

ESTHER AND THE BRIDE OF CHRIST THAT GOD IS SEEKING

CHARCTERS/TYPES

King Ashasuerus – *a symbol of Jesus Christ as King of Kings*

Queen Vashti – *a symbol of a Bride Rejecting Her King*

Esther – *a symbol of the End-time Bride of Christ*

Mordecai – *a symbol of the Holy Spirit (Mordecai was a descendant of King Saul)*

Haman – *a symbol of Satan (Haman was a descendant of King Agag, an Amalekite)*

King Saul was to kill all the Amalekites (descendants of Esau) but Saul disobeyed Samuel the Prophet and the hatred that the descendants of Esau (modern day Iran) have for Israel still lives on today

The 7 Eunuchs – *a symbol of the Gatherers of the Remnant*

The 7 Princes – *a symbol of those who Understand God's Laws*

THERE ARE FOUR BANQUETS – TWO GIVEN BY THE KING AND TWO GIVEN BY QUEEN ESTHER

1. The first was lengthy – 180 days and only for the top officials from 127 provinces – these leaders were planning and strategizing for the invasion with Greece. You could say that at the end of each day, they would dine and feast together at night (Symbolic of past history)
2. The second was a feast of “**7 days**” for all people in Susa to celebrate/feast (Symbolic of the Gospel Dispensation) open to all in a setting of unique beauty; *the riches of God* (spiritual gifts) adorning us
3. The third and fourth banquets are given by Queen Esther *to reveal Haman's deceit*

ALL 7 HOLY DAYS ARE BUILT INTO PURIM

- On Passover (Pesach) they went out of slavery to freedom
 - Purim the LORD's people went out of Hama's decree for their death - to life
- On Unleavened Bread – we “get the sin” out of our houses
 - On Purim they repented for three days for forgiveness
- On Firstfruits – Yeshua rose from the dead and Satan was vanquished
 - On Purim, the Jews were saved and Haman was destroyed
- On Pentecost (Savuot) – Israel received the Torah
 - On Purim they once again accepted the Torah (the covenant law), the King's decree.
- On Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah) the Book of Life is open
 - On Purim they were judged - the death decree would stand or they would live.
- On Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) they are forgiven for all their sins
 - On Purim they were forgiven and retained life for joining with the king against the Torah
- On Feast of Tabernacles (Succoth) The Bride anxiously awaits the marriage supper of the Lamb
 - On Purim, it is all about dinner with the King

PAIRED VS. IRONIC REVERSALS

Nearly every event in Esther happens twice, the second time being a variation of the first. In the first chapter, there is a long banquet and a short banquet. In the second chapter, there is a “virgin pageant” that leads to the queening of Esther, following by a second “virgin pageant”. Esther holds two banquets that lead to the downfall of Haman, which is paired with the two banquets that led to the fall of Vashti. There is a decree that zips through the empire calling for the destruction of the Jews, and then later there is a decree sent calling for the destruction of their enemies. Esther comes twice unannounced to King Ahasuerus. Haman goes home with his head covered after giving honor to Mordecai, and his head is covered before he is hung.

Related to the paired events are a series of ironic reversals in Esther. Ahasuerus commands Vashti to come before him, she refuses and loses her position. Esther comes before him un-commanded and at the peril of her life, but gains position. In chapter 1, a decree is sent to the empire that wives are to obey their husbands, but the end of Esther shows her to be obeyed (Esther 9:32). Mordecai, a Jew refuses to bow to Haman, and later Haman bows before Esther, a Jew. Haman is lifted up by Ahasuerus and then humbled. The Jews fast and then the Jews feast. There is a casting of lots to choose a day, and providential events that foil the day. As with the paired events, the ironic reversals come into play with the name of the Lord in Esther.

