

Blessings for the Reading of Megillat Esther

לפני קריאת המגילה החזן אומר
הברכות האלו:

Before reading Megillat Esther the
following blessings are said; listeners
respond אָמֵן.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה
יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וְצִוָּנוּ עַל מִקְרָא מְגִלָּה:

Blessed are you,
YHVH (Hashem) our *elo'ah*,
cosmic majesty,
who sanctifies us through *mitzvot*,
and commands us concerning the
reading of the Megillah.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה
יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ
בְּיָמֵם הָהֵם
בְּזֶמֶן הַזֶּה:

Blessed are you,
YHVH (Hashem) our *elo'ah*,
cosmic majesty,
who made miracles for our ancestors
in their days
in this season.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה
יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהִחֲיָנוּ
וְקִיְּמָנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה:

Blessed are you,
YHVH (Hashem) our *elo'ah*,
cosmic majesty,
who has kept us alive,
and has preserved us,
and enabled us to reach this season.

מְגִלַּת אֶסְתֵּר

Megillat Esther

¹ וַיְהִי בַיָּמֵי אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ הוּא
 אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ הַמֶּלֶךְ מֵהִדּוּ וְעַד-כּוֹשׁ
 שֶׁבַע וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה: ² בַּיָּמִים
 הָהֵם כְּשֶׁבֶת ו הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ עַל
 כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה:
³ בְּשָׁנַת שְׁלוֹשׁ לְמַלְכוֹ עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֵּה
 לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו חֵיל ו פָּרָס וּמְדֵי
 הַפְּרָתָמִים וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינֹת לְפָנָיו:
⁴ בְּהִרְאֹתוֹ אֶת-עֵשֶׂר כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ
 וְאֶת-יָקָר תַּפְאֲרַת גְּדוּלָתוֹ יָמִים
 רַבִּים שְׁמוֹנִים וּמֵאֵת יוֹם:

¹ NOW IT came to pass in the days of
 Ahashverosh—this is Ahashverosh who
 reigned, from India even unto Ethiopia,
 over a hundred and seven and twenty
 provinces— ² that in those days, when
 the king Ahashverosh sat on the throne
 of his kingdom, which was in Shushan
 the castle, ³ in the third year of his reign,
 he made a feast unto all his princes and
 his servants; the army of Persia and
 Media, the nobles and princes of the
 provinces, being before him; ⁴ when he
 showed the riches of his glorious
 kingdom and the honour of his excellent
 majesty, many days, even a hundred and
 fourscore days.

5 ובמלואת ו הימים האלה עשה
 המלך לכל-העם הנמצאים בשושן
 הבירה למגדול ועד-קטן משתה
 שבעת ימים בחצר גנת ביתן המלך:
 6 חור ו כרפס ותכלת אָחוּז
 בחבלי-בוץ וארגמן על-גלילי כסף
 ועמודי שש מטות ו זהב וכסף על
 רצפת בהט־ושש ונר וספרת:
 7 והשקות בכלי זהב וכלים מכלים
 שונים ויין מלכות רב כִּיד המלך:
 8 והשתיה כדת אין אגס כִּי-כן ו יסד
 המלך על כל-רב ביתו לעשות כרצון
 איש-ואיש:

5 And when these days were fulfilled, the king made a feast unto all the people that were present in Shushan the castle, both great and small, seven days, in the court of the garden of the king's palace; 6 there were hangings of white, fine cotton, and blue, bordered with cords of fine linen and purple, upon silver rods and pillars of marble; the couches were of gold and silver, upon a pavement of green, and white, and shell, and onyx marble. 7 And they gave them drink in vessels of gold—the vessels being diverse one from another—and royal wine in abundance, according to the bounty of the king. 8 And the drinking was according to the law; none did compel; for so the king had appointed to all the officers of his house, that they should do according to every man's pleasure.

9 גם ושתיה המלכה עשתה משתה
 נשים בית המלכות אשר למלך
 אחשורוש: {ס}

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

10 ביום השביעי כטוב לב-המלך
ביין אמר למהומן בזתא חרבונא
בגתא ואבגתא זתר וכרפס שבעת
הסריסים המשרתים את-פני המלך
אחשורוש: 11 להביא את-ושתי
המלכה לפני המלך בכתר מלכות
להראות העמים והשרים את-יפיה
כי-טובת מראה היא: 12 ותמאן
המלכה ושתי לבוא בדבר המלך
אשר ביד הסריסים ויקצף המלך
מאד וחרמתו בערה בו:

10 On the seventh day, when the heart of the king was merry with wine, he commanded Mehuman, Bizzeta, Harbona, Bigta, and Avagta, Zetar, and Kharkas, the seven chamberlains that ministered in the presence of Ahashverosh the king, 11 to bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to show the peoples and the princes her beauty; for she was fair to look on. 12 But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by the chamberlains; therefore was the king very wroth, and his anger burned in him.

13 ויאמר המלך לחכמים ידעי
העתים כי-כן דבר המלך לפני
כל-ידעי דת ודין: 14 והקרוב אליו
כרשנא שתל אדמתא תרשיש מרס
מרסנא ממוכן שבעת שרי ו פרס
ומדי ראי פני המלך הישבים
ראשנה במלכות: 15 כדת
מה-לעשות במלכה ושתי על ו אשר
לא-עשתה את-מאמר המלך
אחשורוש ביד הסריסים: {ס}

13 Then the king said to the wise men, who knew the times—for so was the king's manner toward all that knew law and judgment; 14 and the next unto him was Karsh'na, Shetar, Admata, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena, and Memukhan, the seven princes of Persia and Media, who saw the king's face, and sat the first in the kingdom: 15 'What shall we do unto the queen Vashti according to law, forasmuch as she has not done the bidding of the king Ahashverosh by the chamberlains?'

16 וַיֹּאמֶר מוֹמְכָן מִמּוֹכָן לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
 וְהַשָּׂרִים לֹא עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ לְבַדּוֹ עֹתָהּ
 וְשֵׁתִי הַמַּלְכָּה כִּי עַל-כָּל-הַשָּׂרִים
 וְעַל-כָּל-הָעַמִּים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל-מְדִינֹת
 הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ: 17 כִּי-יֵצֵא
 דְבַר-הַמַּלְכָּה עַל-כָּל-הַנָּשִׁים לְהַבְזוֹת
 בְּעֵלֵיהֶן בְּעִינֵיהֶן בְּאִמְרוֹם הַמֶּלֶךְ
 אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ אָמַר לְהָבִיא אֶת-וְשֵׁתִי
 הַמַּלְכָּה לִפְנָיו וְלֹא-בָאָה: 18 וְהַיּוֹם
 הַזֶּה תֵּאמְרָנָה וְשָׂרוֹת פָּרֶס-וּמְדִי
 אֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ אֶת-דְּבַר הַמַּלְכָּה לְכָל
 שָׂרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְכַדִּי בְזִיוֹן וְקִצְרֵי:
 19 אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב יֵצֵא
 דְבַר-מַלְכוּת מִלִּפְנָיו וַיִּכְתֹּב בְּדַתִּי
 פָּרֶס-וּמְדִי וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר אֲשֶׁר
 לֹא-תָבוֹא וְשֵׁתִי לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
 אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וּמַלְכוּתָהּ יִתֵּן הַמֶּלֶךְ
 לְרַעוּתָהּ הַטּוֹבָה מִמֶּנָּה: 20 וְנִשְׁמַע
 פְּתָגָם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר-יַעֲשֶׂה
 בְּכָל-מַלְכוּתוֹ כִּי רַבָּה הִיא
 וְכָל-הַנָּשִׁים יִתְּנוּ יָקָר לְבַעֲלֵיהֶן
 לְמַגְדוֹל וְעַד-קָטָן:

16 And Memukhan answered before the king and the princes: 'Vashti the queen has not done wrong to the king only, but also to all the princes, and to all the peoples, that are in all the provinces of the king Ahashverosh. 17 For this deed of the queen will come abroad unto all women, to make their husbands contemptible in their eyes, when it will be said: The king Ahashverosh commanded Vashti the queen to be brought in before him, but she came not. 18 And this day will the princesses of Persia and Media who have heard of the deed of the queen say the like unto all the king's princes. So will there arise enough contempt and wrath. 19 If it please the king, let there go forth a royal commandment from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it be not altered, that Vashti come no more before king Ahashverosh, and that the king give her royal estate unto another that is better than she. 20 And when the king's decree which he shall make shall be published throughout all his kingdom, great though it be, all the wives will give to their husband's honour, both to great and small.'

21 וַיִּטֵּב הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַשָּׂרִים
וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ כַּדְּבַר מְמוּכָן: 22 וַיִּשְׁלַח
סְפָרִים אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֶל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה בְּכַתְּבָהּ וְאֶל-עַם
וְעַם כָּל־שׁוֹנֵי לְהִזּוֹת כָּל-אִישׁ שִׁבְר
בְּבֵיתוֹ וּמִדְּבַר כָּל־שׁוֹן עִמּוֹ: {פ}

21 And the word pleased the king and the princes; and the king did according to the word of Memukhan; 22 for he sent letters into all the king's provinces, into every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language, that every man should bear rule in his own house, and speak according to the language of his people.

אָסְתֵּר ב

Chapter 2

¹ אַחַר הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה כְּשֶׁךָ חֲמַת
הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחֲשֵׁוּרוּשׁ זָכַר אֶת-וַשְׁתִּי וְאֶת
אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂתָה וְאֶת אֲשֶׁר-נִגְזַר עָלֶיהָ:
² וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׂרָתָיו
יִבְקְשׂוּ לַמֶּלֶךְ נַעֲרוֹת בְּתוּלוֹת טוֹבוֹת
מֵרְאָה: ³ וַיִּפְקֹד הַמֶּלֶךְ פְּקִידִים
בְּכָל-מְדִינֹת מַלְכוּתוֹ וַיִּקְבְּצוּ
אֶת-כָּל-נַעֲרֵה-בְּתוּלָה טוֹבַת מֵרְאָה
אֶל-שׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים
אֶל-גִּיד הַגָּא סָרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ שֶׁמֶר
הַנָּשִׁים וְנִתְּזוּן תִּמְרוּקֵיהֶן: ⁴ וְהַנַּעֲרָה
אֲשֶׁר תִּיטֵב בְּעֵינֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ תִּמְלֹךְ
תַּחַת וַשְׁתִּי וַיִּטֵּב הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיַּעַשׂ כֵּן: {ס}

¹ After these things, when the wrath of king Ahashverosh was assuaged, he remembered Vashti, and what she had done, and what was decreed against her.

² Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him: 'Let there be sought for the king young virgins fair to look on; ³ and let the king appoint officers in all the provinces of his kingdom, that they may gather together all the fair young virgins unto Shushan the castle, to the house of the women, unto the custody of Heygeh the king's chamberlain, keeper of the women; and let their ointments be given them; ⁴ and let the maiden that pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti.' And the thing pleased the king; and he did so.

5 אִישׁ יְהוּדִי הָיָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבֵּירָה
וּשְׁמוֹ מֶרְדֵּכַי בֶּן יָאִיר בֶּן־שִׁמְעִי
בֶּן־קִישׁ אִישׁ יְמִינִי: 6 אֲשֶׁר הֶגְלָהּ
מִירוּשָׁלַיִם עִם־הַגְּלָה אֲשֶׁר הֶגְלָתָהּ
עִם יְכָנְיָה מֶלֶךְ־יְהוּדָה אֲשֶׁר הֶגְלָהּ
נְבוּכַדְנֶאֶצַּר מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל: 7 וַיְהִי אִמֵּן
אֶת־הַדָּפָה הִיא אֶסְתֵּר בַּת־דָּדוֹ כִּי
אֵין לָהּ אָב וְאִם וְהַנְּעָרָה יָפַת־תֵּאֵר
וְטוֹבַת מְרָאָה וּבְמֹת אֲבִיהָ וְאִמָּהּ
לְקַחָהּ מֶרְדֵּכַי לֹו לְבַת:

5 There was a certain Jew in Shushan the castle, whose name was Mordechai the son of Yair the son of Shim'i the son of Kish, a Benjamite, Ish yehudi haya beshushan habira ushemo Mordechai ben Ya'ir ben-Shim'i ben-Kish ish yemini 6 who had been carried away from Jerusalem with the captives that had been carried away with Yekhoniah king of Yehudah, whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried away. 7 And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter; for she had neither father nor mother, and the maiden was of beautiful form and fair to look on; and when her father and mother were dead, Mordechai took her for his own daughter. Vayehi omen et-Hadassa hee Esther bat-dodo ki eyn lah av va'em vehanna'ara yefat-to'ar vetovat mar'eh uvemot aviha ve'immah lekahah Mordechai lo levat

8 וַיְהִי בְּהִשְׁמַע דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ
וּבְהַקְבִּץ נְעוּרוֹת רַבּוֹת אֶל-שׁוּשָׁן
הַבִּירָה אֶל-גֵּיד הַגִּי וּתְלַקַּח אֶסְתֵּר
אֶל-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-גֵּיד הַגִּי שֹׁמֵר
הַנָּשִׁים: 9 וַתֵּיטֵב הַנְּעָרָה בְּעֵינָיו
וַתִּשָּׂא חֶסֶד לִפְנָיו וַיְבַהֵל
אֶת-תְּמָרוּקִיָּה וְאֶת-מְנוּחָה לְתֵת לָהּ
וְאֶת שִׁבְעַת הַנְּעוּרוֹת הָרְאִיוֹת
לְתֵת-לָהּ מִבֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּשְׁנֶה
וְאֶת-נְעוּרוֹתֶיהָ לְטוֹב בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים:

8 So it came to pass, when the king's commandment and his decree was published, and when many maidens were gathered together unto Shushan the castle, to the custody of Heygeh, that Esther was taken into the king's house, to the custody of Heygeh, keeper of the women. 9 And the maiden pleased him, and she obtained kindness of him; and he speedily gave her her ointments, with her portions, and the seven maidens, who were meet to be given her out of the king's house; and he advanced her and her maidens to the best place in the house of the women.

10 לֹא-הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר אֶת-עַמָּהּ
וְאֶת-מּוֹלְדֹתָהּ כִּי מְרַדְּכַי צָנָה עָלֶיהָ
אֲשֶׁר לֹא-תִגִּיד: 11 וּבְכָל-יוֹם וַיּוֹם
מְרַדְּכַי מִתְּהִלָּךְ לִפְנֵי חֲצַר
בֵּית-הַנָּשִׁים לְדַעַת אֶת-שְׁלוֹם
אֶסְתֵּר וּמֵה-יַעֲשֶׂה בָּהּ:

10 Esther had not made known her people nor her kindred; for Mordechai had charged her that she should not tell it. 11 And Mordechai walked every day before the court of the women's house, to know how Esther did, and what would become of her.

12 וּבַהֲגִיעַ תֵּרֶן נַעֲרָה וְנַעֲרָה לָבוֹא וְ
 אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ מִקֵּץ הַיּוֹת לָהּ
 כַּדַּת הַנָּשִׁים שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר חֹדֶשׁ כִּי כֵן
 יִמְלֵאוּ יָמֵי מְרוּקִיהֶן שֵׁשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים
 בְּשֶׁמֶן הַמֹּר וְשֵׁשָׁה חֳדָשִׁים בְּבִשְׂמִים
 וּבַת־מְרוּקֵי הַנָּשִׁים: 13 וּבֹזֶה הַנַּעֲרָה
 בָּאָה אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר תֹּאמֶר
 יִנָּתֵן לָהּ לָבוֹא עִמָּה מִבֵּית הַנָּשִׁים
 עַד-בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ: 14 בְּעֶרְבַּ וְהָיָה בָּאָה
 וּבְבֹקֶר הָיָה שָׁבָה אֶל-בֵּית הַנָּשִׁים
 שְׁנֵי אֶל-יָד שְׁעֵשְׂגוֹ סָרִיס הַמֶּלֶךְ
 שֹׁמֵר הַפְּלִגְשִׁים לֹא-תָבוֹא עוֹד
 אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי אִם-חֲפֹץ בָּהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ
 וְנִקְרְאָה בְּשֵׁם:

12 Now when the turn of every maiden
 was come to go in to king Ahashverosh,
 after that it had been done to her
 according to the law for the women,
 twelve months—for so were the days of
 their anointing accomplished, to wit, six
 months with oil of myrrh, and six month
 with sweet odours, and with other
 ointments of the women — 13 when then
 the maiden came unto the king,
 whatsoever she desired was given her to
 go with her out of the house of the
 women unto the king's house. 14 In the
 evening she went, and on the morrow
 she returned into the second house of
 the women, to the custody of Shaashgaz,
 the king's chamberlain, who kept the
 concubines; she came in unto the king
 no more, except the king delighted in
 her, and she were called by name.

15 וּבַהֲגִיעַ תֵּר־אֶסְתֵּר בֵּת־אֲבִיחַיִל
יָד מְרֹדְכַי אֲשֶׁר לָקַח־לוֹ לְבַת לְבוֹא
אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא בִקְשָׁה דָבָר כִּי אִם
אֶת־אֲשֶׁר יֹאמֶר הֲגִי סֵרִיס־הַמֶּלֶךְ
שֹׁמֵר הַנָּשִׁים וַתְּהִי אֶסְתֵּר נִשְׂאֵת חֲזַן
בְּעֵינַי כָּל־רֵאִיָּה: 16 וַתִּלְקַח אֶסְתֵּר
אֶל־הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחְשֵׁרוֹשׁ אֶל־בֵּית
מַלְכוּתוֹ בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָעֲשִׂירִי הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ
טֵבֵת בַּשָּׁנָה־שִׁבְעַ לְמַלְכוּתוֹ:
17 וַיֵּאֱהָב הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־אֶסְתֵּר
מִכָּל־הַנָּשִׁים וַתִּשְׂאֵ־חֲזַן וְחֹסֵד לְפָנָיו
מִכָּל־הַבָּתוּלוֹת וַיִּשֶׂם כֶּתֶר־מַלְכוּת
בְּרֹאשָׁהּ וַיְמַלִּיכָהּ תַּחַת וְשֵׁתִי:
18 וַיַּעַשׂ הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁתֵּה גָדוֹל
לְכָל־שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו אֶת מִשְׁתֵּה אֶסְתֵּר
וַהֲנַחָה לְמַדִּינוֹת עָשָׂה וַיִּתֵּן מִשְׂאֵת
כֶּיֶד הַמֶּלֶךְ:

15 Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordekhai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king, she required nothing but what Heygeh the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her. 16 So Esther was taken unto king Ahashverosh into his house royal in the tenth month, which is the month Teveth, in the seventh year of his reign. 17 And the king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti. 18 Then the king made a great feast unto all his princes and his servants, even Esther's feast; and he made a release to the provinces, and gave gifts, according to the bounty of the king.

19 ובהקבץ בתולות שנית ומרדכי
ישב בשער-המלך: 20 אין אסתר
מגדת מולדתה ואת-עמה כאשר
צוה עליה מרדכי ואת-מאמר מרדכי
אסתר עשה כאשר היתה באמנה
אתו: {ס}

19 And when the virgins were gathered together the second time, and Mordechai sat in the king's gate—
20 Esther had not yet made known her kindred nor her people; as Mordechai had charged her; for Esther did the commandment of Mordechai, like as when she was brought up with him—

21 בימים ההם ומרדכי ישב
בשער-המלך קצף בגתן ותרש
שני-סריסי המלך משמרי הסף
ויבקשו לשלח יד במלך אחשורוש:
22 ויודע הדבר למרדכי ויגד לאסתר
המלכה ותאמר אסתר למלך בשם
מרדכי:

21 in those days, while Mordechai sat in the king's gate, two of the king's chamberlains, Bigthan and Teresh, of those that kept the door, were wroth, and sought to lay hands on the king Ahashverosh. 22 And the thing became known to Mordechai, who told it unto Esther the queen; and Esther told the king thereof in Mordechai's name.

23 ויבקש הדבר וימצא ויתלו שניהם
על-עץ ויכתב בספר דברי הימים
לפני המלך: {פ}

23 And when inquisition was made of the matter, and it was found to be so, they were both hanged on a tree; and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.

