940" background
 because|strong = "H5921" she|strong = "H5921" still|strong = "H5971"
 obeyed|strong = "H8085" him|strong = "H5921" as|strong = "H1961"
 she|strong = "H5921" had|strong = "H1961" when|strong = "H1961"
 he|strong = "H6213" was|strong = "H1961" bringing|strong = "H0935"
 her|strong = "H5046" up|strong = "H5921".
 Hatred|strong = "H8135" without|strong = "H6213" Pity|strong = "H2347"

21In|strong = "H3427" those|strong = "H1992" days|strong = "H3117"
 while|strong = "H3117" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" was|strong = "H3117"
 sitting|strong = "H3427" in|strong = "H3427" the|strong = "H8104"
 king's|strong = "H4428" gate|strong = "H8179", two|strong = "H8147"
 of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H8104" royal|strong = "H4428"
 court|strong = "H8179" attendants|strong = "H5650",

Bigthan|strong = "H0904" and|strong = "H7971" Teresh|strong = "H8657",
 who|strong = "H3427" guarded|strong = "H8104" the|strong = "H8104"
 entrance|strong = "H8179" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H8104"
 palace|strong = "H1004", became|strong = "H7107"
 enraged|strong = "H7107" and|strong = "H7971" attempted|strong = "H3909"
 to|strong = "H7971" kill|strong = "H2026" King|strong = "H4428"
 Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325". ²² But|strong = "H4428"
 Mordecai|strong = "H4782" learned|strong = "H3045" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H3045" conspiracy|strong = "H7195" and|strong = "H4428"
 disclosed|strong = "H5046" it|strong = "H3045" to|strong = "H4428"
 Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635", and|strong = "H4428"
 she|strong = "H1931" told|strong = "H5046" the|strong = "H3045"
 king|strong = "H4428" on|strong = "H1697" Mordecai's|strong = "H4782"
 behalf|strong = "H8034". ²³ When|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6440"
 affair|strong = "H1697" was|strong = "H1697" investigated|strong = "H1245"
 and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" facts
 discovered|strong = "H4672", the|strong = "H6440"
 conspirators|strong = "H8518" were|strong = "H3117" both|strong = "H8147"
 hanged|strong = "H8518" on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440"
 gallows|strong = "H6086". The|strong = "H6440" incident
 was|strong = "H1697" recorded|strong = "H3789" in|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H6440" presence|strong = "H6440" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" in|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H6440" daily|strong = "H3117" record|strong = "H3789"
 of|strong = "H4428" events|strong = "H1697".

3After|strong = "H5921" these|strong = "H7760" events|strong = "H1697"
 King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325"
 promoted|strong = "H1431" Haman|strong = "H2001" the|strong = "H3605"
 son|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Hammedatha|strong = "H4099"
 the|strong = "H3605" Agagite|strong = "H0091", and|strong = "H1121"
 advanced|strong = "H5375" him|strong = "H5921" to|strong = "H5921"
 a|strong = "H7760" place|strong = "H7760" above|strong = "H5921"
 all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" officials|strong = "H8269"
 who|strong = "H3605" were|strong = "H1121" with|strong = "H5921"
 him|strong = "H5921". ² All|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 king's|strong = "H4428" courtiers who|strong = "H3605"
 were|strong = "H5650" in|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605"
 king's|strong = "H4428" gate|strong = "H8179" used|strong = "H3605"
 to|strong = "H4428" bow|strong = "H7812" down|strong = "H7812"
 before|strong = "H3808" Haman|strong = "H2001", for|strong = "H3588"
 so|strong = "H3651" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
 had|strong = "H4428" commanded|strong = "H6680", but|strong = "H3588"
 Mordecai|strong = "H4782" did|strong = "H3651" not|strong = "H3808"
 bow|strong = "H7812" down|strong = "H7812" nor|strong = "H3808"

prostrate|strong = "H7812" himself|strong = "H7812".

3Then|strong = "H5674" the|strong = "H5674" king's|strong = "H4428" courtiers, who|strong = "H5650" were|strong = "H5650" in|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5674" king's|strong = "H4428" gate|strong = "H8179", said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H4428" Mordecai|strong = "H4782", 'Why|strong = "H4069" do|strong = "H6213" you|strong = "H4428" disobey|strong = "H0854" the|strong = "H5674" king's|strong = "H4428" command|strong = "H4687"?'⁴ When|strong = "H3588" they|strong = "H1992" had|strong = "H1961" spoken|strong = "H1697" to|strong = "H1961" him|strong = "H5046" day|strong = "H3117" after|strong = "H1961" day|strong = "H3117" without|strong = "H3808" his|strong = "H8085" listening|strong = "H8085" to|strong = "H1961" them|strong = "H1992", they|strong = "H1992" informed|strong = "H5046" Haman|strong = "H2001", to|strong = "H1961" see|strong = "H7200" whether|strong = "H7200" Mordecai's|strong = "H4782" acts|strong = "H1697" would|strong = "H1697" be|strong = "H1961" tolerated, for|strong = "H3588" he|strong = "H1931" had|strong = "H1961" told|strong = "H5046" them|strong = "H1992" that|strong = "H3588" he|strong = "H1931" was|strong = "H1961" a|strong = "H1961" Jew|strong = "H3064".⁵ When|strong = "H3588" Haman|strong = "H2001" saw|strong = "H7200" that|strong = "H3588" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" did|strong = "H7200" not|strong = "H3588" bow|strong = "H7812" down|strong = "H7812" nor|strong = "H3588" prostrate|strong = "H7812" himself|strong = "H7812" before|strong = "H7200" him|strong = "H7200", he|strong = "H3588" was|strong = "H2001" furious|strong = "H2534".⁶ But|strong = "H3588" it|strong = "H3588" seemed|strong = "H5869" to|strong = "H7971" him|strong = "H7971" beneath|strong = "H8478" his|strong = "H3605" dignity|strong = "H7613" to|strong = "H7971" lay|strong = "H7971" hands|strong = "H3027" on|strong = "H3027" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" alone|strong = "H0905", for|strong = "H3588" they|strong = "H3588" had|strong = "H3588" told|strong = "H5046" him|strong = "H7971" who|strong = "H3605" Mordecai's|strong = "H4782" people|strong = "H5971" were|strong = "H5971". Instead|strong = "H3588" Haman|strong = "H2001" sought|strong = "H1245" to|strong = "H7971" destroy|strong = "H8045" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" people|strong = "H5971" of|strong = "H3027" Mordecai|strong = "H4782", all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064" throughout|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" kingdom|strong = "H4438" of|strong = "H3027" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325".

7In|strong = "H8141" the|strong = "H6440" first|strong = "H7223" month|strong = "H2320" (the|strong = "H6440" month|strong = "H2320" of|strong = "H4428" Nisan|strong = "H5212") in|strong = "H8141"

the|strong = "H6440" twelfth|strong = "H8147" year|strong = "H8141"
of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" reign|strong = "H3117"
of|strong = "H4428" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325",
Haman|strong = "H2001" had|strong = "H4428" "pur|strong = "H6332"
(which|strong = "H1931" means|strong = "H3027" "lot|strong = "H1486"
cast|strong = "H5307" before|strong = "H6440" him|strong = "H6440"
to|strong = "H6440" determine|strong = "H7200" the|strong = "H6440"
best|strong = "H2459" day|strong = "H3117" and|strong = "H4428"
best|strong = "H2459" month|strong = "H2320" for|strong = "H6440"
his|strong = "H6440" actions|strong = "H5949". The|strong = "H6440"
lot|strong = "H1486" fell|strong = "H5307" on|strong = "H3117"
the|strong = "H6440" thirteenth|strong = "H7969" day|strong = "H3117"
of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" twelfth|strong = "H8147"
month|strong = "H2320" – the|strong = "H6440" month|strong = "H2320"
of|strong = "H4428" Adar|strong = "H0143".

8So|strong = "H6213" Haman|strong = "H2001" said|strong = "H0559"
to|strong = "H6213" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325",
"There|strong = "H3426" is|strong = "H3426" a|strong = "H6213"
certain|strong = "H0259" people|strong = "H5971"
scattered|strong = "H6340" among|strong = "H5971" the|strong = "H3605"
peoples|strong = "H5971" in|strong = "H6213" all|strong = "H3605"
the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082" of|strong = "H4428"
your|strong = "H3605" kingdom|strong = "H4438", whose|strong = "H3605"
laws|strong = "H1881" differ from|strong = "H5971" those|strong = "H3605"
of|strong = "H4428" every|strong = "H3605" other|strong = "H3605"
and|strong = "H4428" who|strong = "H3605" do|strong = "H6213"
not|strong = "H6213" keep|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605"
king's|strong = "H4428" laws|strong = "H1881". Therefore|strong = "H5971"
it|strong = "H6213" is|strong = "H3426" not|strong = "H6213"
right|strong = "H3225" for|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605"
king|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H6213" tolerate|strong = "H3201"
them|strong = "H6213".⁹ If|strong = "H0518" it|strong = "H5921"
seems|strong = "H3190" best|strong = "H2459" to|strong = "H6213"
the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428", let|strong = "H7971"
an|strong = "H6213" order|strong = "H3027" be|strong = "H3027"
given|strong = "H3027" to|strong = "H6213" destroy|strong = "H6213"
them|strong = "H5921", and|strong = "H3701" I|strong = "H5921"
will|strong = "H4428" pay|strong = "H8254" ten|strong = "H6235"
thousand|strong = "H0505" silver|strong = "H3701" coins
into|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" royal|strong = "H4428"
treasury|strong = "H0214".¹⁰ So|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H5921"
king|strong = "H4428" took|strong = "H5493" off|strong = "H5493"
his|strong = "H5414" signet|strong = "H2885" ring|strong = "H2885"
from|strong = "H5493" his|strong = "H5414" hand|strong = "H3027"

