

Esther For Such a Time as This...

Lessons of Purim

Esther 9,10

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Esther For Such a Time as This...

Purim – casting lots

- “the whole megillah” – reading all of Esther
- The four main activities of the day are:
 - Listening to the public reading, usually in the synagogue, of the Book of Esther in the evening and again in the following morning
 - Sending food gifts to friends
 - Giving charity to the poor
 - Eating a festive meal

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Lucky “13”

- King of France
- Last Supper attendees
- Apollo 13

- The technical term for a fear of the number 13 is triskaidekaphobia.

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Esther For Such a Time as This...

1 Now in the twelfth month (that is, the month Adar), on the thirteenth day when the king's command and edict were about to be executed, on the day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to gain the mastery over them, it was turned to the contrary so that the Jews themselves gained the mastery over those who hated them.

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2 The Jews assembled in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus to lay hands on those who sought their harm; and no one could stand before them, for the dread of them had fallen on all the peoples.

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3 Even all the princes of the provinces, the satraps, the governors and those who were doing the king's business assisted the Jews, because the dread of Mordecai had fallen on them.

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Esther For Such a Time as This...

1. Defeat of God's Enemies

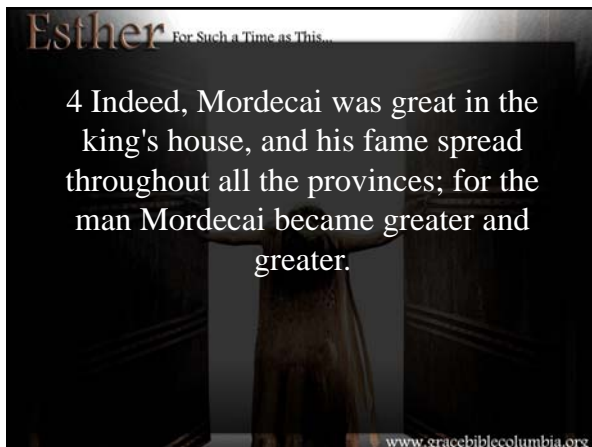
- Days of Egypt
- Days of Assyrians
- Days of Babylonians
- Days of Persians
- Days of Greeks
- Days of Romans



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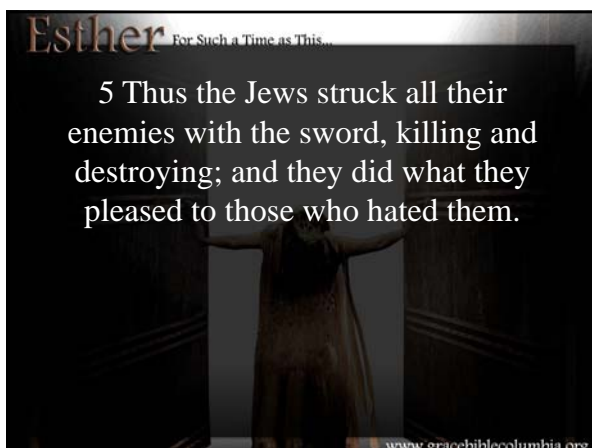
4 Indeed, Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame spread throughout all the provinces; for the man Mordecai became greater and greater.



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5 Thus the Jews struck all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying; and they did what they pleased to those who hated them.



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6 At the citadel in Susa the Jews killed and destroyed five hundred men...
(names)

10 the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy; but they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

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11-13 Esther's request

14 So the king commanded that it should be done so; and an edict was issued in Susa, and Haman's ten sons were hanged.

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17 This was done on the thirteenth day of the month Adar, and on the fourteenth day they rested and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

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2. Deliverance of God's People

- Delivered from Pharaoh
- Delivered from Wilderness
- Delivered from Philistines, Canaanites
- Joshua at Jericho
- Gideon and the Midianites
- Daniel & 3 Hebrews before the Babylonians
- Peter & John in prison
- Paul & Silas in prison

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18 But the Jews who were in Susa assembled on the thirteenth and the fourteenth of the same month, and they rested on the fifteenth day and made it a day of feasting and rejoicing.

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19 Therefore the Jews of the rural areas, who live in the rural towns, make the fourteenth day of the month Adar a holiday for rejoicing and feasting and sending portions of food to one another.

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26 Therefore they called these days Purim after the name of Pur. And because of the instructions in this letter, both what they had seen in this regard and what had happened to them,

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27 the Jews established and made a custom for themselves and for their descendants and for all those who allied themselves with them, so that they would not fail to celebrate these two days according to their regulation and according to their appointed time annually.

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28 So these days were to be remembered and celebrated throughout every generation, every family, every province and every city; and these days of Purim were not to fail from among the Jews, or their memory fade from their descendants.

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Esther For Such a Time as This...

Purpose of holidays: “fade”

- Recall the historical event
- Make clear the lessons of that day
- Make an application for today
- Challenge this rehearsal for future generations!

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3. Delight of God’s Heart

- God delights in deliverance
- God is always vigilant
- God cares for the individual
- God will not let His promises go

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Defeat, Deliver & Delight!

- Sin is defeated!
 - 1 John 1:9
- Saints are delivered!
 - 1 John 5:13
- You are His delight!
 - 1 John 3:1 “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God”

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10:3 For Mordecai the Jew was second *only* to King Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews and in favor with his many kinsmen, one who sought the good of his people and one who spoke for the welfare of his whole nation.

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Esther For Such a Time as This...

"Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk."

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Esther For Such a Time as This...

What are you willing to risk to enjoy great love and see great achievements?

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