¹ אַחַר ׀ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה גָּדַל הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֶחָשֶׁוֹרוֹשׁ אֶת־הֶמֶן בֶּן־הַמְּדַתָּא
הָאֲגִי וַיִּנְשְׂאֵהוּ וַיֵּשֶׁם אֶת־כִּסֵּאוֹ
מֵעַל כָּל־הַשָּׂרִים אֲשֶׁר אִתּוֹ:

¹ After these things did king Ahashverosh promote Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, and advanced him, and set his seat above all the princes that were with him.

² וְכָל־עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר־בְּשַׁעַר
הַמֶּלֶךְ פָּרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לְהֶמֶן
כִּי־כֵן צִוָּה־לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וּמֶרְדֵּכַי לֹא
יִכְרַע וְלֹא יִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה: ³ וַיֹּאמְרוּ עַבְדֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר־בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְמֶרְדֵּכַי
מִדּוֹעַ אַתָּה עוֹבֵר אֶת מִצְוַת הַמֶּלֶךְ:

² And all the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, bowed down, and prostrated themselves before Haman; for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordechai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him.

³ Then the king's servants, that were in the king's gate, said unto Mordechai: 'Why do you transgress the king's commandment?'

4 וַיְהִי בֵּאמֹרָם כְּאֲמָרָם אֵלָיו יוֹם וַיּוֹם
וְלֹא שָׁמַע אֲלֵיהֶם וַיִּגִּידוּ לְהֶמֶן
לְרֵאוֹת הַיַּעֲמֹדוֹ דְּבַרֵי מֶרְדֵּכָי
כִּי־הִגִּיד לָהֶם אֲשֶׁר־הוּא יְהוּדִי:
5 וַיֵּרָא הֶמֶן כִּי־אֵין מֶרְדֵּכָי כֹּרַע
וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לוֹ וַיִּמְלֵא הֶמֶן חֲמָה:
6 וַיָּבֹוּ בְּעֵינָיו לְשַׁלַּח יָד בְּמֶרְדֵּכָי
לְבַדּוֹ כִּי־הִגִּידוּ לוֹ אֶת־עַם מֶרְדֵּכָי
וַיִּבְקֹשׁ הֶמֶן לְהַשְׁמִיד
אֶת־כָּל־הַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־מְלָכוֹת
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ עִם מֶרְדֵּכָי:

4 Now it came to pass, when they spoke daily unto him, and he hearkened not unto them, that they told Haman, to see whether Mordechai's words would stand; for he had told them that he was a Jew. 5 And when Haman saw that Mordechai bowed not down, nor prostrated himself before him, then was Haman full of wrath. 6 But it seemed contemptible in his eyes to lay hands on Mordechai alone; for they had made known to him the people of Mordechai; wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahashverosh, even the people of Mordechai.

7 בַּחֹדֶשׁ הָרִאשׁוֹן הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ נִסָּן
בְּשַׁנַּת שְׁתַּיִם עָשָׂה לְמַלְךְ
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ הַפִּיל פּוּר הוּא הַגּוֹזֵל
לְפָנָי הֶמֶן מִיּוֹם וַיּוֹם וּמִחֹדֶשׁ לְחֹדֶשׁ
שְׁנַיִם־עָשָׂר הוּא־חֹדֶשׁ אָדָר: {ס}

7 In the first month, which is the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of king Ahashverosh, they cast *pur*, that is, the lot, before Haman from day to day, and from month to month, to the twelfth month, which is the month Adar.

⁸ וַיֹּאמֶר הָמָן לְמֶלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ יִשְׁנֹו
עַם־אֶחָד מִפְּזֹר וּמִפְּרָד בֵּין הָעַמִּים
בְּכָל מְדִינֹת מְלֻכּוֹתֶיךָ וְדִתֵיהֶם שְׁנוֹת
מִכָּל־עַם וְאֶת־דַּתִי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵינָם
עֹשִׂים וְלִמְלֶךְ אֵין־שׁוּה לְהַנִּיחָם:
⁹ אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב יִכְתֹּב לְאַבְדָם
וְעֲשֶׂרֶת אֲלָפִים כֶּכֶר־כֶּסֶף אֲשַׁקּוּל
עַל־יָדֶי עֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה לְהַבִּיא
אֶל־גִּנְזֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: ¹⁰ וַיִּסַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֶת־טִבְעֶתוֹ מֵעַל יָדוֹ וַיִּתְּנָהּ לְהָמָן
בֶּן־הַמְּדֵתָא הָאֲגָגִי עֶרְר הַיְהוּדִים:
¹¹ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהָמָן הַכֶּסֶף נָתוּן לְךָ
וְהָעָם לַעֲשׂוֹת בּוֹ כְּטוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ:

⁸ And Haman said unto king Ahashverosh: 'There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; and their laws are diverse from those of every people; neither keep they the king's laws; therefore it profits not the king to suffer them. ⁹ If it please the king, let it be written that they be destroyed; and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those that have the charge of the king's business, to bring it into the king's treasuries.' ¹⁰ And the king took his ring from his hand, and gave it unto Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the Jews'enemy. ¹¹ And the king said unto Haman: 'The silver is given to thee, the people also, to do with them as it seems good to thee.'

¹² וַיִּקְרְאוּ סֹפְרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּחֹדֶשׁ
הָרִאשׁוֹן בְּשִׁלּוּשָׁה עָשָׂר יוֹם בּוֹ
וַיִּכְתֹּב כְּכֹל-אֲשֶׁר-צִוָּה הַמֶּן אֶל
אֲחַשְׁדֶּרְפָּנֵי-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֶל-הַפְּחֹת אֲשֶׁר
וְעַל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְאֶל-שָׂרֵי עַם
וְעַם מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה כְּכַתְּבָהּ וְעַם וְעַם
כְּלִשׁוֹנָם בְּשֵׁם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲחַשְׁוֶרֶשׁ נִכְתָּב
וְנִחְתָּם בְּטַבַּעַת הַמֶּלֶךְ: ¹³ וְנִשְׁלַח
סֹפְרִים בְּיַד הָרָצִים אֶל-כָּל-מְדִינֹת
הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהַשְׁמִיד לְהַרְגֹּת וּלְאַבֵּד
אֶת-כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים מִנְּעַר וְעַד-זָקֵן טָף
וְנָשִׁים בְּיוֹם אֶחָד בְּשִׁלּוּשָׁה עָשָׂר
לְחֹדֶשׁ שְׁנַיִם-עָשָׂר הוּא-חֹדֶשׁ אָדָר
וַיִּשְׁלַח לְבוֹז:

¹² Then were the king's scribes called in the first month, on the thirteenth day thereof, and there was written, according to all that Haman commanded, unto the king's satraps, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the princes of every people; to every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahashverosh was it written, and it was sealed with the king's ring. ¹³ And letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.

¹⁴ פְּתִישְׂגֹן הַכְּתָב לְהַנְתִּין דָּת
בְּכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה גְלוּי
לְכָל-הָעַמִּים לְהִיּוֹת עֵתָדִים לְיוֹם
הַזֶּה:

¹⁴ The copy of the writing, to be given out for a decree in every province, was to be published unto all peoples, that they should be ready against that day.

15 הָרָצִים יֵצְאוּ דְחוּפִים בְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהַדָּת נִתְּנָה בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה וְהַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהָמֵן יֵשְׁבוּ לִשְׂתוּת וְהָעִיר שׁוּשַׁן
נִבְוָכָה: {פ}

15 The posts went forth in haste by the king's commandment, and the decree was given out in Shushan the castle; and the king and Haman sat down to drink; but the city of Shushan was perplexed.

אִסְתֵּר ד

Chapter 4

1 וּמֶרְדֵּכַי יָדַע אֶת-כָּל-אֲשֶׁר נַעֲשָׂה
וַיִּקְרַע מְרֹדְכַי אֶת-בְּגָדָיו וַיִּלְבַּשׂ שָׂק
וְאָפֶר וַיֵּצֵא בְּתוֹךְ הָעִיר וַיִּזְעַק וְעָקָה
גְּדֻלָּה וּמָרָה: 2 וַיָּבֹא עַד לִפְנֵי
שַׁעַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי אֵין לָבֹא אֶל-שַׁעַר
הַמֶּלֶךְ בְּלִבְוֹשׁ שָׂק: 3 וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה
וּמְדִינָה מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר דָּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ אֶבֶל גָּדוֹל לַיהוּדִים וְצוֹם
וּבְכִי וּמִסְפַּד שָׂק וְאָפֶר יֵצֵעַ לְרַבִּים:

1 Now when Mordechai knew all that was done, Mordechai rent his clothes, and put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a loud and a bitter cry; 2 and he came even before the king's gate; for none might enter within the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. 3 And in every province, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting, and weeping, and wailing; and many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

4 ותבואינה ותבואנה נערות אסתר
וסריסיה ויגידו לה ותתחלחל
המלכה מאד ותשלח בגדים
להלביש את-מרדכי ולהסיר שקו
מעליו ולא קבל: 5 ותקרא אסתר
להתך מסריסי המלך אשר העמיד
לפניה ותצוהו על-מרדכי לדעת
מה-זה ועל-מה-זה:

4 And Esther's maidens and her chamberlains came and told it her; and the queen was exceedingly pained; and she sent raiment to clothe Mordechai; and to take his sackcloth from off him; but he accepted it not. 5 Then called Esther for Hatakh, one of the king's chamberlains, whom he had appointed to attend upon her, and charged him to go to Mordechai, to know what this was, and why it was.

6 ויצא התך אל-מרדכי אל-רחוב
העיר אשר לפני שער-המלך:
7 ויגד-לו מרדכי את כל-אשר קרהו
ואת פרשת הכסף אשר אמר המן
לשקול על-גנאי המלך ביהודיים
ביהודים לאבדם: 8 ואת-פתשגן
כתב-הדת אשר-נתן בשושן
להשמידם נתן לו להראות
את-אסתר ולהגיד לה ולצוות עליה
לבוא אל-המלך להתחנן-לו ולבקש
מלפניו על-עמה:

6 So Hatakh went forth to Mordechai unto the broad place of the city, which was before the king's gate. 7 And Mordechai told him of all that had happened unto him, and the exact sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them. 8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given out in Shushan to destroy them, to show it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her; and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him, for her people.