and|strong = "H1121" gave|strong = "H5414" it|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H5921" Haman|strong = "H2001" son|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Hammedatha|strong = "H4099" the|strong = "H5921" Agagite|strong = "H0091", the|strong = "H5921" enemy|strong = "H6887" of|strong = "H1121" the|strong = "H5921" Jews|strong = "H3064". ¹¹ "The|strong = "H5414" money|strong = "H3701" is|strong = "H2896" yours|strong = "H5414", the|strong = "H5414" king|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H6213" Haman|strong = "H2001", 'and|strong = "H3701" the|strong = "H5414" people|strong = "H5971" also|strong = "H6213" to|strong = "H6213" do|strong = "H6213" with|strong = "H6213" them|strong = "H5414" as|strong = "H6213" you|strong = "H5414" wish|strong = "H2896".' ¹² And|strong = "H4428" so|strong = "H7121", on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605" thirteenth|strong = "H7969" day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" first|strong = "H7223" month|strong = "H2320", the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" secretaries|strong = "H5613" were|strong = "H5971" summoned|strong = "H7121" and|strong = "H4428" as|strong = "H3117" Haman|strong = "H2001" instructed|strong = "H6680" an|strong = "H7121" edict|strong = "H3791" was|strong = "H8034" issued|strong = "H6680" to|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" satraps|strong = "H0324" and|strong = "H4428" provincial governors|strong = "H6346" and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" rulers|strong = "H8269" of|strong = "H4428" each|strong = "H3605" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" peoples|strong = "H5971" in|strong = "H5921" their|strong = "H3605" own|strong = "H5971" script|strong = "H3791" and|strong = "H4428" their|strong = "H3605" own|strong = "H5971" language|strong = "H3956". The|strong = "H3605" edict|strong = "H3791" was|strong = "H8034" written|strong = "H3789" in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605" name|strong = "H8034" of|strong = "H4428" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" and|strong = "H4428" sealed|strong = "H2856" with|strong = "H5921" his|strong = "H3605" ring|strong = "H2885". ¹³ Dispatches were|strong = "H3117" sent|strong = "H7971" by|strong = "H3027" couriers|strong = "H7323" to|strong = "H5704" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" provinces|strong = "H4082", saying|strong = "H0559": Destroy|strong = "H8045", kill|strong = "H2026", put|strong = "H7971" an|strong = "H7971" end|strong = "H7093" to|strong = "H5704" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064", young|strong = "H5288" and|strong = "H7971" old|strong = "H2205", little|strong = "H2945" children|strong = "H2945" and|strong = "H7971" women|strong = "H2205", on|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H3605" thirteenth|strong = "H7969" day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" twelfth|strong = "H8147" month|strong = "H2320", and|strong = "H7971" plunder|strong = "H7998" their|strong = "H3605" possessions|strong = "H7998". ¹⁴ A|strong = "H1961" copy|strong = "H6572"

of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H3605" edict|strong = "H1881" was|strong = "H1961" to|strong = "H1961" be|strong = "H1961" published|strong = "H1540" as|strong = "H3117" a|strong = "H1961" decree|strong = "H1881" in|strong = "H3117" every|strong = "H3605" province|strong = "H4082" – publicly|strong = "H3318" displayed|strong = "H5414" so|strong = "H1961" that|strong = "H5971" everyone|strong = "H3605" might|strong = "H5971" be|strong = "H1961" ready|strong = "H6264" for|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H5971" day|strong = "H3117". ¹⁵ By|strong = "H3318" command|strong = "H1697" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5414" king|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5414" couriers|strong = "H7323" raced off|strong = "H5414", and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5414" edict|strong = "H1697" was|strong = "H1697" published|strong = "H1540" in|strong = "H3427" Susa|strong = "H7800" itself|strong = "H0905".

T hen|strong = "H3318" the|strong = "H5414" king|strong = "H4428" and|strong = "H4428" Haman|strong = "H2001" sat|strong = "H3427" down|strong = "H3427" to|strong = "H3318" drink|strong = "H8354", but|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5414" city|strong = "H5892" of|strong = "H4428" Susa|strong = "H7800" was|strong = "H1697" in|strong = "H3427" turmoil|strong = "H2001".

A Queen's Efforts to Save Her People

4When|strong = "H3318" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" learned|strong = "H3045" all|strong = "H3605" that|strong = "H3045" had|strong = "H4782" been|strong = "H3605" done|strong = "H6213", he|strong = "H6213" tore|strong = "H7167" his|strong = "H3605" clothes|strong = "H3847" and|strong = "H1419" put|strong = "H3847" on|strong = "H3847" sackcloth|strong = "H8242" and|strong = "H1419" strewed ashes|strong = "H0665" on|strong = "H3847" his|strong = "H3605" head|strong = "H7218", and|strong = "H1419" went|strong = "H3318" out|strong = "H3318" into|strong = "H8432" the|strong = "H3605" city|strong = "H5892" and|strong = "H1419" raised|strong = "H8432" a|strong = "H6213" loud|strong = "H1419" and|strong = "H1419" bitter|strong = "H4751" cry|strong = "H2199" of|strong = "H5892" lamentation|strong = "H7015". ² He|strong = "H3588" went|strong = "H4428" as|strong = "H5704" far|strong = "H5704" as|strong = "H5704" the|strong = "H6440" king's|strong = "H4428" gate|strong = "H8179", but|strong = "H3588" no|strong = "H6440" one|strong = "H3588" could|strong = "H3201" enter|strong = "H0935" the|strong = "H6440" gate|strong = "H8179" clothed|strong = "H3830" with|strong = "H6440" sackcloth|strong = "H8242". ³ In|strong = "H4428" every|strong = "H3605" province|strong = "H4082", wherever|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" command|strong = "H1697" and|strong = "H4428" decree|strong = "H1881"

went|strong = "H4428", there|strong = "H3605" was|strong = "H1697"
 great|strong = "H1419" mourning|strong = "H4553",
 fasting|strong = "H6685", weeping|strong = "H1065", and|strong = "H4428"
 wailing|strong = "H4553" among|strong = "H7227" the|strong = "H3605"
 Jews|strong = "H3064". Many|strong = "H7227" of|strong = "H4428"
 them|strong = "H5060" sat|strong = "H3427" in|strong = "H4428"
 sackcloth|strong = "H8242" and|strong = "H4428" ashes|strong = "H0665".

4When|strong = "H7971" Esther's|strong = "H0635"
 maids|strong = "H5291" and|strong = "H7971" attendants|strong = "H5650"
 told|strong = "H5046" her|strong = "H7971" about|strong = "H5921"
 Mordecai's|strong = "H4782" behaviour|strong = "H2940",
 she|strong = "H5921" was|strong = "H5291" greatly|strong = "H3966"
 troubled|strong = "H3966". She|strong = "H5921" sent|strong = "H7971"
 garments|strong = "H0899" for|strong = "H5921" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 to|strong = "H7971" put|strong = "H3847" on|strong = "H5921",
 so|strong = "H7971" that|strong = "H3808" he|strong = "H3808"
 could|strong = "H3201" take|strong = "H5493" off|strong = "H5493"
 his|strong = "H7971" sack-cloth, but|strong = "H3808" he|strong = "H3808"
 would|strong = "H5493" not|strong = "H3808" accept|strong = "H6901"
 them|strong = "H5921". 5 So|strong = "H7121" Esther|strong = "H0635"
 called|strong = "H7121" Hathach|strong = "H2047", one|strong = "H2088"
 of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" king's|strong = "H4428"
 eunuchs|strong = "H5631" whom|strong = "H6440" he|strong = "H5921"
 had|strong = "H4428" appointed|strong = "H5975" to|strong = "H5921"
 attend|strong = "H6440" her|strong = "H5921", and|strong = "H4428"
 ordered|strong = "H6680" him|strong = "H6440" to|strong = "H5921"
 go|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H5921" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 to|strong = "H5921" learn|strong = "H3045" what|strong = "H4100"
 it|strong = "H7121" all|strong = "H3045" meant|strong = "H2803"
 and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" reason|strong = "H6440"
 for|strong = "H5921" it|strong = "H7121".

6So|strong = "H3318" Hathach|strong = "H2047" went|strong = "H3318"
 out|strong = "H3318" to|strong = "H3318" Mordecai|strong = "H4782",
 to|strong = "H3318" the|strong = "H6440" city|strong = "H5892"
 square|strong = "H7339" in|strong = "H4428" front|strong = "H6440"
 of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" king's|strong = "H4428"
 gate|strong = "H8179". 7 Mordecai|strong = "H4782" told|strong = "H5046"
 him|strong = "H5921" all|strong = "H3605" that|strong = "H3605"
 had|strong = "H4428" happened|strong = "H7136" to|strong = "H5921"
 him|strong = "H5921" and|strong = "H3701" the|strong = "H3605"
 exact|strong = "H6575" amount|strong = "H6575" of|strong = "H4428"
 money|strong = "H3701" that|strong = "H3605" Haman|strong = "H2001"
 had|strong = "H4428" promised|strong = "H1696" to|strong = "H5921"

pay|strong = "H8254" into|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605"
king's|strong = "H4428" treasury|strong = "H0214" for|strong = "H5921"
the|strong = "H3605" destruction|strong = "H7667" of|strong = "H4428"
the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064". ⁸ Also|strong = "H4428"
he|strong = "H5414" gave|strong = "H5414" him|strong = "H5414"
a|strong = "H5414" copy|strong = "H6572" of|strong = "H4428"
the|strong = "H6440" decree|strong = "H1881" to|strong = "H5921"
destroy|strong = "H8045" them|strong = "H5414", that|strong = "H5971"
had|strong = "H4428" been|strong = "H5046" published|strong = "H1540"
in|strong = "H5921" Susa|strong = "H7800", to|strong = "H5921"
show|strong = "H7200" to|strong = "H5921" Esther|strong = "H0635"
for|strong = "H5921" her|strong = "H5414" information|strong = "H1697".
He|strong = "H5414" also|strong = "H4428" told|strong = "H5046"
her|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H5921" go|strong = "H5971"
to|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428"
and|strong = "H4428" implore|strong = "H2603" his|strong = "H5414"
mercy|strong = "H2603" and|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H5921"
plead|strong = "H1245" with|strong = "H5921" him|strong = "H5414"
in|strong = "H5921" behalf|strong = "H5921" of|strong = "H4428"
her|strong = "H5414" people|strong = "H5971".

9When|strong = "H3588" Hathach|strong = "H2047"
came|strong = "H1697" and|strong = "H1697" told|strong = "H5046"
Esther|strong = "H0635" what|strong = "H1697" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
had|strong = "H4782" said|strong = "H1697", ¹⁰ she|strong = "H1931"
instructed|strong = "H6680" Hathach|strong = "H2047" to|strong = "H6680"
go|strong = "H1980" and|strong = "H2047" say|strong = "H0559"
to|strong = "H6680" Mordecai|strong = "H4782", ¹¹ 'All|strong = "H3605"
the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" courtiers and|strong = "H4428"
the|strong = "H3605" people|strong = "H5971" of|strong = "H4428"
the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" provinces|strong = "H4082"
know|strong = "H3045" that|strong = "H3045" for|strong = "H7121"
every|strong = "H3605" man|strong = "H4191" or|strong = "H3808"
woman|strong = "H2088" who|strong = "H3605" goes|strong = "H1980"
to|strong = "H4191" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
into|strong = "H3045" the|strong = "H3605" inner|strong = "H6442"
court|strong = "H2691" without|strong = "H3808" being|strong = "H5971"
called|strong = "H7121" there|strong = "H2088" is|strong = "H2088"
one|strong = "H2088" penalty|strong = "H1780", death|strong = "H4191",
unless|strong = "H3808" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
holds|strong = "H3447" out|strong = "H3447" the|strong = "H3605"
golden|strong = "H2091" sceptre|strong = "H8275" signifying
that|strong = "H3045" they|strong = "H3117" may|strong = "H5971"
live|strong = "H2421". It|strong = "H7121" has|strong = "H4428"
been|strong = "H5971" thirty|strong = "H7970" days|strong = "H3117"

since|strong = "H3117" I|strong = "H3117" have|strong = "H5971"
 been|strong = "H5971" called|strong = "H7121" to|strong = "H4191"
 go|strong = "H5971" in|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H4191"
 the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428".'

12When|strong = "H3588" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 was|strong = "H1697" told|strong = "H5046" what|strong = "H1697"
 Esther|strong = "H0635" had|strong = "H4782" said|strong = "H1697", ¹³
 he|strong = "H3605" sent|strong = "H7725" back|strong = "H7725"
 this|strong = "H7725" reply|strong = "H7725" to|strong = "H7725"
 Esther|strong = "H0635", 'Don't|strong = "H0408" imagine|strong = "H1819"
 that|strong = "H3605" you|strong = "H3605" alone|strong = "H4422"
 of|strong = "H4428" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 Jews|strong = "H3064" will|strong = "H4428" escape|strong = "H4422"
 because|strong = "H3605" you|strong = "H3605" belong|strong = "H1961"
 to|strong = "H7725" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428"
 household|strong = "H1004". ¹⁴ If|strong = "H3588" you|strong = "H3588"
 persist|strong = "H5975" in|strong = "H1004" remaining|strong = "H8300"
 silent|strong = "H2790" at|strong = "H1004" this|strong = "H2063"
 time|strong = "H6256", relief|strong = "H7305" and|strong = "H1004"
 deliverance|strong = "H2020" will|strong = "H4310" come|strong = "H5060"
 to|strong = "H6256" the|strong = "H3588" Jews|strong = "H3064"
 from|strong = "H3064" another|strong = "H0312" quarter|strong = "H6285",
 but|strong = "H3588" you|strong = "H3588" and|strong = "H1004"
 your|strong = "H3045" family|strong = "H1004" will|strong = "H4310"
 perish|strong = "H0006". Who|strong = "H4310" knows|strong = "H3045"?
 Maybe|strong = "H0194" you|strong = "H3588" have|strong = "H3045"
 been|strong = "H1961" raised|strong = "H5975" to|strong = "H6256"
 the|strong = "H3588" throne|strong = "H4438" for|strong = "H3588"
 a|strong = "H3588" time|strong = "H6256" like|strong = "H1004"
 this|strong = "H2063"!'

15Then|strong = "H7725" Esther|strong = "H0635" sent|strong = "H7725"
 this|strong = "H7725" message|strong = "H1697" to|strong = "H7725"
 Mordecai|strong = "H4782": ¹⁶ 'Go|strong = "H3212",
 gather|strong = "H3664" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 Jews|strong = "H3064" in|strong = "H5921" Susa|strong = "H7800"
 and|strong = "H4428" fast|strong = "H6684" for|strong = "H5921"
 me|strong = "H5921". Don't|strong = "H3808" eat|strong = "H0398"
 nor|strong = "H3808" drink|strong = "H8354" anything|strong = "H3605"
 for|strong = "H5921" three|strong = "H7969" days|strong = "H3117"
 and|strong = "H4428" nights|strong = "H3915". My|strong = "H3605"
 maids|strong = "H5291" and|strong = "H4428" I|strong = "H3117"
 will|strong = "H4428" fast|strong = "H6684" as|strong = "H3117"
 well|strong = "H1571". Then|strong = "H3651" I|strong = "H3117"

will|strong="H4428" go|strong="H3212" in|strong="H5921"
to|strong="H3212" the|strong="H3605" king|strong="H4428",
although|strong="H3808" it|strong="H5921" is|strong="H3117"
contrary|strong="H5921" to|strong="H3212" the|strong="H3605"
law|strong="H1881", and|strong="H4428" if|strong="H3651"
I|strong="H3117" die|strong="H4191", I|strong="H3117"
die|strong="H4191".¹ ¹⁷ Mordecai|strong="H4782" did|strong="H6213"
everything|strong="H3605" Esther|strong="H0635" had|strong="H4782"
directed|strong="H5090".

5 On|strong="H5921" the|strong="H5921" third|strong="H7992"
day|strong="H3117", Esther|strong="H0635" put|strong="H3847"
on|strong="H5921" her|strong="H5921" regalia and|strong="H4428"
stood|strong="H5975" in|strong="H3427" the|strong="H5921"
inner|strong="H6442" court|strong="H2691" of|strong="H4428"
the|strong="H5921" royal|strong="H4438" palace|strong="H1004"
opposite|strong="H5227" the|strong="H5921" king's|strong="H4428"
house|strong="H1004". The|strong="H5921" king|strong="H4428"
was|strong="H1961" sitting|strong="H3427" on|strong="H5921"
his|strong="H5921" throne|strong="H3678" in|strong="H3427"
the|strong="H5921" palace|strong="H1004", opposite|strong="H5227"
the|strong="H5921" entrance|strong="H6607". ² When|strong="H1961"
he|strong="H3027" saw|strong="H7200" Esther|strong="H0635"
the|strong="H7200" queen|strong="H4436" standing|strong="H5975"
in|strong="H4428" the|strong="H7200" court|strong="H2691",
she|strong="H1931" won|strong="H1589" his|strong="H5375"
favour|strong="H2580", and|strong="H4428" he|strong="H3027"
held|strong="H4428" out|strong="H7200" to|strong="H1961"
her|strong="H5375" the|strong="H7200" golden|strong="H2091"
sceptre|strong="H8275" that|strong="H7200" was|strong="H1961"
in|strong="H4428" his|strong="H5375" hand|strong="H3027".
So|strong="H1961" Esther|strong="H0635" approached|strong="H7126"
and|strong="H4428" touched|strong="H5060" the|strong="H7200"
top|strong="H7218" of|strong="H4428" the|strong="H7200"
sceptre|strong="H8275". ³ Then|strong="H5414" the|strong="H5414"
king|strong="H4428" said|strong="H0559" to|strong="H5704"
her|strong="H5414", 'What|strong="H4100" is|strong="H4100"
it|strong="H5414', Queen|strong="H4436" Esther|strong="H0635"?
Whatever|strong="H4100" your|strong="H5414" request|strong="H1246"
is|strong="H4100", it|strong="H5414" will|strong="H4428"
be|strong="H5414" granted|strong="H5414", even|strong="H5704"
if|strong="H0518" it|strong="H5414" is|strong="H4100"
the|strong="H5414" half|strong="H2677" of|strong="H4428"
the|strong="H5414" kingdom|strong="H4438".¹

4 ‘If it seems best to the king, let the king and Haman come today to the banquet that I have prepared for him.’⁵ Then the king ordered Haman quickly that Esther’s wish may be gratified.’

So the king and Haman went to the banquet that Esther had prepared for the king. While they were drinking wine, the king said, “Whatever your petition is, I will grant it.” Your request will be done – even if it takes half of my kingdom.’⁷ Esther answered, “If I have won the king’s favour and if it seems best to the king, grant my petition and to my request are that the Haman come to the banquet which I will prepare

for|strong = "H5921" them|strong = "H5414". Tomorrow|strong = "H4279"
 I|strong = "H5414" will|strong = "H4428" answer|strong = "H1697"
 the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" question|strong = "H1697"
 as|strong = "H1697" he|strong = "H6213" wishes|strong = "H2654".'

9Haman|strong = "H2001" went|strong = "H3318" out|strong = "H3318"
 that|strong = "H7200" day|strong = "H3117" joyful|strong = "H8056"
 and|strong = "H6965" elated, but|strong = "H3808" when|strong = "H3117"
 he|strong = "H1931" saw|strong = "H7200" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428"
 gate|strong = "H8179" and|strong = "H6965" noticed|strong = "H7200"
 that|strong = "H7200" he|strong = "H1931" neither|strong = "H3808"
 stood|strong = "H6965" up|strong = "H6965" nor|strong = "H3808"
 moved|strong = "H2111" for|strong = "H5921" him|strong = "H5921",
 he|strong = "H1931" was|strong = "H3820" furiously|strong = "H2534"
 angry|strong = "H2534" with|strong = "H4390" Mordecai|strong = "H4782".

¹⁰ Nevertheless|strong = "H0389" Haman|strong = "H2001"
 restrained|strong = "H3607" himself|strong = "H5315" and|strong = "H7971"
 went|strong = "H1004" home|strong = "H1004". He|strong = "H1004"
 called|strong = "H7121" together|strong = "H3162" his|strong = "H7971"
 friends|strong = "H7453" and|strong = "H7971" Zeresh|strong = "H2238"
 his|strong = "H7971" wife|strong = "H0802" ¹¹ and|strong = "H1121"
 recounted|strong = "H5608" to|strong = "H5921" them|strong = "H1992"
 the|strong = "H3605" greatness|strong = "H7230" of|strong = "H1121"
 his|strong = "H3605" wealth|strong = "H6239", how|strong = "H1431"
 many|strong = "H7230" children|strong = "H1121" he|strong = "H3605"
 had|strong = "H4428", and|strong = "H1121" all|strong = "H3605"
 the|strong = "H3605" ways|strong = "H1870" in|strong = "H5921"
 which|strong = "H1992" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
 had|strong = "H4428" honoured|strong = "H3513" him|strong = "H5921",
 and|strong = "H1121" how|strong = "H1431" he|strong = "H3605"
 had|strong = "H4428" promoted|strong = "H1431" him|strong = "H5921"
 above|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605" officials|strong = "H8269"
 and|strong = "H1121" the|strong = "H3605" royal|strong = "H4428" courtiers.

¹² 'What|strong = "H6213" is|strong = "H1571" more|strong = "H3808",'
 Haman|strong = "H2001" said|strong = "H7121", 'Queen|strong = "H4436"
 Esther|strong = "H0635" brought|strong = "H6213" no|strong = "H3808"
 one|strong = "H3808" in|strong = "H6213" with|strong = "H5973"
 the|strong = "H3588" king|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H3588" banquet|strong = "H4960" which|strong = "H4960"
 she|strong = "H3588" had|strong = "H4428" prepared|strong = "H6213"
 except|strong = "H3588" me|strong = "H7121", and|strong = "H4428"
 tomorrow|strong = "H4279" also|strong = "H1571" I|strong = "H3588"
 am|strong = "H1961" invited|strong = "H7121" by|strong = "H7121"
 her|strong = "H7121" along|strong = "H5973" with|strong = "H5973"

the|strong = "H3588" king|strong = "H4428". ¹³ Yet|strong = "H3605"
 all|strong = "H3605" this|strong = "H2088" does|strong = "H2088"
 not|strong = "H2088" satisfy|strong = "H7737" me|strong = "H7200"
 as|strong = "H3427" long|strong = "H3605" as|strong = "H3427"
 I|strong = "H7200" see|strong = "H7200" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 the|strong = "H3605" Jew|strong = "H3064" sitting|strong = "H3427"
 at|strong = "H3427" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428"
 gate|strong = "H8179".'