⁹ וַיָּבֹא הַתֶּדֶן וַיִּגַּד לְאַסְתֵּר אֶת דְּבָרֵי מֶרְדֵּכָי: ¹⁰ וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְהַתֶּדֶן וַתְּצַוֶּהוּ אֶל-מֶרְדֵּכָי: ¹¹ כָּל-עַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְעַם-מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹדְעִים אֲשֶׁר כָּל-אִישׁ וְאִשָּׁה אֲשֶׁר יָבֹא-אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַחֲצַר הַפְּנִימִית אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִקְרָא אַחַת דָּתוֹ לְהֵמִית לְבַד מֵאֲשֶׁר יוֹשִׁיט-לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-שַׂרְבִּיט הַזֶּהב וְחָיָה וְאֲנִי לֹא נִקְרָאתִי לָבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ זֶה שְׁלוֹשִׁים יוֹם: ¹² וַיִּגִּדוּ לְמֶרְדֵּכָי אֶת דְּבָרֵי אֶסְתֵּר: {פ}

⁹ And Hathakh came and told Esther the words of Mordekhai. ¹⁰ Then Esther spoke unto Hatakh, and gave him a message unto Mordekhai: ¹¹ 'All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law for him, that he be put to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live; but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.' ¹² And they told to Mordekhai Esther's words.

¹³ וַיֹּאמֶר מֶרְדֵּכָי לְהָשִׁיב אֶל-אֶסְתֵּר אֶל-תְּדַמִּי בְּנַפְשֶׁךָ לְהַמְלִיט בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ מִכָּל-הַיְהוּדִים: ¹⁴ כִּי אִם-הִחַרְשׁ תַּחֲרִישִׁי בְּעַת הַזֹּאת יָרוּחַ וְהִצְלָה יַעֲמֹד לַיהוּדִים מִמְּקוֹם אֲחֵר וְאֵת וּבֵית-אָבִיךָ תֵּאבְדוּ וּמִי יוֹדֵעַ אִם-לָעַת כָּזֹאת הִגַּעַת לְמַלְכוּת:

¹³ Then Mordekhai bade them to return answer unto Esther: 'Think not with yourself that you shall escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. ¹⁴ For if you altogether hold your peace at this time, then will relief and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish; and who knows whether you art not come to royal estate for such a time as this?'

15 וְתֹאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר לְהָשִׁיב אֵל-מֶרְדֳּכָי:
16 לֵךְ כְּנוּס אֶת-כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים
הַנִּמְצְאִים בְּשׁוּשַׁן וְצוּמוּ עָלַי
וְאֶל-תֹּאכְלוּ וְאֶל-תִּשְׁתּוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת
יָמִים לַיְלָה וְיוֹם גַּם-אֲנִי וְנַעֲרֹתַי
אֲצוּם בְּן וּבָכָן אָבוֹא אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר
לֹא-כָדַת וּכְאֲשֶׁר אֶבְדַּתִּי אֶבְדַּתִּי:

15 Then Esther bade them return answer unto Mordekhai: 16 'Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day; I also and my maidens will fast in like manner; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.'

17 וַיַּעֲבֹר מֶרְדֳּכָי וַיַּעַשׂ כְּכֹל
אֲשֶׁר-צִוְתָהּ עָלָיו אֶסְתֵּר: {ס}

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

אֶסְתֵּר ה

Chapter 5

¹ וַיְהִי ׀ בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי וַתִּלְבַּשׁ
אֶסְתֵּר מַלְכוּת וַתַּעֲמֹד בַּחֲצַר
בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַפְּנִימִית נֹכַח בֵּית
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּלֶךְ יוֹשֵׁב עַל-כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ
בְּבַיִת הַמַּלְכוּת נֹכַח פֶּתַח הַבַּיִת:

¹ Now it came to pass on the third day,
that Esther put on her royal apparel, and
stood in the inner court of the king's
house, over against the king's house; and
the king sat upon his royal throne in the
royal house, over against the entrance of
the house. vayhi bayyom hashelishi
vatilbash Esther malkhut vatta'amod
bahatsar bet-hammelekh hapenimit
nokhaḥ bet hammelekh vehammelekh
yoshev al-kissei malkhuto beveit
hammalkhut nokhaḥ petah habbayit

² וַיְהִי כִּרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-אֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה עֹמֶדֶת בַּחֲצַר נִשְׂאָה חֵן
בְּעֵינָיו וַיֹּשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר
אֶת-שֶׁרְבִיט הַזָּהָב אֲשֶׁר בְּיָדוֹ וַתִּקְרַב
אֶסְתֵּר וַתִּגַּע בְּרֹאשׁ הַשֶּׁרְבִיט: {ס}
³ וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ הַמֶּלֶךְ מַה-לָּךְ אֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה וּמַה-בִּקְשָׁתְךָ עַד-חֲצִי
הַמַּלְכוּת וַיִּנְתֵּן לָךְ:

² And it was so, when the king saw
Esther the queen standing in the court,
that she obtained favour in his sight; and
the king held out to Esther the golden
sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther
drew near, and touched the top of the
sceptre. ³ Then said the king unto her:
'What wilt thou, queen Esther? for
whatever your request, even to the half
of the kingdom, it shall be given thee.'

⁴ וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב
יָבוֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן הַיּוֹם אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה
אֲשֶׁר-עָשִׂיתִי לוֹ:

⁴ And Esther said: 'If it seem good unto
the king, let the king and Haman come
this day unto the banquet that I have
prepared for him.'

5 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ מְהֵרָה אֶת-הַמֶּן
לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-דְּבַר אֶסְתֵּר וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהַמֶּן אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה
אֶסְתֵּר: 6 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר
בְּמִשְׁתֶּה הַיַּיִן מִה-שְּׂאֵלְתְּךָ וַיִּנְתֵּן לָךְ
וּמִה-בְּקִשְׁתְּךָ עַד-חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת
וְתַעֲשׂ:

5 Then the king said: ‘Cause Haman to make haste, that it may be done as Esther has said.’ So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. 6 And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine: ‘Whatever your petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever your request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be performed.’

7 וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר וַתֹּאמֶר שְׂאֵלְתִי
וּבְקִשְׁתִּי: 8 אִם-מְצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב לָתֵת
אֶת-שְׂאֵלְתִי וְלַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת-בְּקִשְׁתִּי
יָבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַמֶּן אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר
אֶעֱשֶׂה לָהֶם וּמָחָר אֶעֱשֶׂה כְּדַבַּר
הַמֶּלֶךְ:

7 Then answered Esther, and said: ‘My petition and my request is— 8 if I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request— let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to-morrow as the king has said.’

⁹ וַיֵּצֵא הַמֶּלֶךְ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא שְׂמֵחַ וְטוֹב לֵב וְכִרְאוֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-מֶרְדֳּכָי בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְלֹא-קָם וְלֹא-זָע מִמֶּנּוּ וַיִּמְלֵא הַמֶּלֶךְ עַל-מֶרְדֳּכָי חֲמָה: ¹⁰ וַיִּתְאַפֵּק הַמֶּלֶךְ וַיָּבֹא אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיָּבֵא אֶת-אֶהֱבִיּוֹ וְאֶת-זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ: ¹¹ וַיִּסְפָּר לָהֶם הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת-כְּבוֹד עֲשָׂרוֹ וְרַב בְּנָיו וְאֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר נִשְׂאוֹ עַל-הַשָּׂרִים וְעַבְדֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: ¹² וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֵף לֹא-הִבִּיאָהּ אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה כִּי אִם-אוֹתִי וְגַם-לְמַחֵר אֲנִי קְרוֹא-לָהּ עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ: ¹³ וְכָל-זֶה אֵינְנִי שׂוֹה לִי בְּכָל-עֵת אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי רֹאֶה אֶת-מֶרְדֳּכָי הַיְּהוּדִי יוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ:

⁹ Then went Haman forth that day joyful and glad of heart; but when Haman saw Mordekhai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, Haman was filled with wrath against Mordekhai. ¹⁰ Nevertheless Haman refrained himself, and went home; and he sent and fetched his friends and Zeresh his wife. ¹¹ And Haman recounted unto them the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and everything as to how the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king. ¹² Haman said moreover: 'Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself; and to-morrow also am I invited by her together with the king. ¹³ Yet all this avails me nothing, so long as I see Mordekhai the Jew sitting at the king's gate.'

14 וְתֹאמַר לוֹ זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ וְכָל-אֶהְבָּיו
יַעֲשׂוּ-עֵץ גְּבוּהַ חֲמִשִּׁים אַמָּה וּבִבְקֹר ו
אָמַר לַמֶּלֶךְ וַיִּתְּלוּ אֶת-מֶרְדֵּכַי עָלָיו
וּבֹא-עִם-הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל הַמְּשֻׁתָּה שְׂמַח
וַיִּטֵּב הַדָּבָר לִפְנֵי הַמֶּן וַיַּעַשׂ הָעֵץ:
{פ}

אֶסְתֵּר ו

1 בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא נִדְדָה שְׁנַת הַמֶּלֶךְ
וַיֹּאמֶר לְהָבִיא אֶת-סֵפֶר הַזְּכוֹרוֹת
דְּבָרֵי הַיָּמִים וַיְהִיו נִקְרָאִים לִפְנֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ:

2 וַיִּמְצָא כָּתוּב אֲשֶׁר הֶגִיד מֶרְדֵּכַי
עַל-בִּגְתָנָא וְתֶרֶשׁ שְׁנֵי סְרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
מִשְׁמֵרֵי הַסֵּף אֲשֶׁר בִּקְשׂוּ לְשַׁלַּח יָד
בַּמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ: 3 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ
מִה-נַּעֲשָׂה יָקָר וַיְגִדוּלָהּ לְמֶרְדֵּכַי
עַל-זֶה וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ מִשְׁרָתָיו
לֹא-נַעֲשָׂה עִמּוֹ דָּבָר:

14 Then said Zeresh his wife and all his friends unto him: ‘Let a gallows be made of fifty cubits high, and in the morning speak you unto the king that Mordekhai may be hanged thereon; then go you in merrily with the king unto the banquet.’ And the thing pleased Haman; and he caused the gallows to be made.

Chapter 6

1 On that night could not the king sleep; and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles, and they were read before the king.

2 And it was found written, that Mordekhai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king’s chamberlains, of those that kept the door, who had sought to lay hands on the king Ahashverosh. 3 And the king said: ‘What honour and dignity has been done to Mordekhai for this?’ Then said the king’s servants that ministered unto him: ‘There is nothing done for him.’