14Then|strong = "H6213" Zereh|strong = "H2238" his|strong = "H3605"
 wife|strong = "H0802" and|strong = "H4428" all|strong = "H3605"
 his|strong = "H3605" friends|strong = "H7453" said|strong = "H1697"
 to|strong = "H6213" him|strong = "H6440", 'Let|strong = "H8056"
 a|strong = "H6213" gallows|strong = "H6086" seventy-five|strong = "H2572"
 feet|strong = "H7272" high|strong = "H1364" be|strong = "H1697"
 erected|strong = "H6965", and|strong = "H4428" in|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H3605" morning|strong = "H1242" speak|strong = "H1697"
 to|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428"
 and|strong = "H4428" let|strong = "H8056" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 be|strong = "H1697" hanged|strong = "H8518" on|strong = "H5921"
 it|strong = "H5921". Then|strong = "H6213" go|strong = "H3190"
 merrily|strong = "H8056" with|strong = "H5973" the|strong = "H3605"
 king|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605"
 banquet|strong = "H4960".' The|strong = "H3605" advice|strong = "H1697"
 pleased|strong = "H3190" Haman|strong = "H2001", and|strong = "H4428"
 so|strong = "H6213" he|strong = "H6213" had|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H3605" gallows|strong = "H6086" erected|strong = "H6965".
 Downfall of a Conspirator

6On|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H3117" night|strong = "H3915"
 the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" was|strong = "H1961"
 unable|strong = "H3808" to|strong = "H1961" sleep|strong = "H8142",
 so|strong = "H1961" he|strong = "H1931" gave|strong = "H7121"
 orders|strong = "H1697" to|strong = "H1961" bring|strong = "H1961"
 the|strong = "H6440" books|strong = "H5612" that|strong = "H3117"
 recorded|strong = "H3789" memorable|strong = "H2146"
 deeds|strong = "H1697", and|strong = "H4428" they|strong = "H3117"
 were|strong = "H1961" read|strong = "H7121" before|strong = "H6440"
 the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428". ² It|strong = "H5921"
 was|strong = "H4428" found|strong = "H4672" recorded|strong = "H3789"
 how|strong = "H4100" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H4428"
 furnished|strong = "H2836" information|strong = "H1697"
 regarding|strong = "H5921" Bigthan|strong = "H0904" and|strong = "H7971"
 Teresh|strong = "H8657", two|strong = "H8147" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" attendants|strong = "H5650"

who|strong = "H8104" guarded|strong = "H8104" the|strong = "H5921"
 entrance|strong = "H6607" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5921"
 palace|strong = "H1004", who|strong = "H8104" had|strong = "H4428"
 attempted|strong = "H3909" to|strong = "H7971" kill|strong = "H2026"
 King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325". ³
 'What|strong = "H4100" honour|strong = "H3366" and|strong = "H4428"
 dignity|strong = "H1420" have|strong = "H5288" been|strong = "H3808"
 conferred|strong = "H1697" on|strong = "H5921" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 for|strong = "H5921" this|strong = "H2088"?' the|strong = "H5921"
 king|strong = "H4428" asked|strong = "H4100". When|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" pages who|strong = "H5288"
 waited|strong = "H8334" on|strong = "H5921" him|strong = "H5921"
 replied|strong = "H0559" 'Nothing|strong = "H3808" has|strong = "H4428"
 been|strong = "H3808" done|strong = "H6213" for|strong = "H5921"
 him|strong = "H5921", ⁴ the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428"
 said|strong = "H0559", 'Who|strong = "H4310" is|strong = "H4310"
 in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" court|strong = "H2691"?'
 Now|strong = "H4428" Haman|strong = "H2001" had|strong = "H4428"
 just|strong = "H3512" entered|strong = "H0935" the|strong = "H5921"
 outer|strong = "H2435" court|strong = "H2691" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" house|strong = "H1004"
 to|strong = "H5921" speak|strong = "H1696" to|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" about|strong = "H5921"
 hanging|strong = "H8518" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" on|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H5921" gallows|strong = "H6086" that|strong = "H4428"
 he|strong = "H1004" had|strong = "H4428" prepared|strong = "H3559"
 for|strong = "H5921" him|strong = "H5921". ⁵ So|strong = "H5975"
 the|strong = "H5975" king's|strong = "H4428" pages said|strong = "H0559"
 to|strong = "H4428" him|strong = "H5975", 'Haman|strong = "H2001"
 is|strong = "H2009" standing|strong = "H5975" there|strong = "H2009",
 in|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5975" court|strong = "H2691".
 The|strong = "H5975" king|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H0559",
 'Let|strong = "H7971" him|strong = "H5975" enter|strong = "H5975".' ⁶
 So|strong = "H6213" Haman|strong = "H2001" entered|strong = "H0935",
 and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6213" king|strong = "H4428"
 said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H6213" him|strong = "H6213",
 'What|strong = "H4100" should|strong = "H4100" be|strong = "H3820"
 done|strong = "H6213" for|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213"
 man|strong = "H3820" whom|strong = "H4310" the|strong = "H6213"
 king|strong = "H4428" wishes|strong = "H2654" to|strong = "H6213"
 honour|strong = "H3366"?' Haman|strong = "H2001" said|strong = "H0559"
 to|strong = "H6213" himself|strong = "H3820", 'Whom|strong = "H4310"
 besides|strong = "H4480" me|strong = "H4480" could|strong = "H4310"
 the|strong = "H6213" king|strong = "H4428" wish|strong = "H2654"
 to|strong = "H6213" honour|strong = "H3366"? ⁷ So|strong = "H3651"
 he|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H4428"

the|strong = "H2001" king|strong = "H4428", 'For|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H2001" man|strong = "H0376" whom|strong = "H0834" the|strong = "H2001" king|strong = "H4428" wishes|strong = "H2654" to|strong = "H4428" honour|strong = "H3366" ⁸ let|strong = "H5414" a|strong = "H5414" royal|strong = "H4438" garment|strong = "H3830" be|strong = "H5414" brought|strong = "H5414", which|strong = "H5483" the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" has|strong = "H4428" worn|strong = "H3847", and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5921" horse|strong = "H5483" on|strong = "H5921" which|strong = "H5483" the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" has|strong = "H4428" ridden|strong = "H7392" and|strong = "H4428" on|strong = "H5921" whose|strong = "H0834" head|strong = "H7218" a|strong = "H5414" royal|strong = "H4438" diadem|strong = "H5921" has|strong = "H4428" been|strong = "H1961" placed|strong = "H5414". ⁹ Then|strong = "H5414" let|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H6440" garment|strong = "H3830" and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" horse|strong = "H5483" be|strong = "H3027" placed|strong = "H5414" in|strong = "H5921" charge|strong = "H5921" of|strong = "H4428" one|strong = "H6213" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" king's|strong = "H4428" noble|strong = "H6579" officials|strong = "H8269". Let|strong = "H5414" him|strong = "H5414" clothe|strong = "H3847" the|strong = "H6440" man|strong = "H6440" whom|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" wishes|strong = "H2654" to|strong = "H6213" honour|strong = "H3366" and|strong = "H4428" let|strong = "H5414" him|strong = "H5414" lead|strong = "H7392" that|strong = "H5414" man|strong = "H6440" on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440" horse|strong = "H5483" through|strong = "H3027" the|strong = "H6440" city|strong = "H5892" square|strong = "H7339", proclaiming|strong = "H7121" before|strong = "H6440" him|strong = "H5414", "This|strong = "H6213" is|strong = "H3027" what|strong = "H6213" is|strong = "H3027" done|strong = "H6213" for|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440" man|strong = "H6440" whom|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" wishes|strong = "H2654" to|strong = "H6213" honour|strong = "H3366"."

10Then|strong = "H1696" the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H1696" to|strong = "H1696" Haman|strong = "H2001", 'Make|strong = "H6213" haste|strong = "H4116" and|strong = "H4428" take|strong = "H3947" the|strong = "H3605" garment|strong = "H3830" and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" horse|strong = "H5483", as|strong = "H1697" you|strong = "H3605" have|strong = "H1697" said|strong = "H1696", and|strong = "H4428" do|strong = "H6213" this|strong = "H3651" to|strong = "H1696" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" the|strong = "H3605" Jew|strong = "H3064", who|strong = "H3605" sits|strong = "H3427" in|strong = "H3427" the|strong = "H3605"

king's|strong = "H4428" gate|strong = "H8179". Omit|strong = "H1639"
 nothing|strong = "H1697" of|strong = "H4428" all|strong = "H3605"
 you|strong = "H3605" have|strong = "H1697" said|strong = "H1696".¹¹
 So|strong = "H6213" Haman|strong = "H2001" took|strong = "H3947"
 the|strong = "H6440" garment|strong = "H3830" and|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H6440" horse|strong = "H5483" and|strong = "H4428"
 clothed|strong = "H3847" Mordecai|strong = "H4782", and|strong = "H4428"
 made|strong = "H6213" him|strong = "H6440" ride|strong = "H7392"
 through|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6440" city|strong = "H5892"
 square|strong = "H7339" and|strong = "H4428" proclaimed|strong = "H7121"
 before|strong = "H6440" him|strong = "H6440", "This|strong = "H6213"
 is|strong = "H5892" what|strong = "H6213" is|strong = "H5892"
 done|strong = "H6213" for|strong = "H7121" the|strong = "H6440"
 man|strong = "H6440" whom|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440"
 king|strong = "H4428" wishes|strong = "H2654" to|strong = "H6213"
 honour|strong = "H3366".'

12Mordecai|strong = "H4782" returned|strong = "H7725"
 to|strong = "H7725" the|strong = "H7725" king's|strong = "H4428"
 gate|strong = "H8179", but|strong = "H7725" Haman|strong = "H2001"
 hurried|strong = "H1765" to|strong = "H7725" his|strong = "H7725"
 house|strong = "H1004", mourning|strong = "H0060", with|strong = "H1004"
 his|strong = "H7725" head|strong = "H7218" covered|strong = "H2645".¹³
 Haman|strong = "H2001" recounted|strong = "H5608" to|strong = "H3201"
 Zeresh|strong = "H2238" his|strong = "H3605" wife|strong = "H0802"
 and|strong = "H6440" to|strong = "H3201" all|strong = "H3605"
 his|strong = "H3605" friends|strong = "H7453" everything|strong = "H3605"
 that|strong = "H3588" had|strong = "H3588" happened|strong = "H7136"
 to|strong = "H3201" him|strong = "H6440". Then|strong = "H5307"
 his|strong = "H3605" wise|strong = "H2450" men|strong = "H2450"
 and|strong = "H6440" Zeresh|strong = "H2238" his|strong = "H3605"
 wife|strong = "H0802" said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H3201"
 him|strong = "H6440", 'If|strong = "H3588" Mordecai|strong = "H4782"
 before|strong = "H6440" whom|strong = "H6440" you|strong = "H3588"
 have|strong = "H3605" already|strong = "H3528" been|strong = "H3808"
 humiliated|strong = "H6440" is|strong = "H3605" of|strong = "H6440"
 the|strong = "H3605" Jewish|strong = "H3064" people|strong = "H3808",
 you|strong = "H3588" can|strong = "H3201" do|strong = "H3201"
 nothing|strong = "H3808" against|strong = "H6440" him|strong = "H6440"
 but|strong = "H3588" will|strong = "H3808" surely|strong = "H3588"
 fall|strong = "H5307" before|strong = "H6440" him|strong = "H6440".'

14While|strong = "H5750" they|strong = "H6213" were|strong = "H4428"
 still|strong = "H5750" talking|strong = "H1696" with|strong = "H5973"
 him|strong = "H6213", the|strong = "H6213" king's|strong = "H4428"

attendants|strong = "H5650" came|strong = "H5060" and|strong = "H4428" quickly|strong = "H4116" took|strong = "H4428" Haman|strong = "H2001" to|strong = "H1696" the|strong = "H6213" banquet|strong = "H4960" that|strong = "H4428" Esther|strong = "H0635" had|strong = "H4428" prepared|strong = "H6213".

7So|strong = "H3651" the|strong = "H5973" king|strong = "H4428" and|strong = "H4428" Haman|strong = "H2001" went|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H4428" drink|strong = "H8354" with|strong = "H5973" Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635". ² As|strong = "H5704" they|strong = "H3117" were|strong = "H3117" drinking|strong = "H4960" wine|strong = "H3196" on|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H3117" second|strong = "H8145" day|strong = "H3117", the|strong = "H5414" king|strong = "H4428" again|strong = "H8145" said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H5704" Esther|strong = "H0635", 'Whatever|strong = "H4100" your|strong = "H5414" petition|strong = "H7596" is|strong = "H4100", Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635", it|strong = "H5414" will|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H1571" granted|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H5704" you|strong = "H5414". Whatever|strong = "H4100" you|strong = "H5414" request|strong = "H1246" it|strong = "H5414" will|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H1571" done|strong = "H6213", even|strong = "H1571" if|strong = "H0518" it|strong = "H5414" takes|strong = "H5414" half|strong = "H2677" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5414" kingdom|strong = "H4438".' ³ Then|strong = "H6030" Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635" answered|strong = "H6030", 'Your|strong = "H5414" Majesty|strong = "H1926", if|strong = "H0518" I|strong = "H5414" have|strong = "H5869" won|strong = "H1589" your|strong = "H5414" favour|strong = "H2580", and|strong = "H6030" if|strong = "H0518" it|strong = "H5414" seems|strong = "H5869" best|strong = "H5869" to|strong = "H5921" Your|strong = "H5414" Majesty|strong = "H1926", let|strong = "H5414" my|strong = "H5414" life|strong = "H5315" be|strong = "H5315" given|strong = "H5414" me|strong = "H5414" as|strong = "H5315" my|strong = "H5414" petition|strong = "H7596", and|strong = "H6030" my|strong = "H5414" people|strong = "H5971" as|strong = "H5315" my|strong = "H5414" request|strong = "H1246", ⁴ for|strong = "H3588" I|strong = "H3588" and|strong = "H4428" my|strong = "H3588" people|strong = "H5971" have|strong = "H5971" been|strong = "H5971" sold|strong = "H4376" to|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H4428" destroyed|strong = "H8045", killed|strong = "H2026", and|strong = "H4428" completely|strong = "H8045" annihilated|strong = "H2763"! If|strong = "H3588" we|strong = "H3588" had|strong = "H4428" been|strong = "H5971" merely|strong = "H6680" sold|strong = "H4376" into|strong = "H4376" slavery|strong = "H5650" I|strong = "H3588" would|strong = "H5971" not|strong = "H3588"

have|strong = "H5971" disturbed|strong = "H1993" your|strong = "H3588"
 peace|strong = "H2790", because|strong = "H3588" such|strong = "H2088"
 a|strong = "H3588" fate|strong = "H4745" would|strong = "H5971"
 not|strong = "H3588" have|strong = "H5971" affected the|strong = "H3588"
 interests of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3588" king|strong = "H4428".'

5Then|strong = "H2088" King|strong = "H4428"
 Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" said|strong = "H3651" to|strong = "H6213"
 Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635", 'Who|strong = "H4310"
 is|strong = "H2088" he|strong = "H1931" and|strong = "H4428"
 where|strong = "H2088" is|strong = "H2088" he|strong = "H1931"
 whose|strong = "H4310" heart|strong = "H3820" has|strong = "H4310"
 impelled|strong = "H1765" him|strong = "H6213" to|strong = "H6213"
 do|strong = "H6213" this|strong = "H2088"?'

6'A|strong = "H2088" foe|strong = "H6862", an|strong = "H6440"
 enemy|strong = "H6862": this|strong = "H2088" wicked|strong = "H7451"
 Haman|strong = "H2001".' Esther|strong = "H0635"
 answered|strong = "H6030". Haman|strong = "H2001"
 shrank|strong = "H5384" in|strong = "H4428" terror|strong = "H2851"
 before|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428"
 and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" queen|strong = "H4436". ⁷
 In|strong = "H5921" his|strong = "H5921" wrath|strong = "H2534"
 the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" rose|strong = "H6965"
 from|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" place|strong = "H5975"
 where|strong = "H5921" he|strong = "H3588" was|strong = "H4428"
 drinking|strong = "H4960" wine|strong = "H3196" and|strong = "H6965"
 went|strong = "H4428" into|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921"
 palace|strong = "H1055" garden|strong = "H1594". Haman|strong = "H2001"
 stayed|strong = "H5975" to|strong = "H5921" beg|strong = "H1245"
 Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635" for|strong = "H3588"
 his|strong = "H5921" life|strong = "H5315", for|strong = "H3588"
 he|strong = "H3588" saw|strong = "H7200" that|strong = "H3588"
 the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" was|strong = "H4428"
 fully|strong = "H5921" determined|strong = "H3615" to|strong = "H5921"
 bring|strong = "H7451" calamity|strong = "H7451" upon|strong = "H5921"
 him|strong = "H5921". ⁸ As|strong = "H1697" the|strong = "H6440"
 king|strong = "H4428" returned|strong = "H7725" from|strong = "H7725"
 the|strong = "H6440" palace|strong = "H1004" garden|strong = "H1594"
 to|strong = "H7725" the|strong = "H6440" banquet|strong = "H4960"
 hall|strong = "H1004", Haman|strong = "H2001" had|strong = "H4428" flung
 himself|strong = "H6440" on|strong = "H5921" Esther's|strong = "H0635"
 couch|strong = "H4296". The|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428"
 cried|strong = "H7121", 'Is|strong = "H1571" he|strong = "H1004"
 going|strong = "H3318" to|strong = "H7725" rape|strong = "H3533"

my|strong = "H5921" queen|strong = "H4436" while|strong = "H5973"
 I|strong = "H5921" am|strong = "H1961" present|strong = "H5307"
 in|strong = "H5921" my|strong = "H5921" own|strong = "H5973"
 house|strong = "H1004"?'

A s|strong = "H1697" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428"
 spoke|strong = "H1697" these|strong = "H6440" words|strong = "H1697",
 the|strong = "H6440" attendants|strong = "H5650" covered|strong = "H2645"
 Haman's|strong = "H2001" face|strong = "H6440" ⁹ and|strong = "H4428"
 Harbonah|strong = "H2726", one|strong = "H4480" of|strong = "H4428"
 those|strong = "H4480" who|strong = "H4428" waited|strong = "H5975"
 on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428",
 said|strong = "H1696", 'There|strong = "H2009" are|strong = "H1004"
 the|strong = "H6440" gallows|strong = "H6086",
 seventy-five|strong = "H2572" feet|strong = "H7272" high|strong = "H1364",
 which|strong = "H1004" Hainan erected|strong = "H5975"
 for|strong = "H5921" Mordecai|strong = "H4782", who|strong = "H4428"
 spoke|strong = "H1696" a|strong = "H6213" good|strong = "H2896"
 word|strong = "H1696" in|strong = "H5921" behalf|strong = "H5921"
 of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428",
 standing|strong = "H5975" in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440"
 house|strong = "H1004" of|strong = "H4428" Haman|strong = "H2001"!'
 The|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H1696"
 'Hang|strong = "H8518" him|strong = "H6440" on|strong = "H5921"
 them|strong = "H5921".'¹⁰ So|strong = "H5921" they|strong = "H5921"
 hanged|strong = "H8518" Haman|strong = "H2001" on|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H5921" gallows|strong = "H6086" that|strong = "H4428"
 he|strong = "H5921" had|strong = "H4428" prepared|strong = "H3559"
 for|strong = "H5921" Mordecai|strong = "H4782". Then|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H5921" wrath|strong = "H2534" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" was|strong = "H4428"
 pacified|strong = "H7918".

Deliverance of the Jews

8At|strong = "H1004" that|strong = "H3588" time|strong = "H3117"
 King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" gave|strong = "H5414"
 the|strong = "H6440" property|strong = "H0272" of|strong = "H4428"
 Haman|strong = "H2001" the|strong = "H6440" Jews'|strong = "H3064"
 enemy|strong = "H6887" to|strong = "H5414" Queen|strong = "H4436"
 Esther|strong = "H0635". Mordecai|strong = "H4782" was|strong = "H1931"
 made|strong = "H5414" one|strong = "H1931" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H6440" king's|strong = "H4428" personal|strong = "H6440"
 advisers|strong = "H6440", for|strong = "H3588" Esther|strong = "H0635"
 had|strong = "H4428" disclosed|strong = "H5046" his|strong = "H5414"
 relationship to|strong = "H5414" her|strong = "H5414". ²

The|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428" also|strong = "H4428"
 drew|strong = "H5674" off|strong = "H5493" his|strong = "H5414"
 signet|strong = "H2885" ring|strong = "H2885", which|strong = "H1004"
 he|strong = "H1004" had|strong = "H4428" taken|strong = "H5493"
 from|strong = "H5493" Haman|strong = "H2001". He|strong = "H1004"
 gave|strong = "H5414" it|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H5921"
 Mordecai|strong = "H4782", and|strong = "H4428" Esther|strong = "H0635"
 placed|strong = "H5414" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" in|strong = "H5921"
 charge|strong = "H5921" of|strong = "H4428" Haman's|strong = "H2001"
 property|strong = "H0272".