4 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ מִי בַחֲצַר וְהֵמָּן בָּא
לְחַצֵּר בֵּית-הַמֶּלֶךְ הַחֵיצוֹנָה לֵאמֹר
לְמֶלֶךְ לְתִלוֹת אֶת-מֶרְדֵּכַי עַל-הָעֵץ
אֲשֶׁר-הֵכִין לוֹ: 5 וַיֹּאמְרוּ נַעֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
אֵלָיו הִנֵּה הֵמָּן עֹמֵד בַּחֲצַר וַיֹּאמֶר
הַמֶּלֶךְ יָבֹוא:

4 And the king said: ‘Who is in the court?’—Now Haman was come into the outer court of the king’s house, to speak unto the king to hang Mordekhai on the gallows that he had prepared for him.—

5 And the king’s servants said unto him: ‘Behold, Haman stands in the court.’ And the king said: ‘Let him come in.’

6 וַיָּבֹוא הֵמָּן וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ
מֵה-לַעֲשׂוֹת בְּאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ
בִּיקְרוֹ וַיֹּאמֶר הֵמָּן בְּלִבּוֹ לְמִי יִחְפֹּץ
הַמֶּלֶךְ לַעֲשׂוֹת יָקָר יוֹתֵר מִמֶּנִּי:
7 וַיֹּאמֶר הֵמָּן אֶל-הַמֶּלֶךְ אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר
הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ: 8 יָבִיאוּ לְבוֹשׁ
מַלְכוּת אֲשֶׁר לְבַשׁ-בוֹ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְסוּס
אֲשֶׁר רָכַב עָלָיו הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאֲשֶׁר נָתַן
בְּתֵר מַלְכוּת בְּרֹאשׁוֹ: 9 וְנָתַן הַלְּבוֹשׁ
וְהַסּוּס עַל-יַד-אִישׁ מִשְׁרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
הַפְּרָתָמִים וְהַלְּבִישׁוּ אֶת-הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר
הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ בִּיקְרוֹ וְהִרְפִּיבֵהוּ
עַל-הַסּוּס בְּרִחוּב הָעִיר וְקִרְאוּ לְפָנָיו
בְּכֹה יַעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר הַמֶּלֶךְ חָפֵץ
בִּיקְרוֹ:

6 So Haman came in. And the king said unto him: ‘What shall be done unto the man whom the king delights to honour?’—Now Haman said in his heart: ‘Whom would the king delight to honour besides myself?’— 7 And Haman said unto the king: ‘For the man whom the king delights to honour, 8 let royal apparel be brought which the king uses to wear, and the horse that the king rides upon, and on whose head a crown royal is set; 9 and let the apparel and the horse be delivered to the hand of one of the king’s most noble princes, that they may array the man therewith whom the king delights to honour, and cause him to ride on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaim before him: Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honour.’

¹⁰ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְהִמָּן מְהֵרָה קַח
 אֶת-הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת-הַסּוּס כַּאֲשֶׁר
 דִּבַּרְתָּ וַעֲשֵׂה-כֵן לְמֹרְדֵכַי הַיְהוּדִי
 הַיּוֹשֵׁב בְּשַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶל-תִּפְּל דְבַר
 מְכַל אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ: ¹¹ וַיִּקַּח הִמָּן
 אֶת-הַלְבוּשׁ וְאֶת-הַסּוּס וַיִּלְבַּשׁ
 אֶת-מֹרְדֵכַי וַיַּרְכִּיבֵהוּ בְּרוֹחוֹב הָעִיר
 וַיִּקְרָא לְפָנָיו בְּכָה יַעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר
 הַמֶּלֶךְ חִפֵּץ בִּיקְרוֹ:

¹⁰ Then the king said to Haman: ‘Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as you have said, and do even so to Mordekhai the Jew, that sits at the king’s gate; let nothing fail of all that you have spoken.’ ¹¹ Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordekhai, and caused him to ride through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him: ‘Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delights to honour.’

¹² וַיָּשָׁב מֹרְדֵכַי אֶל-שַׁעַר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהִמָּן
 נִדְחָף אֶל-בֵּיתוֹ אָבֵל וְחָפוּי רֹאשׁ:
¹³ וַיְסַפֵּר הִמָּן לְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ
 וּלְכָל-אֶהְבָּיו אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר קָרָהוּ
 וַיֹּאמְרוּ לוֹ חֲכָמָיו וְזֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁתּוֹ אִם
 מִזֶּרַע הַיְהוּדִים מֹרְדֵכַי אֲשֶׁר הַחֲלוֹת
 לְנַפְּל לְפָנָיו לֹא-תוּכַל לוֹ כִּי-נִפְּוֹל
 תִּפְּוֹל לְפָנָיו: ¹⁴ עוֹדֶם מְדַבְּרִים עָמּוּ
 וְסָרִיסֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הִגִּיעוּ וַיְבַהֲלוּ לְהִבִּיא
 אֶת-הִמָּן אֶל-הַמִּשְׁתֶּה אֲשֶׁר-עָשְׂתָה
 אֶסְתֵּר:

¹² And Mordekhai returned to the king’s gate. But Haman hastened to his house, mourning and having his head covered. ¹³ And Haman recounted unto Zeresh his wife and all his friends every thing that had befallen him. Then said his wise men and Zeresh his wife unto him: ‘If Mordekhai, before whom you have begun to fall, be of the seed of the Jews, you shall not prevail against him, but shall surely fall before him.’ ¹⁴ While they were yet talking with him, came the king’s chamberlains, and hastened to bring Haman unto the banquet that Esther had prepared.

¹ וַיָּבֹא הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהָמָן לַשְּׂתוּת
עִם־אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה:

¹ So the king and Haman came to banquet with Esther the queen.

² וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאֶסְתֵּר גַּם בַּיּוֹם
הַשֵּׁנִי בְּמִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן מִה־שְּׁאַלְתְּךָ
אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וְתַגִּיתִי לְךָ
וּמִה־בְּקִשְׁתְּךָ עַד־חֲצֵי הַמַּלְכוּת
וְתַעֲשׂ:

² And the king said again unto Esther on the second day at the banquet of wine: 'Whatever your petition, queen Esther, it shall be granted thee; and whatever your request, even to the half of the kingdom, it shall be performed.'

³ וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וַתֹּאמֶר
אִם־מְצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְאִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב תִּנְתֶּנּוּ־לִי נַפְשִׁי
בְּשִׂאלָתִי וְעַמִּי בְּבִקְשָׁתִי: ⁴ כִּי
נִמְכַרְנוּ אֲנִי וְעַמִּי לְהִשְׁמִיד לְהַרְגוֹת
וּלְאַבֵּד וְאֵלּוּ לְעִבָדִים וּלְשִׁפְחוֹת
נִמְכַרְנוּ הַחַרְשָׁתִי כִּי אֵין הַצָּר שׁוּחַ
בְּגִזְק הַמֶּלֶךְ: {ס}

³ Then Esther the queen answered and said: 'If I have found favour in your sight, O king, and if it please the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request; ⁴ for we are sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish. But if we had been sold for bondmen and bondwomen, I had held my peace, for the adversary is not worthy that the king be endamaged.'

5 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וַיֹּאמֶר
לְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה מִי הוּא זֶה וְאֵי-זֶה
הוּא אֲשֶׁר-מָלְאוּ לְבוֹ לַעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן:
6 וַתֹּאמֶר-אֶסְתֵּר אִישׁ צָר וְאוֹיֵב הָמֵן
הָרַע הַזֶּה וְהָמֵן נִבְעֵת מִלְּפָנַי הַמֶּלֶךְ
וְהַמַּלְכָּה: 7 וְהַמֶּלֶךְ קָם בַּחֲמָתוֹ
מִמִּשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן אֶל-גִּנַּת הַבַּיִת וְהָמֵן
עָמַד לְבַקֵּשׁ עַל-נַפְשׁוֹ מֵאֶסְתֵּר
הַמַּלְכָּה כִּי רָאָה כִּי-כָלְתָה אֵלָיו
הָרַעָה מֵאֵת הַמֶּלֶךְ:

5 Then spoke the king Ahashverosh and said unto Esther the queen: 'Who is he, and where is he, that he dare presume in his heart to do so?' 6 And Esther said: 'An adversary and an enemy, even this wicked Haman.' Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen. 7 And the king arose in his wrath from the banquet of wine and went into the palace garden; but Haman remained to make request for his life to Esther the queen; for he saw that there was evil determined against him by the king.

8 וְהַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁבַּ מִגִּזְנֵת הַבַּיִתָּן אֶל-בֵּית ו
 מִשְׁתֵּה הַיַּיִן וְהָמֵן נָפַל עַל-הַמִּטָּה
 אֲשֶׁר אֶסְתֵּר עָלֶיהָ וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ הֲגַם
 לִכְבוֹשׁ אֶת-הַמְּלָכָה עִמִּי בַּבַּיִת
 הַדָּבָר יֵצֵא מִפִּי הַמֶּלֶךְ וּפְנֵי הָמֵן חָפוּ:
 {ס} 9 וַיֹּאמֶר חַרְבוּנָה אֶחָד
 מִן-הַסְּרִיסִים לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ גַּם
 הִנֵּה-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה הָמֵן לְמֹרְדֵכָי
 אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר-טוֹב עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ עִמָּד
 בַּבַּיִת הָמֵן גְּבוּהַ חֲמֵשִׁים אַמָּה וַיֹּאמֶר
 הַמֶּלֶךְ תִּלְהוּ עָלָיו: 10 וַיִּתְּלוּ אֶת-הָמֵן
 עַל-הָעֵץ אֲשֶׁר-הֵכִין לְמֹרְדֵכָי וַחֲמַת
 הַמֶּלֶךְ שָׁכְכָה: {פ}

8 Then the king returned out of the palace garden into the place of the banquet of wine; and Haman was fallen upon the couch whereon Esther was. Then said the king: ‘Will he even force the queen before me in the house?’ As the word went out of the king’s mouth, they covered Haman’s face. 9 Then said Harbonah, one of the chamberlains that were before the king: ‘Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman has made for Mordekhai, who spoke good for the king, stands in the house of Haman.’ And the king said: ‘Hang him thereon.’ 10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordekhai. Then was the king’s wrath assuaged.