³Then|strong = "H1696" Esther|strong = "H0635" sought|strong = "H6440"
 another|strong = "H3254" audience|strong = "H0241" with|strong = "H1696"
 the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" and|strong = "H4428"
 fell|strong = "H5307" at|strong = "H5921" his|strong = "H6440"
 feet|strong = "H7272" and|strong = "H4428" with|strong = "H1696"
 tears|strong = "H1058" begged|strong = "H2603" him|strong = "H6440"
 to|strong = "H1696" avert|strong = "H5674" the|strong = "H6440"
 evil|strong = "H7451" planned|strong = "H2803" by|strong = "H5921"
 Haman|strong = "H2001" the|strong = "H6440" Agagite|strong = "H0091"
 and|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H1696" frustrate|strong = "H6565"
 his|strong = "H6440" designs|strong = "H4284" against|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H6440" Jews|strong = "H3064". ⁴ The|strong = "H6440"
 king|strong = "H4428" held|strong = "H4428" out|strong = "H3447"
 to|strong = "H6440" her|strong = "H6965" the|strong = "H6440"
 golden|strong = "H2091" sceptre|strong = "H8275", and|strong = "H6965"
 she|strong = "H6440" arose|strong = "H6965" and|strong = "H6965"
 stood|strong = "H5975" before|strong = "H6440" him|strong = "H6440". ⁵
 'If|strong = "H1121" it|strong = "H5921" seems|strong = "H3605"
 best|strong = "H2896" to|strong = "H7725" the|strong = "H3605"
 king|strong = "H4428",' she|strong = "H5921" said|strong = "H1697",
 'and|strong = "H1121" if|strong = "H1121" I|strong = "H5921"
 have|strong = "H5869" won|strong = "H1589" his|strong = "H3605"
 favour|strong = "H2580" and|strong = "H1121" he|strong = "H3605"
 thinks|strong = "H8176" it|strong = "H5921" right|strong = "H3787",
 and|strong = "H1121" if|strong = "H1121" I|strong = "H5921"
 please|strong = "H2896" him|strong = "H6440", let|strong = "H7725"
 written|strong = "H3789" orders|strong = "H1697" be|strong = "H1697"
 given|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H7725" revoke|strong = "H7725"
 the|strong = "H3605" dispatches devised|strong = "H4284"
 by|strong = "H5921" Haman|strong = "H2001" son|strong = "H1121"
 of|strong = "H1121" Hammedatha|strong = "H4099" the|strong = "H3605"
 Agagite|strong = "H0091", which|strong = "H1697" he|strong = "H3605"
 wrote|strong = "H3789" ordering|strong = "H0559" the|strong = "H3605"
 destruction|strong = "H7667" of|strong = "H1121" the|strong = "H3605"

Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H3605" are|strong = "H1121" in|strong = "H5921" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" provinces|strong = "H4082". ⁶

For|strong = "H3588" how|strong = "H3588" can|strong = "H3201" I|strong = "H3588" bear|strong = "H5375" to|strong = "H3201" look|strong = "H7200" upon|strong = "H7200" the|strong = "H7200" evil|strong = "H7451" that|strong = "H3588" will|strong = "H5971" come|strong = "H4672" to|strong = "H3201" my|strong = "H7200" people|strong = "H5971"? How|strong = "H3588" can|strong = "H3201" I|strong = "H3588" bear|strong = "H5375" to|strong = "H3201" see|strong = "H7200" their|strong = "H7200" destruction|strong = "H7451"?"

⁷ Then|strong = "H2009" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" said|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H7971" Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635" and|strong = "H7971" to|strong = "H7971" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" the|strong = "H5921" Jew|strong = "H3064", 'See|strong = "H2009", I|strong = "H5414" have|strong = "H3027" given|strong = "H5414" Esther|strong = "H0635" the|strong = "H5921" property|strong = "H0272" of|strong = "H4428" Haman|strong = "H2001", and|strong = "H7971" they|strong = "H5921" have|strong = "H3027" hanged|strong = "H8518" him|strong = "H5414" on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" gallows|strong = "H6086", because|strong = "H5921" he|strong = "H1004" laid|strong = "H5414" hands|strong = "H3027" upon|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" Jews|strong = "H3064". ⁸

Now|strong = "H3588" you|strong = "H3588" write|strong = "H3789" on|strong = "H5921" behalf|strong = "H5921" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5921" Jews|strong = "H3064", as|strong = "H3588" seems|strong = "H2896" best|strong = "H2896" to|strong = "H7725" you|strong = "H3588", in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" name|strong = "H8034" and|strong = "H7725" seal|strong = "H2856" it|strong = "H5921" with|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" signet|strong = "H2885" ring|strong = "H2885". For|strong = "H3588" a|strong = "H3588" document|strong = "H2856" that|strong = "H3588" is|strong = "H8034" written|strong = "H3789" in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" name|strong = "H8034" and|strong = "H7725" sealed|strong = "H2856" with|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" king's|strong = "H4428" signet|strong = "H2885" ring|strong = "H2885" cannot|strong = "H3808" be|strong = "H8034" revoked|strong = "H7725".'

⁹ On|strong = "H7121" the|strong = "H3605" twenty-third|strong = "H6242" day|strong = "H2320" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" third|strong = "H7992" month|strong = "H2320" (that|strong = "H5971" is|strong = "H1931" the|strong = "H3605" month|strong = "H2320" of|strong = "H4428" Sivan|strong = "H5510"), the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" secretaries|strong = "H5613" were|strong = "H5971"

summoned|strong = "H7121" and|strong = "H3967" as|strong = "H5704"
 Mordecai|strong = "H4782" instructed|strong = "H6680" an|strong = "H7121"
 edict|strong = "H1697" was|strong = "H1931" issued|strong = "H6680"
 to|strong = "H5704" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064",
 to|strong = "H5704" the|strong = "H3605" satraps|strong = "H0324"
 and|strong = "H3967" provincial governors|strong = "H6346"
 and|strong = "H3967" the|strong = "H3605" rulers|strong = "H8269"
 of|strong = "H4428" each|strong = "H3605" of|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H3605" one|strong = "H3605" hundred|strong = "H3967"
 twenty-seven|strong = "H6242" provinces|strong = "H4082"
 from|strong = "H5704" India|strong = "H1912" to|strong = "H5704"
 Ethiopia|strong = "H3568" in|strong = "H4428" their|strong = "H3605"
 own|strong = "H5971" script|strong = "H3791" and|strong = "H3967"
 their|strong = "H3605" own|strong = "H5971" language|strong = "H3956",
 and|strong = "H3967" to|strong = "H5704" the|strong = "H3605"
 Jews|strong = "H3064" in|strong = "H4428" their|strong = "H3605"
 own|strong = "H5971" script|strong = "H3791" and|strong = "H3967"
 language|strong = "H3956".

10Mordecai|strong = "H3789" wrote|strong = "H3789" in|strong = "H4428"
 the|strong = "H7971" name|strong = "H8034" of|strong = "H1121"
 King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325". He|strong = "H3027"
 sealed|strong = "H2856" it|strong = "H8034" with|strong = "H3027"
 the|strong = "H7971" king's|strong = "H4428" signet|strong = "H2885"
 ring|strong = "H2885". Dispatches were|strong = "H1121"
 sent|strong = "H7971" by|strong = "H3027" mounted|strong = "H7392"
 couriers|strong = "H7323" who|strong = "H1121" rode|strong = "H7392"
 the|strong = "H7971" swift|strong = "H7409", noble|strong = "H5081"
 steeds|strong = "H7409", bred|strong = "H7426" of|strong = "H1121"
 the|strong = "H7971" royal|strong = "H4428" studs|strong = "H5351". ¹¹
 In|strong = "H5921" this|strong = "H5414" way|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H3605" king|strong = "H4428" permitted|strong = "H5414"
 the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H3605"
 were|strong = "H5971" in|strong = "H5921" every|strong = "H3605"
 city|strong = "H5892" to|strong = "H5921" gather|strong = "H6950"
 together|strong = "H6950" and|strong = "H4428" make|strong = "H5414"
 a|strong = "H5414" stand|strong = "H5975" for|strong = "H5921"
 their|strong = "H3605" life|strong = "H5315", to|strong = "H5921"
 destroy|strong = "H8045", to|strong = "H5921" kill|strong = "H2026",
 and|strong = "H4428" annihilate|strong = "H0006" all|strong = "H3605"
 the|strong = "H3605" armed|strong = "H2502" forces|strong = "H6696"
 of|strong = "H4428" any|strong = "H3605" people|strong = "H5971"
 or|strong = "H5892" province|strong = "H4082" that|strong = "H5971"
 might|strong = "H5971" be|strong = "H5315" hostile|strong = "H7489"
 to|strong = "H5921" them|strong = "H5414", including|strong = "H3605"

their|strong = "H3605" children|strong = "H2945" and|strong = "H4428" women|strong = "H0802", and|strong = "H4428" to|strong = "H5921" take|strong = "H5414" their|strong = "H3605" goods|strong = "H7399" as|strong = "H5315" plunder|strong = "H7998"¹² throughout|strong = "H3605" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082" of|strong = "H4428" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" on|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H3605" thirteenth|strong = "H7969" day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" twelfth|strong = "H8147" month|strong = "H2320" (which|strong = "H1931" is|strong = "H1931" called|strong = "H7121" Adar|strong = "H0143").¹³ A|strong = "H1961" copy|strong = "H6572" of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H3605" edict|strong = "H1881" was|strong = "H1961" to|strong = "H1961" be|strong = "H1961" published|strong = "H1540" as|strong = "H3117" a|strong = "H1961" decree|strong = "H1881" in|strong = "H3117" every|strong = "H3605" province|strong = "H4082" – publicly|strong = "H3318" displayed|strong = "H5414" so|strong = "H1961" that|strong = "H5971" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064" might|strong = "H5971" be|strong = "H1961" ready|strong = "H3559" for|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H5971" day|strong = "H3117" and|strong = "H3117" avenge|strong = "H5358" themselves|strong = "H5414".¹⁴ So|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H5414" couriers|strong = "H7323" who|strong = "H4428" rode|strong = "H7392" the|strong = "H5414" swift|strong = "H7409", noble|strong = "H5081" steeds|strong = "H7409" went|strong = "H3318" out|strong = "H3318", hastened|strong = "H1765" and|strong = "H4428" impelled|strong = "H1765" by|strong = "H3318" the|strong = "H5414" king's|strong = "H4428" commands|strong = "H1697"!