¹ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא נָתַן הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶחָשֶׁוֹרוֹשׁ
לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה אֶת־בֵּית הָמָן צָרָר
הַיְהוּדִים הַיְהוּדִים וּמֶרְדֵּכַי בָּא לִפְנֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ כִּי־הִגִּידָה אֶסְתֵּר מֶה
הוּא־לָהּ: ² וַיִּסֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ אֶת־טַבַּעְתּוֹ
אֲשֶׁר הָעֵבִיר מִהָמָן וַיִּתְּנָהּ לְמֶרְדֵּכַי
וַתֵּשֶׂם אֶסְתֵּר אֶת־מֶרְדֵּכַי עַל־בֵּית
הָמָן: {פ}

³ וַתּוֹסֶף אֶסְתֵּר וַתְּדַבֵּר לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
וַתִּפֹּל לִפְנֵי רַגְלָיו וַתִּבְדֹּךְ וַתִּתְחַנֵּן־לוֹ
לְהַעֲבִיר אֶת־רַעַת הָמָן הָאֲגָגִי וְאֵת
מַחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר חָשַׁב עַל־הַיְהוּדִים:
⁴ וַיּוֹשֶׁט הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר אֶת שַׂרְבֵּט
הַזָּהָב וַתִּקַּם אֶסְתֵּר וַתַּעֲמֵד לִפְנֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ: ⁵ וַתֹּאמֶר אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב
וְאִם־מִצָּאֵתִי חֵן לִפְנָיו וְכִשֶׁר הִדְבַּר
לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ וְטוֹבָה אֲנִי בְעֵינָיו יִכְתֹּב
לְהַשִּׁיב אֶת־הַסְּפָרִים מִחֲשַׁבַּת הָמָן
כִּן־הַמִּדְּתָא הָאֲגָגִי אֲשֶׁר כָּתַב לְאַבְד
אֶת־הַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּכָל־מְדִינֹת
הַמֶּלֶךְ: ⁶ כִּי אֵיכָכָה אוֹכֵל וְרֹאֵתִי
בְּרָעָה אֲשֶׁר־יִמְצָא אֶת־עַמִּי וְאֵיכָכָה
אוֹכֵל וְרֹאֵתִי בְּאַבְדֵּן מוֹלְדָתִי: {ס}

¹ On that day did the king Ahashverosh give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordechai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.
² And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto Mordechai. And Esther set Mordechai over the house of Haman.

³ And Esther spoke yet again before the king, and fell down at his feet, and besought him with tears to put away the mischief of Haman the Agagite, and his device that he had devised against the Jews.
⁴ Then the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre. So Esther arose, and stood before the king.
⁵ And she said: 'If it please the king, and if I have found favour in his sight, and the thing seem right before the king, and I be pleasing in his eyes, let it be written to reverse the letters devised by Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote to destroy the Jews that are in all the king's provinces;
⁶ for how can I endure to see the evil that shall come unto my people? or how can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?'

7 ויאמר המלך אחשוורש לאסתר
המלכה ולמרדכי היהודי הנה
בית-המן נתתי לאסתר ואתו תלו
על-העץ על אשר-שלח ידו
ביהודיים ביהודים: 8 ואתם כתבו
על-היהודים בטוב בעיניכם בשם
המלך וחתמו בטבעת המלך כִּי-כתב
אשר-נכתב בשם-המלך ונחתום
בטבעת המלך אין להשיב: 9 ויקראו
ספרי-המלך בעת-ההיא בחדש
השלישי הוא-חדש סיון בשלושה
ועשרים בו ויכתב ככל-אשר-צוה
מרדכי אל-היהודים ואל
האחשדרפנים-והפחות ושרי
המדינות אשר ו מהדו ועד-כוש
שבע ועשרים ומאה מדינה מדינה
ומדינה ככתבה ועם ועם כלשנו
ואל-היהודים ככתבם וכלשונם:
10 ויכתב בשם המלך אחשוורש
ויחתם בטבעת המלך וישלח ספרים
ביד הרצים בסוסים רכבי הרקש
האחשתרנים בני הרמכים: 11 אשר
נתן המלך ליהודים ו אשר
בכל-עיר-ועיר להקהל ולעמד
על-נפשם להשמיד ולהרג ולאבד
את-כל-חיל עם ומדינה הצרים
אתם טף ונשים ושללם לבוז: 12 ביום
אחד בכל-מדינות המלך אחשוורש
בשלושה עשר לחדש שנים-עשר
הוא-חדש אדר: 13 פתשגן הכתב
להנתן דת בכל-מדינה ומדינה גלוי
לכל-העמים ולהיות **היהודיים**

7 Then the king Ahashverosh said unto
Esther the queen and to Mordechai the
Jew: 'Behold, I have given Esther the
house of Haman, and him they have
hanged upon the gallows, because he
laid his hand upon the Jews. 8 Write you
also concerning the Jews, as you like it,
in the king's name, and seal it with the
king's ring; for the writing which is
written in the king's name, and sealed
with the king's ring, may no man
reverse.' 9 Then were the king's scribes
called at that time, in the third month,
which is the month Sivan, on the three
and twentieth day thereof; and it was
written according to all that Mordechai
commanded concerning the Jews, even
to the satraps, and the governors and
princes of the provinces which are from
India unto Ethiopia, a hundred twenty
and seven provinces, unto every
province according to the writing
thereof, and unto every people after
their language, and to the Jews
according to their writing, and according
to their language. 10 And they wrote in
the name of king Ahashverosh, and
sealed it with the king's ring, and sent
letters by posts on horseback, riding on
swift steeds that were used in the king's
service, bred of the stud; 11 that the king
had granted the Jews that were in every

הַיְהוּדִים עֲתוּדִים לְיוֹם הַזֶּה
לְהִנָּקֵם מֵאִיְבֵיהֶם: ¹⁴ הָרָצִים רָכְבֵי
הָרֶכֶשׁ הָאֲחַשְׁתָּרְנִים יֵצְאוּ מִבְּהָלִים
וְדַחוּפִים בְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ וְהַיְתָּ נִתְּנָה
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה: {פ}

English (translation)

city to gather themselves together, and to stand for their life, to destroy, and to slay, and to cause to perish, all the forces of the people and province that would assault them, their little ones and women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey, ¹² upon one day in all the provinces of king Ahashverosh, namely, upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar. ¹³ The copy of the writing, to be given out for a decree in every province, was to be published unto all the peoples, and that the Jews should be ready against that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. ¹⁴ So the posts that rode upon swift steeds that were used in the king's service went out, being hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment; and the decree was given out in Shushan the castle.

¹⁵ וּמֹרְדֵכַי יֵצֵא וּ מִלִּפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ
 בְּלְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת תְּכֵלֶת וְחֹר וְעֵטְרַת
 זָהָב גְּדוּלָה וְתַכְרִיף בּוּץ וְאַרְגָּמָן
 וְהָעִיר שׁוּשָׁן צָהָלָה וְשִׂמְחָה:
¹⁶ לַיהוּדִים הֵיטָה אֹרֶה וְשִׂמְחָה
 וְשִׂשׂוֹן וִיקָר: ¹⁷ וּבְכָל-מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה
 וּבְכָל-עִיר וְעִיר מְקוֹם אֲשֶׁר
 דְּבַר-הַמֶּלֶךְ וְדָתוֹ מֵגִיעַ שִׂמְחָה
 וְשִׂשׂוֹן לַיהוּדִים מִשָּׂתָה וַיּוֹם טוֹב
 וּרְבִים מֵעַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ מִתִּיּוּדִים
 כִּי-נָפַל פַּחַד-הַיהוּדִים עֲלֵיהֶם:

¹⁵ And Mordechai went forth from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a rob of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan shouted and was glad. u'Mordechai yatsa millifne hammelekh bilvush malkhut tekhelet vahur va'ateret zahav gedola vetakhrikh buts ve'argaman veva'ir shushan tsahala vesameha. ¹⁶ The Jews had light and gladness, and joy and honour. layyehudim hayta ora vesimha vesason vikar ¹⁷ And in every province, and in every city, whithersoever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had gladness and joy, a feast and a good day. And many from among the peoples of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews was fallen upon them.

1 ובשנים עשר חדש הוא-חדש אדר
בשלושה עשר יום בו אשר הגיע
דבר-המלך ודתו להעשות ביום
אשר שברו איבי היהודים לשלוט
בהם ונהפוך הוא אשר ישלטו
היהודים המה בשנאייהם: 2 נקהלו
היהודים בעריהם בכל-מדינות
המלך אחשוורוש לשלח יד במבקשי
רעתם ואיש לא-עמד לפניהם
כי-נפל פחדם על-כל-העמים:

¹ Now in the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the same, when the king's commandment and his decree drew near to be put in execution, in the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to have rule over them; whereas it was turned to the contrary, that the Jews had rule over them that hated them; ² the Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the king Ahashverosh, to lay hand on such as sought their hurt; and no man could withstand them; for the fear of them was fallen upon all the peoples.

³ וְכָל־שָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינֹת וְהָאֲחַשְׁדָּרְפָּנִים
וְהַפְּחוֹת וְעֹשֵׂי הַמְּלָאכָה אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ
מִנְּשָׂאִים אֶת־הַיְהוּדִים כִּי־נָפַל
פַּחַד־מֹרְדֵכַי עֲלֵיהֶם: ⁴ כִּי־גָדוֹל
מֹרְדֵכַי בְּבֵית הַמֶּלֶךְ וְשָׁמְעוּ הוֹלֵךְ
בְּכָל־הַמְּדִינֹת כִּי־הָאִישׁ מֹרְדֵכַי
הוֹלֵךְ וְגָדוֹל: {פ} ⁵ וַיָּכּוּ הַיְהוּדִים
בְּכָל־אֹיְבֵיהֶם מִפֶּת־חָרֶב וְהָרֶג וְאֶבְדָּן
וַיַּעֲשׂוּ בְּשָׂנְאֵיהֶם כְּרָצוֹנָם: ⁶ וּבְשׁוֹשָׁן
הַבִּירָה הָרָגוּ הַיְהוּדִים וְאֶבְדוּ חֲמִשׁ
מֵאוֹת אִישׁ:

³ And all the princes of the provinces, and the satraps, and the governors, and they that did the king's business, helped the Jews; because the fear of Mordekhai was fallen upon them. ⁴ For Mordekhai was great in the king's house, and his fame went forth throughout all the provinces; for the man Mordekhai waxed greater and greater. ⁵ And the Jews smote all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and with slaughter and destruction, and did what they would unto them that hated them. ⁶ And in Shushan the castle the Jews slew and destroyed five hundred men.

7 וְאֵת וּפְרִשְׁנַדְתָּא

וְאֵת וְדַלְפוֹן

וְאֵת וְאַסְפָּתָא:

8 וְאֵת וּפּוֹרָתָא

וְאֵת וְאַדְלִיָּא

וְאֵת וְאַרִידָתָא:

9 וְאֵת וּפַרְמַשְׁתָּא

וְאֵת וְאַרִיסַי

וְאֵת וְאַרִידַי

וְאֵת וְוַיזָתָא:

10 וְעֶשְׂרֵת בְּנֵי הָמָן בֶּן־הַמְּדַתָּא צָרַר
הַיְהוּדִים הָרְגוּ וּבְבִזָּה לֹא שָׁלְחוּ
אֶת־יָדָם:

11 בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא בָּא מִסְפֵּר הַהֲרוּגִים
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבֵּיִרָה לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ: {ס}
12 וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה
בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבֵּיִרָה הָרְגוּ הַיְהוּדִים וְאַבְדוּ
חֲמֵשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ וְאֵת עֶשְׂרֵת
בְּנֵי־הָמָן בְּשָׂאֵר מְדִינֹת הַמֶּלֶךְ מִה
עָשׂוּ וּמִה־שָׂאֵלְתֶךָ וַיִּנְתֶּן לָךְ
וּמִה־בְּקִשְׁתֶּךָ עוֹד וְתַעֲשׂ:

7 And Parshandatha,

and Dalphon,

and Aspatha,

8 and Poratha,

and Adalia,

and Aridatha,

9 and Parmashta,

and Arisai,

and Aridai,

and Vaizatha,

10 the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy, slew they; but on the spoil they laid not their hand.

11 On that day the number of those that were slain in Shushan the castle was brought before the king. 12 And the king said unto Esther the queen: 'The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the castle, and the ten sons of Haman; what then have they done in the rest of the king's provinces! Now whatever your petition, it shall be granted thee; and whatever your request further, it shall be done.'

13 וַתֹּאמֶר אֶסְתֵּר אִם-עַל-הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב
יִנָּתֵן גַּם-מָחָר לַיהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוּשָׁן
לַעֲשׂוֹת כַּדַּת הַיּוֹם וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת
בְּנֵי-הָמֶן יִתְּלוּ עַל-הָעֵץ: 14 וַיֹּאמֶר
הַמֶּלֶךְ לַהֲעֲשׂוֹת כֵּן וַתִּנָּתֵן דַּת בְּשׁוּשָׁן
וְאֵת עֲשֶׂרֶת בְּנֵי-הָמֶן תֵּלֶוּ: 15 וַיִּקְהָלוּ
הַיְהוּדָיִם הַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר-בְּשׁוּשָׁן גַּם
בַּיּוֹם אַרְבַּעַה עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ אֲדָר
וַיַּהַרְגוּ בְּשׁוּשָׁן שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת אִישׁ
וּבְבִזָּה לֹא שָׁלְחוּ אֶת-יָדָם:

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

14 And the king commanded it so to be done; and a decree was given out in Shushan; and they hanged Haman's ten sons. 15 And the Jews that were in Shushan gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men in Shushan; but on the spoil they laid not their hand.

16 וּשְׂאֵר הַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר בְּמַדִּינֹת
 הַמֶּלֶךְ נִקְהְלוּ וַעֲמַד עַל-נַפְשָׁם וְנוּחַ
 מֵאִיְבֵיהֶם וְהָרַג בְּשֵׁנֵאֵיהֶם חֲמִשָּׁה
 וּשְׁבַעַיִם אֶלֶף וּבְבִזָּה לֹא שָׁלְחוּ
 אֶת-יָדָם: 17 בְּיוֹם-שְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר
 לַחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר וְנוּחַ בְּאַרְבַּעָה עָשָׂר בּוֹ
 וַעֲשָׂה אֹתוֹ יוֹם מְשֻׁתָּה וּשְׂמִיחָה:
 18 וְהַיְהוּדִים וְהַיְהוּדִים אֲשֶׁר-בְּשׁוּשָׁן
 נִקְהְלוּ בְּשֹׁלֶשָׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וּבְאַרְבַּעָה
 עָשָׂר בּוֹ וְנוּחַ בַּחֲמִשָּׁה עָשָׂר בּוֹ וַעֲשָׂה
 אֹתוֹ יוֹם מְשֻׁתָּה וּשְׂמִיחָה: 19 עַל-כֵּן
 הַיְהוּדִים הַפְּרוּזִים הַפְּרוּזִים הַיֹּשְׁבִים
 בְּעָרֵי הַפְּרוּזוֹת עֹשִׂים אֶת יוֹם אַרְבַּעָה
 עָשָׂר לַחֹדֶשׁ אָדָר שְׂמִיחָה וּמְשֻׁתָּה
 וְיוֹם טוֹב וּמְשָׁלוּחַ מְנוֹת אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ:
 {פ}

16 And the other Jews that were in the
 king's provinces gathered themselves
 together, and stood for their lives, and
 had rest from their enemies, and slew of
 them that hated them seventy and five
 thousand—but on the spoil they laid not
 their hand— 17 on the thirteenth day of
 the month Adar, and on the fourteenth
 day of the same they rested, and made it
 a day of feasting and gladness. 18 But the
 Jews that were in Shushan assembled
 together on the thirteenth day thereof,
 and on the fourteenth thereof; and on
 the fifteenth day of the same they rested,
 and made it a day of feasting and
 gladness. 19 Therefore do the Jews of the
 villages, that dwell in the unwalled
 towns, make the fourteenth day of the
 month Adar a day of gladness and
 feasting, and a good day, and of sending
 portions one to another.

20 ויכתב מרדכי את-הדברים האלה
וישלח ספרים אל-כל-היהודים
אשר בכל-מדינות המלך אחשוורוש
הקרובים והרחוקים: 21 לקיים עליהם
להיות עשים את יום ארבעה עשר
לחדש אדר ואת יום-חמשה עשר
בו בכל-שנה ושנה: 22 כימים
אשר-נחו בהם היהודים מאויביהם
והחדש אשר נהפך להם מיגון
לשמחה ומאבל ליום טוב לעשות
אותם ימי משתה ושמחה ומשלוח
מנות איש לרעהו ומתנות
לאביונים: 23 וקבל היהודים את
אשר-החלו לעשות ואת אשר-כתב
מרדכי אליהם: 24 כי המן
בן-המדתא האגגי צרר כל-היהודים
חשב על-היהודים לאבדם והפיל
פור הוא הגזל להם ולאבדם:
25 ובבאה לפני המלך אמר
עם-הספר ישוב מחשבתו הרעה
אשר-חשב על-היהודים על-ראשו
ותלו אתו ואת-בניו על-העץ:

20 And Mordechai wrote these things,
and sent letters unto all the Jews that
were in all the provinces of the king
Ahashverosh, both nigh and far, 21 to
enjoin them that they should keep the
fourteenth day of the month Adar, and
the fifteenth day of the same, yearly,
22 the days wherein the Jews had rest
from their enemies, and the month
which was turned unto them from
sorrow to gladness, and from mourning
into a good day; that they should make
them days of feasting and gladness, and
of sending portions one to another, and
gifts to the poor. 23 And the Jews took
upon them to do as they had begun, and
as Mordechai had written unto them;
24 because Haman the son of
Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of
all the Jews, had devised against the
Jews to destroy them, and had cast *pur*,
that is, the lot, to discomfit them, and to
destroy them; 25 but when she^[2]That is,
Esther. came before the king, he
commanded by letters that his wicked
device, which he had devised against the
Jews, should return upon his own head;
and that he and his sons should be
hanged on the gallows.

26 על-כֵּן קָרְאוּ לַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה פּוּרִים
על-שֵׁם הַפֹּר עַל-כֵּן עַל-כָּל-דְּבָרֵי
הָאֲגִדָּת הַזֹּאת וּמַה-רָאוּ עַל-כָּכָה
וּמַה הִגִּיעַ אֲלֵיהֶם: 27 קִיְמוּ וּקְבֹלוּ
וּקְבֹלוּ הַיְהוּדִים וְעֲלֵיהֶם וְעַל-זֶרְעָם
וְעַל כָּל-הַנְּלוּיִם עֲלֵיהֶם וְלֹא יַעֲבֹר
לְהַיּוֹת עֲשִׂים אֶת שְׁנֵי הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה
כְּכַתְּבָם וְכִזְמָנָם בְּכָל-שָׁנָה וְשָׁנָה:
28 וְהַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה נִזְכָּרִים וְנַעֲשִׂים
בְּכָל-דָּוָר וְדָוָר מִשְׁפָּחָה וּמִשְׁפָּחָה
מְדִינָה וּמְדִינָה וְעִיר וְעִיר וַיָּמִי
הַפּוּרִים הָאֵלֶּה לֹא יַעֲבֹרוּ מִתּוֹךְ
הַיְהוּדִים וְזָכָרָם לֹא-יִסּוּף מִזֶּרְעָם: {ס}

26 Wherefore they called these days Purim, after the name of *pur*. Therefore because of all the words of this letter, and of that which they had seen concerning this matter, and that which had come unto them, 27 the Jews ordained, and took upon them, and upon their seed, and upon all such as joined themselves unto them, so as it should not fail, that they would keep these two days according to the writing thereof, and according to the appointed time thereof, every year; 28 and that these days should be remembered and kept throughout every generation, every family, every province, and every city; and that these days of Purim should not fail from among the Jews, nor the memorial of them perish from their seed.