M eantime the|strong = "H5414" decree|strong = "H1881" had|strong = "H4428" been|strong = "H1961" given|strong = "H5414" out|strong = "H3318" in|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5414" royal|strong = "H4428" palace|strong = "H1002" at|strong = "H4428" Susa|strong = "H7800";¹⁵ and|strong = "H4428" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H4428" gone|strong = "H3318" out|strong = "H3318" from|strong = "H3318" the|strong = "H6440" presence|strong = "H6440" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428" in|strong = "H4428" royal|strong = "H4438" garments|strong = "H3830" of|strong = "H4428" violet|strong = "H8504" and|strong = "H4428" white|strong = "H2353" and|strong = "H4428" with|strong = "H6440" a|strong = "H3318" great|strong = "H1419" crown|strong = "H5850" of|strong = "H4428" gold|strong = "H2091" and|strong = "H4428" with|strong = "H6440" a|strong = "H3318" robe|strong = "H3830" of|strong = "H4428" fine|strong = "H5560" linen|strong = "H8336" and|strong = "H4428" purple|strong = "H8504". The|strong = "H6440" people|strong = "H5971" of|strong = "H4428" Susa|strong = "H7800"

shouted|strong = "H6670" and|strong = "H4428" were|strong = "H1419" glad|strong = "H8055". ¹⁶ To|strong = "H1961" the|strong = "H1961" Jews|strong = "H3064" there|strong = "H1961" came|strong = "H1961" light|strong = "H0216" and|strong = "H8057" gladness|strong = "H8057" and|strong = "H8057" joy|strong = "H8057" and|strong = "H8057" honour|strong = "H3366". ¹⁷ And|strong = "H4428" in|strong = "H5921" every|strong = "H3605" province|strong = "H4082" and|strong = "H4428" city|strong = "H5892", wherever|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428" command|strong = "H1697" and|strong = "H4428" decree|strong = "H1881" came|strong = "H5060", there|strong = "H3117" was|strong = "H1697" gladness|strong = "H8057" and|strong = "H4428" joy|strong = "H8057" among|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064" and|strong = "H4428" a|strong = "H3588" holiday|strong = "H2896". Many|strong = "H7227" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" peoples|strong = "H5971" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" earth|strong = "H0776" professed to|strong = "H5921" be|strong = "H1697" Jews|strong = "H3064", for|strong = "H3588" fear|strong = "H6343" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064" took|strong = "H4428" possession|strong = "H0272" of|strong = "H4428" them|strong = "H5921".

⁹Now|strong = "H3117" in|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213" twelfth|strong = "H8147" month|strong = "H2320" (that|strong = "H3117" is|strong = "H1931" the|strong = "H6213" month|strong = "H2320" of|strong = "H4428" Adar|strong = "H0143"), on|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" thirteenth|strong = "H7969" day|strong = "H3117", when|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" king's|strong = "H4428" command|strong = "H1697" and|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H6213" decree|strong = "H1881" was|strong = "H1931" about|strong = "H1697" to|strong = "H6213" put|strong = "H6213" into|strong = "H2015" execution|strong = "H6213", on|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" day|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" enemies|strong = "H8130" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6213" Jews|strong = "H3064" hoped|strong = "H7663" to|strong = "H6213" gain|strong = "H7980" the|strong = "H6213" mastery|strong = "H7980" over|strong = "H4428" them|strong = "H1992", then|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213" tables|strong = "H7979" were|strong = "H3117" turned|strong = "H2015" so|strong = "H6213" that|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" Jews|strong = "H3064" had|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H6213" mastery|strong = "H7980" over|strong = "H4428" those|strong = "H1992" who|strong = "H1931" hated|strong = "H8130" them|strong = "H1992". ² The|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064" gathered|strong = "H6950" together|strong = "H6950" in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605" cities|strong = "H5892" throughout|strong = "H3605" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082"

of|strong = "H4428" King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325",
to|strong = "H7971" attack|strong = "H5221" anyone|strong = "H3605"
who|strong = "H3605" tried|strong = "H1245" to|strong = "H7971"
harm|strong = "H7451" them|strong = "H5921". No|strong = "H3808"
one|strong = "H3605" could|strong = "H5971" withstand|strong = "H5975"
them|strong = "H5921", for|strong = "H3588" the|strong = "H3605"
fear|strong = "H6343" of|strong = "H4428" them|strong = "H5921"
had|strong = "H4428" fallen|strong = "H5307" on|strong = "H5921"
all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" peoples|strong = "H5971". ³
All|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" princes|strong = "H8269"
of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" provinces|strong = "H4082"
and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" satraps|strong = "H0324"
and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605" governors|strong = "H6346"
and|strong = "H4428" they|strong = "H3588" who|strong = "H3605"
attended|strong = "H8334" to|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H3605"
king's|strong = "H4428" business|strong = "H4399", helped|strong = "H5375"
the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064", because|strong = "H3588"
the|strong = "H3605" fear|strong = "H6343" of|strong = "H4428"
Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H4428" fallen|strong = "H5307"
on|strong = "H5921" them|strong = "H5921". ⁴ For|strong = "H3588"
Mordecai|strong = "H4782" was|strong = "H4428" great|strong = "H1419"
in|strong = "H1980" the|strong = "H3605" king's|strong = "H4428"
palace|strong = "H1004", and|strong = "H1980" as|strong = "H3588"
his|strong = "H3605" power|strong = "H3027" increased|strong = "H7235"
his|strong = "H3605" fame|strong = "H8089" spread|strong = "H1980"
throughout|strong = "H3605" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
provinces|strong = "H4082". ⁵ The|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064"
put|strong = "H6213" all|strong = "H3605" their|strong = "H3605"
enemies|strong = "H8130" to|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605"
sword|strong = "H2719" and|strong = "H2719", with|strong = "H6213"
slaughter|strong = "H4347" and|strong = "H2719"
destruction|strong = "H7667", they|strong = "H6213" did|strong = "H6213"
what|strong = "H6213" they|strong = "H6213" wanted|strong = "H2654"
to|strong = "H6213" those|strong = "H3605" who|strong = "H3605"
hated|strong = "H8130" them|strong = "H5221". ⁶ In|strong = "H1002"
Susa|strong = "H7800" the|strong = "H2026" capital|strong = "H3805"
the|strong = "H2026" Jews|strong = "H3064" killed|strong = "H2026"
five|strong = "H2568" hundred|strong = "H3967" people|strong = "H5971".
⁷ They|strong = "H1992" killed|strong = "H2026"
Parshandatha|strong = "H6577", Dalphon|strong = "H1813",
Aspatha|strong = "H0630", ⁸ Poratha|strong = "H6334",
Adalia|strong = "H0118", Aridatha|strong = "H0743", ⁹
Parmashta|strong = "H6534", Arisia, Aridai|strong = "H0742",
and|strong = "H3967" Vaizatha|strong = "H2055", ¹⁰ the|strong = "H7971"
ten|strong = "H6235" sons|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121"
Haman|strong = "H2001" the|strong = "H7971" son|strong = "H1121"

of|strong = "H1121" Hammedatha|strong = "H4099", the|strong = "H7971"
 Jews'|strong = "H3064" enemy|strong = "H6887"; but|strong = "H3808"
 they|strong = "H3808" did|strong = "H3808" not|strong = "H3808"
 take|strong = "H1121" any|strong = "H2026" plunder|strong = "H0962".

11On|strong = "H3117" that|strong = "H3117" day|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H6440" number|strong = "H4557" of|strong = "H4428"
 those|strong = "H1931" who|strong = "H1931" were|strong = "H3117"
 slain|strong = "H2026" in|strong = "H4428" Susa|strong = "H7800"
 was|strong = "H1931" brought|strong = "H4428" before|strong = "H6440"
 the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428", ¹² and|strong = "H3967"
 the|strong = "H5414" king|strong = "H4428" said|strong = "H0559"
 to|strong = "H6213" Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635",
 "The|strong = "H5414" Jews|strong = "H3064" have|strong = "H1121"
 slain|strong = "H2026" five|strong = "H2568" hundred|strong = "H3967"
 people|strong = "H1121" in|strong = "H6213" Susa|strong = "H7800",
 and|strong = "H3967" the|strong = "H5414" ten|strong = "H6235"
 sons|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Haman|strong = "H2001".
 What|strong = "H4100" then|strong = "H5414" have|strong = "H1121"
 they|strong = "H4100" done|strong = "H6213" in|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H5414" rest|strong = "H7605" of|strong = "H1121"
 the|strong = "H5414" king's|strong = "H4428" provinces|strong = "H4082"?!
 Now|strong = "H5414" what|strong = "H4100" is|strong = "H4100"
 your|strong = "H5414" petition|strong = "H7596"? It|strong = "H5414"
 will|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H5750" granted|strong = "H5414"
 to|strong = "H6213" you|strong = "H5414". What|strong = "H4100"
 is|strong = "H4100" your|strong = "H5414" request|strong = "H1246"?
 It|strong = "H5414" will|strong = "H4428" be|strong = "H5750"
 done|strong = "H6213".'

13'If|strong = "H1121" it|strong = "H5414" please|strong = "H2896"
 the|strong = "H5921" king|strong = "H4428", Esther|strong = "H0635"
 said|strong = "H0559", 'let|strong = "H5414" it|strong = "H5414"
 be|strong = "H1121" granted|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H5921" Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H1121"
 are|strong = "H3117" in|strong = "H5921" Susa|strong = "H7800"
 to|strong = "H6213" do|strong = "H6213" tomorrow|strong = "H4279"
 also|strong = "H1571" according|strong = "H5921" to|strong = "H6213"
 this|strong = "H6213" day's|strong = "H3117" decree|strong = "H1881".
 Let|strong = "H5414" the|strong = "H5921" bodies|strong = "H6297"
 of|strong = "H1121" Haman's|strong = "H2001" ten|strong = "H6235"
 sons|strong = "H1121" be|strong = "H1121" hanged|strong = "H8518"
 on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" gallows|strong = "H6086".' ¹⁴
 And|strong = "H1121" the|strong = "H5414" king|strong = "H4428"
 commanded|strong = "H6680" it|strong = "H5414" to|strong = "H6213"

be|strong = "H1121" done|strong = "H6213". A|strong = "H6213"
 decree|strong = "H1881" was|strong = "H4428" given|strong = "H5414"
 out|strong = "H5414" in|strong = "H6213" Susa|strong = "H7800"
 and|strong = "H1121" they|strong = "H3651" hung|strong = "H8518"
 the|strong = "H5414" bodies|strong = "H6297" of|strong = "H1121"
 Haman's|strong = "H2001" ten|strong = "H6235" sons|strong = "H1121"
 on|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H5414" gallows|strong = "H6086". ¹⁵
 The|strong = "H3117" Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H3808"
 were|strong = "H3117" in|strong = "H3117" Susa|strong = "H7800"
 gathered|strong = "H6950" themselves|strong = "H6950"
 together|strong = "H6950" again|strong = "H7971" on|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H3117" fourteenth|strong = "H6240" day|strong = "H3117"
 of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H3117" month|strong = "H2320"
 of|strong = "H3117" Adar|strong = "H0143". They|strong = "H3117"
 killed|strong = "H2026" three|strong = "H7969" hundred|strong = "H3967"
 people|strong = "H3808" in|strong = "H3117" Susa|strong = "H7800".
 But|strong = "H3808" they|strong = "H3117" did|strong = "H3808"
 not|strong = "H3808" take|strong = "H3027" any|strong = "H1571"
 plunder|strong = "H0962". ¹⁶ And|strong = "H7971" the|strong = "H5921"
 other|strong = "H7605" Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H5315"
 were|strong = "H3027" in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921"
 king's|strong = "H4428" provinces|strong = "H4082"
 gathered|strong = "H6950" themselves|strong = "H5315"
 together|strong = "H6950" and|strong = "H7971" fought|strong = "H3898"
 for|strong = "H5921" their|strong = "H5921" lives|strong = "H5315"
 and|strong = "H7971" overcame their|strong = "H5921"
 enemies|strong = "H8130". They|strong = "H3808" killed|strong = "H2026"
 seventy-five|strong = "H7657" thousand|strong = "H0505"
 who|strong = "H5315" hated|strong = "H8130" them|strong = "H5921".
 But|strong = "H3808" they|strong = "H3808" did|strong = "H3808"
 not|strong = "H3808" take|strong = "H5975" any|strong = "H5315"
 plunder|strong = "H0962". ¹⁷ This|strong = "H6213" was|strong = "H3117"
 on|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" thirteenth|strong = "H7969"
 day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" Adar|strong = "H0143".

O n|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" fourteenth|strong = "H6240"
 day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213"
 month|strong = "H2320" Adar|strong = "H0143" the|strong = "H6213"
 Jews|strong = "H3064" rested|strong = "H5117" and|strong = "H3117"
 made|strong = "H6213" it|strong = "H6213" a|strong = "H6213"
 day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" feasting|strong = "H4960"
 and|strong = "H3117" rejoicing|strong = "H8057". ¹⁸ (But|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H6213" Jews|strong = "H3064" in|strong = "H6213"
 Susa|strong = "H7800" gathered|strong = "H6950" on|strong = "H3117"
 both|strong = "H8147" the|strong = "H6213" thirteenth|strong = "H7969"

and|strong = "H3117" fourteenth|strong = "H6240" day|strong = "H3117" –
 and|strong = "H3117" rested|strong = "H5117" on|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H6213" fifteenth|strong = "H2568" day|strong = "H3117"
 of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" same|strong = "H1931"
 month|strong = "H2320" and|strong = "H3117" made|strong = "H6213"
 it|strong = "H6213" a|strong = "H6213" day|strong = "H3117"
 of|strong = "H3117" feasting|strong = "H4960" and|strong = "H3117"
 rejoicing|strong = "H8057".)

19This|strong = "H3651" is|strong = "H3117" why|strong = "H5921"
 the|strong = "H5921" Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H3427"
 live|strong = "H3427" in|strong = "H3427" the|strong = "H5921"
 country|strong = "H6521" villages|strong = "H6519" keep|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H5921" fourteenth|strong = "H6240" day|strong = "H3117"
 of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H5921" month|strong = "H2320"
 of|strong = "H3117" Adar|strong = "H0143" as|strong = "H3117"
 a|strong = "H6213" day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117"
 rejoicing|strong = "H8057" and|strong = "H3117" feasting|strong = "H4960"
 and|strong = "H3117" a|strong = "H6213" holiday|strong = "H2896",
 and|strong = "H3117" a|strong = "H6213" day|strong = "H3117"
 in|strong = "H3427" which|strong = "H3064" they|strong = "H3117"
 send|strong = "H7971" gifts|strong = "H4490" of|strong = "H3117"
 food|strong = "H4490" to|strong = "H6213" each|strong = "H3117"
 other|strong = "H7453".
 The|strong = "H5921" Establishment|strong = "H7760" of|strong = "H3117"
 Purim|strong = "H6332"

20Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H4428"
 these|strong = "H3789" things|strong = "H1697" recorded|strong = "H3789".
 He|strong = "H3605" sent|strong = "H7971" letters|strong = "H5612"
 to|strong = "H7971" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 Jews|strong = "H3064" who|strong = "H3605" were|strong = "H1697"
 in|strong = "H4428" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605"
 provinces|strong = "H4082" of|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605"
 King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325", both|strong = "H3605"
 near|strong = "H7138" and|strong = "H7971" far|strong = "H7350". ²¹
 He|strong = "H3117" told|strong = "H6213" them|strong = "H5921"
 to|strong = "H1961" keep|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H3605"
 fourteenth|strong = "H6240" day|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H3605" month|strong = "H2320" of|strong = "H3117"
 Adar|strong = "H0143" and|strong = "H6965" also|strong = "H6213"
 the|strong = "H3605" fifteenth|strong = "H2568" day|strong = "H3117"
 every|strong = "H3605" year|strong = "H8141", ²² as|strong = "H3117"
 the|strong = "H6213" days|strong = "H3117" on|strong = "H3117"
 which|strong = "H1992" the|strong = "H6213" Jews|strong = "H3064"

had|strong = "H3064" rest|strong = "H5117" from|strong = "H3117" their|strong = "H1992" enemies|strong = "H0341", and|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H6213" month|strong = "H2320" which|strong = "H1992" was|strong = "H3117" turned|strong = "H2015" from|strong = "H3117" sorrow|strong = "H3015" to|strong = "H6213" gladness|strong = "H8057" and|strong = "H3117" from|strong = "H3117" mourning|strong = "H0060" into|strong = "H2015" a|strong = "H6213" feast|strong = "H4960" day|strong = "H3117". They|strong = "H1992" should|strong = "H3117" make|strong = "H6213" them|strong = "H1992" days|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" feasting|strong = "H4960" and|strong = "H3117" gladness|strong = "H8057" and|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" sending|strong = "H4916" gifts|strong = "H4979" of|strong = "H3117" food|strong = "H4490" to|strong = "H6213" each|strong = "H3117" other|strong = "H7453" and|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" gifts|strong = "H4979" to|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213" poor|strong = "H6041".

23So|strong = "H6213" what|strong = "H6213" the|strong = "H6213" Jews|strong = "H3064" had|strong = "H4782" begun|strong = "H2490" to|strong = "H6213" do|strong = "H6213" they|strong = "H6213" adopted|strong = "H2388" as|strong = "H6213" a|strong = "H6213" custom|strong = "H6901", just|strong = "H6213" as|strong = "H6213" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" had|strong = "H4782" written|strong = "H3789" to|strong = "H6213" them|strong = "H6213". ²⁴ For|strong = "H3588" Haman|strong = "H2001" the|strong = "H3605" son|strong = "H1121" of|strong = "H1121" Hammedatha|strong = "H4099", the|strong = "H3605" Agagite|strong = "H0091", the|strong = "H3605" enemy|strong = "H6887" of|strong = "H1121" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064", had|strong = "H3588" plotted|strong = "H2803" to|strong = "H5921" destroy|strong = "H2000" them|strong = "H5921". He|strong = "H1931" had|strong = "H3588" cast|strong = "H5307" "Pur|strong = "H6332", that|strong = "H3588" is|strong = "H1931" the|strong = "H3605" lot|strong = "H1486", intending|strong = "H0559" to|strong = "H5921" consume|strong = "H2000" them|strong = "H5921" and|strong = "H1121" to|strong = "H5921" destroy|strong = "H2000" them|strong = "H5921". ²⁵ But|strong = "H7725" when|strong = "H7725" the|strong = "H6440" matter|strong = "H1697" came|strong = "H7725" before|strong = "H6440" the|strong = "H6440" king|strong = "H4428", he|strong = "H5921" gave|strong = "H7725" written|strong = "H3789" orders|strong = "H5612" that|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H7725" wicked|strong = "H7451" plot|strong = "H2803", which|strong = "H3064" he|strong = "H5921" had|strong = "H4428" planned|strong = "H2803" against|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H6440" Jews|strong = "H3064", should|strong = "H4428" come|strong = "H7725" upon|strong = "H5921" his|strong = "H7725" own|strong = "H5973" head|strong = "H7218",

and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.²⁶ This is why these days are called Purim, after the word Pur. Therefore because of all the words of this letter, as well as all they had seen they had experienced,²⁷ the Jews established and made it a custom for them, for their descendants, and for all who should join them, so that it might not be repealed, that they should continue to observe these two days as feasts each year, and that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city. And these days should not pass away from among the Jews nor the remembrance of them disappear among their descendants.

29Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635", the|strong = "H3605" daughter|strong = "H1323" of|strong = "H1323" Abihail|strong = "H0032", gave|strong = "H5414" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" the|strong = "H3605" Jew|strong = "H3064" all|strong = "H3605" authority|strong = "H8633" in|strong = "H3789" writing|strong = "H3789" to|strong = "H6965" confirm|strong = "H6965" this|strong = "H2063" second|strong = "H8145" letter|strong = "H5612" of|strong = "H1323" Purim|strong = "H6332". ³⁰ He|strong = "H3605" sent|strong = "H7971" letters|strong = "H5612" to|strong = "H7971" all|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" Jews|strong = "H3064", to|strong = "H7971" the|strong = "H3605" hundred|strong = "H3967" and|strong = "H3967" twenty-seven|strong = "H6242" provinces|strong = "H4082" of|strong = "H1697" the|strong = "H3605" kingdom|strong = "H4438" of|strong = "H1697" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325", wishing|strong = "H7592" them|strong = "H7971" peace|strong = "H7965" and|strong = "H3967" security|strong = "H7965", ³¹ to|strong = "H5921" confirm|strong = "H6965" these|strong = "H6965" days|strong = "H3117" of|strong = "H3117" Purim|strong = "H6332" in|strong = "H5921" their|strong = "H5921" proper|strong = "H2896" times|strong = "H3117", to|strong = "H5921" be|strong = "H1697" observed|strong = "H6965" as|strong = "H1697" Mordecai|strong = "H4782" the|strong = "H5921" Jew|strong = "H3064" and|strong = "H6965" Queen|strong = "H4436" Esther|strong = "H0635" had|strong = "H4782" directed|strong = "H5090" and|strong = "H6965" as|strong = "H1697" the|strong = "H5921" Jews|strong = "H3064" had|strong = "H4782" proscribed for|strong = "H5921" themselves|strong = "H5315" and|strong = "H6965" their|strong = "H5921" descendants|strong = "H2233", in|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" matter|strong = "H1697" of|strong = "H3117" the|strong = "H5921" fastings|strong = "H6685" and|strong = "H6965" their|strong = "H5921" cry|strong = "H2201" of|strong = "H3117" lamentation|strong = "H7015". ³² And|strong = "H6965" the|strong = "H6965" commands|strong = "H1697" of|strong = "H1697" Esther|strong = "H0635" confirmed|strong = "H6965" these|strong = "H3789" matters|strong = "H1697" of|strong = "H1697" Purim|strong = "H6332"; and|strong = "H6965" it|strong = "H3789" was|strong = "H1697" written|strong = "H3789" in|strong = "H3789" the|strong = "H6965" records|strong = "H1697".

10King|strong = "H4428" Ahasuerus|strong = "H0325" imposed|strong = "H5414" a|strong = "H7760" tribute|strong = "H4522" on|strong = "H5921" the|strong = "H5921" land|strong = "H0776" and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H5921" coasts|strong = "H1366". ² All|strong = "H3605" the|strong = "H3605" acts|strong = "H1697" of|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H3605" power|strong = "H1369" and|strong = "H4428" of|strong = "H4428" his|strong = "H3605" might|strong = "H1369", and|strong = "H4428" the|strong = "H3605"