29 וְתִכְתֹּב אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה
בֵּת-אֲבִיחַיִל וּמֹרְדֵכַי
אֶת-כָּל-תִּקְוַת לְקַיֵּם אֶת אֲגֻרַת
הַפּוּרִים הַזֹּאת הַשְּׁנִית: 30 וַיִּשְׁלַח
סְפָרִים אֶל-כָּל-הַיְהוּדִים אֶל-שֶׁבַע
וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה מַלְכוּת
אֲחַשְׁוֵרוּשׁ דְּבַרֵי שָׁלוֹם וְאִמְת:
31 לְקַיֵּם אֶת-יְמֵי הַפָּרִים הָאֵלֶּה
בְּזִמְנֵיהֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר קָיִם עֲלֵיהֶם מֹרְדֵכַי
הַיְהוּדִי וְאֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וּכְאֲשֶׁר קִיְּמוּ
עַל-נַפְשָׁם וְעַל-זִרְעָם דְּבַרֵי הַצְּמוּת
וְוַעֲקָתָם:

32 וּמֵאֵמַר אֶסְתֵּר קָיִם דְּבַרֵי הַפָּרִים
הָאֵלֶּה וְנִכְתָּב בַּסֵּפֶר: {פ}

29 Then Esther the queen, the daughter of Abihail, and Mordekhai the Jew, wrote down all the acts of power, to confirm this second letter of Purim. 30 And he sent letters unto all the Jews, to the hundred twenty and seven provinces of the kingdom of Ahashverosh, with words of peace and truth, 31 to confirm these days of Purim in their appointed times, according as Mordekhai the Jew and Esther the queen had enjoined them, and as they had ordained for themselves and for their seed, the matters of the fastings and their cry.

32 And the commandment of Esther confirmed these matters of Purim; and it was written in the book. uma'amar Esther kiyyam divre hapurim ha'elleh venikhtav bassefer

אֶסְתֵּר י

Chapter 10

1 וַיִּשֶׂם הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ אֶחָשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וּ
 מִסַּעְדֵי הָאָרֶץ וְאֵי הַיָּם:
 2 וְכָל-מַעֲשָׂה תְקִפוֹ וּגְבוּרָתוֹ וּפְרָשֵׁת
 גְּדֻלַּת מֶרְדֳּכָי אֲשֶׁר גָּדְלוּ הַמֶּלֶךְ
 הַלְוֵאִים-הֵם כְּתוּבִים עַל-סֵפֶר דְּבָרֵי
 הַיָּמִים לְמַלְכֵי מִדְיָ וּפָרְסָ: 3 כִּי וּ
 מֶרְדֳּכָי הַיְהוּדִי מִשְׁנֵה לְמֶלֶךְ
 אַחַשְׁוֵרוֹשׁ וְגָדוֹל לַיהוּדִים וְרָצוּי לְרַב
 אֲחִיו דָּרַשׁ טוֹב לְעַמּוֹ וְדָבַר שָׁלוֹם
 לְכָל-יִרְעָו:

1 And the king Ahashverosh laid a
 tribute upon the land, and upon the isles
 of the sea. 2 And all the acts of his
 power and of his might, and the full
 account of the greatness of Mordekhai,
 how the king advanced him, are they not
 written in the book of the chronicles of
 the kings of Media and Persia? 3 For
 Mordekhai the Jew was next unto king
 Ahashverosh, and great among the Jews,
 and accepted of the multitude of his
 brethren; seeking the good of his people
 and speaking peace to all his seed. ki
 Mordekhai hayyehudi mishneh
 lammelekh Ahashverosh vegadol
 layyehudim veratsuy lerov ehav doresh
 tov le'ammo vedover shalom lekhol-zar
 'o

**Blessings and Prayers upon completing Megillat
 Esther**

אחר קריאת המגילה מברך הקורא:

After reading the Book of Esther say:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
(הָאֵל) הָרַב אֶת רִיבֵנו וְהִדִּן אֶת
דִּינֵנו וְהִנּוּקֵם אֶת נַקְמַתְנוּ וְהַמְשַׁלֵּם
גְּמוּל לְכָל אוֹיְבֵי נַפְשֵׁנוּ וְהַנְּפָרֵעַ לָנוּ
מִצָּרֵינוּ. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ הַנְּפָרֵעַ לְעַמּוֹ
יִשְׂרָאֵל מִכָּל צָרֵיהֶם הָאֵל הַמוֹשִׁיעַ:

בגמר קריאת המגילה והברכה שאחריה בערבית, אומרים 'אשר הניא'
ומזמרים 'שושנת יעקב'. בשחרית אין אומרים 'אשר הניא', מפני
שקרובות נאמרו בחזרת השי"ץ, שך מזמרים 'שושנת יעקב'.

Blessed are you, YHVH (Hashem) our *elo'ah*, cosmic majesty, (the *El*) who pleads our cause, judges our suit and avenges our wrong, who renders retribution to all that hate our soul, and on our behalf deals out punishment to our adversaries. Blessed are you, YHVH (Hashem), who on behalf of your people Yisra'el deals out punishment to all their adversaries: the *El* [that is] the Savior.

In the morning, skip the following paragraph:

אֲשֶׁר הֵנִיא עֲצַת גּוֹיִם וַיִּפֶּר מַחְשְׁבוֹת
עֲרוּמִים:
בְּקוּם עָלֵינוּ אָדָם רָשָׁע נָצַר זְדוֹן
מְזַרֵעַ עַמְּלֵק:
גָּאָה בְּעֲשָׂרוֹ וַכָּרָה לוֹ בּוֹר וַגְּדֹלְתוֹ
יִקְשֶׁה לוֹ לְכָד:
דָּמָה בְּנַפְשׁוֹ לְלַכּוֹד וַנִּלְכַּד בְּקֶשׁ
לְהַשְׁמִיד וַנִּשְׁמַד מִהָרָה:
הִמֵּן הוֹדִיעַ אֵיבַת אַבוֹתָיו וְעוֹרֵר
שְׂנֵאת אַחִים לְבָנִים:
וְלֹא זָכַר רַחֲמֵי שְׂאוּל כִּי בַחֲמֹלְתוֹ עַל
אַגַּג נוֹלַד אוֹיֵב:
זָמַם רָשָׁע לְהַכְרִית צְדִיק וַנִּלְכַּד טָמֵא
בִּיַדִּי טְהוֹר:
חֶסֶד גָּבַר עַל שְׂגָגַת אָב וְרָשָׁע הוֹסִיף

—Who brought the counsel of the heathen to nought, and made the devices of the crafty of none effect, when a wicked man, an arrogant offshoot of the seed of Amalek, rose up against us. Insolent in his riches, he dug himself a pit, and his own greatness laid him a snare. In his mind he thought to entrap, but was himself entrapped, he sought to destroy, but was speedily destroyed. Haman displayed the hatred of his fathers, and stirred up against the children the ancient enmity of the brothers (Esav and Yaakov), remembering not the mercy of Shaul,

טמן בלבו מחשבות ערומו, ויתמכר
 לעשות רעה:
 ידו שלח בקדושי אל כספו נתן
 להכרית זכרם:
 בראות מרדכי כי יצא קצף ודתי
 המן נתנו בשושן:
 לבש שק וקשר מספד וגזר צום
 וישב על האפר:
 מי זה יעמוד לכפר שגגה ולמחול
 חטאת עון אבותינו:
 נץ פרח מלולב הן הדסה עמדה
 לעורר ישנים:
 סריסה הבהילו להמן להשקותו יין
 חמת תנינים:
 עמד בעשרו ונפל ברשעו עשה לו
 עץ ונתלה עליו:
 פיהם פתחו כל יושבי תבל כי פור
 המן נהפך לפורנו:
 צדיק נחלץ מיד רשע אויב נתן
 תחת נפשו:
 קימו עליהם לעשות פורים ולשמוח
 בכל שנה ושנה:
 ראית את תפלת מרדכי ואסתר.
 המן ובניו על העץ תלית:
 שושנת יעקב צהלה ושמחה
 בראותם יחד תבלת מרדכי:
 תשועתם היית לנצח ותקוותם בכל
 דור ודור: להודיע שכל קניף לא
 יבשו ולא יכלמו לנצח כל החוסים
 בך:

through whose compassion for Agag the
 enemy was born. The wicked plotted to
 cut off the just, and the unclean was
 caught in the hands of the pure.
 (Mordechai's) lovingkindness (to
 Esther) prevailed over the father's
 (Shaul's) error, but the wicked (Haman)
 heaped sin upon the sins of his ancestor.
 In his heart he hid his cunning devices,
 and sold himself to do wickedness. He
 stretched forth his hand against
 [Hashem's] holy ones; he gave his silver
 to cut off the remembrance of them.
 When Mordechai saw that wrath had
 gone forth, and that the decrees of
 Haman were issued in Shushan, lie put
 on sackcloth and wrapped himself in
 mourning, ordained a fast and sat upon
 ashes. Who will rise up to atone for
 error, and obtain pardon for the sin and
 iniquity of our fathers? A flower
 blossomed from the palm tree: lo!
 Hadassah arose to awaken the merit of
 those that slept in the grave. Her
 servants hastened to make Haman drink
 the wine of the poison of snakes. He
 rose by his riches, but fell in his
 wickedness; he made him a gallows, and
 was himself hung thereon. All the
 inhabitants of the world opened their
 mouths, for the lot of Haman was turned
 to be our lot. When the righteous was

delivered out of the hand of the wicked, and the enemy was put in his stead, the Jews ordained for themselves to celebrate Purim, and to rejoice thereon every year. You did regard the prayer of Mordekhai and Esther: Haman and his sons you did hang upon the gallows. The lily of Yaakov rejoiced and was glad when Mordekhai was seen in the purple. You have ever been Yisra'el's salvation, and their hope in every generation, to make known that all who hope in you shall not be ashamed, neither shall any be confounded who put their trust in you.

אָרוּר הַמֶּן אֲשֶׁר בִּקֵּשׁ לְאַבְדִּי . בְּרוּךְ
מֶרְדֵּכַי הַיְהוּדִי . אֲרוּרָה זֶרֶשׁ אִשְׁת
מִפְחִידִי . בְּרוּכָה אֶסְתֵּר מְגַנָּה בְּעַדִּי .
(יֵשׁ לְהוֹסִיף אֲרוּרִים כָּל הָעַרְלִים .
בְּרוּכִים כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל) וְגַם חַרְבוּנָה
זְכוּר לְטוֹב:

Accursed be Haman who sought to destroy me; blessed be Mordekhai the Jew; accursed be Zeresh, the wife of him that terrified me; blessed be Esther my protectress, and may Harbonah also be remembered for good.