Some do not believe the Book of Esther is a real record because you can't find the name of God in the book. But as you will see from below, the God of the universe chose, on purpose, to have the only book of the bible to not place his name because he wanted you to see, his name is in every word, in his bride. He withdrew and hid his name because he is calling his bride to be the one to show up for the nations. He wants them to see His glory through Esther. Even the name of Esther means hidden – or concealed. Esther's real name was Hadassah, which means "Myrtle" and the root words in Esther mean "Star" and "Hidden". There is even a mystery in this. In fact there are many mysteries in this story which will be revealed. The Names of Esther and Hadassah: Hadassah was an orphan girl who was lifted up from obscurity to the throne of Persia; she was a myrtle set on a high place. She was a "tree of love". Myrtle trees grow under the heavens. Stars shine in the heavens. The reason stars shine is that they burn, they expend themselves as does a candle. They give up their essence and by doing so, they shine. So their shining is an act of self-sacrifice. They must sacrifice themselves to shine to become stars. There are three possible derivations of the name Esther:

- From Satar, the Hebrew word means "Hidden". The Hebrew word is very close to Esther. Thus, Esther hides her Jewish identity with a name that means "hidden".
- From Stara, the Persian word means "star". This name makes good sense from a historical perspective
- From Astra, the Median word means "myrtle". Since Hadassah, in Hebrew means "Myrtle", Esther could have chosen the name Astra that means the same as her given name.

This paper will address Esther as a picture of the end-time Bride, the story of Esther, the types and shadows in the Book of Esther and the Bride of Christ in the End-times. The Book of Esther is an amazing book which has multiple levels of understanding. Whenever you read scripture there are interpretations that are important to understand. Because we can get in trouble when we don't understand the interpretations of an allegory or stories in the bible that you can take literally – they have a literal level (in Hebrew that is called a Pershat). There are four levels of interpretation in Hebrew. First is called Pershat – which is the literal level. Then there is what is called the Ramez which is like a hint to something different and then there is the Darash level or Midrash where you are digging deeper into the scriptures allegorically – you are looking at parables that are connecting to something deeper and though they are fulfilled in the literal sense, there is another layer. The last level is Sod and it means the supernatural or the mystical or something that is so beyond the human psyche to understand – it's like the nature of God, understanding the nature of God, but we will never quite get there because it is beyond the comprehension of our natural man. In this story of Esther we are going to find ourselves in the Remez and Darash levels as we look at the literal story and compare it to the gospel story of Jesus and our lives and then we are going to barely touch on the mystical level of how Esther is related to the Bride of the Messiah and she absolutely is.

The Book of Esther is a magnificent allegory that describes the end-time Bride of Christ. Esther is more than an amazing story of a young Jewish girl who, along with Mordecai her cousin, saved her people. This book reveals the mighty call that the Lord has granted to His end-time bride, the rewards of pursuing a glorious relationship with Him, and the preparation required to be a bride in the end-times.

The Story of Esther

In 483 BC, after Persia overthrew Babylon and before many of the deported Jews had returned to the land of Judah, King Ahasuerus, King of Persia, gave a banquet lasting 180 days – a full six months – for the **leaders of the 127** provinces of the Kingdom. The king used this lengthy feast with his leaders to plan an upcoming invasion of Greece. At the end of the 180 day banquet, Ahasuerus gave another banquet for all of the people who lived in the capital of Susa. On the **seventh and last day** of the banquet, Ahasuerus called his bride, Queen Vashti to come before the princes and all the people to display her beauty. Queen Vashti refused and the king was enraged. Because of her rebellion, under the advice of his counselors, he issued an unbreakable edict that prohibited Vashti from ever coming into his presence again, stipulating that her royal position be given to another “more worthy than she” (Est. 1:19). Many have misinterpreted this part of the story. This is a very important part to understand about the dress and ornaments that the King gives to his Queen. Verse 10, Chapter 1 says, “the heart of the King was merry with wine, and he commanded all of his Eunuchs to bring Queen Vashti before the King, wearing her royal crown in order to show her beauty to the people and officials that she was beautiful to behold. We look at it as King Ahasuerus wants to show off her beauty because that is what it says in the Pashat – the literal level of the bible. This is where understanding symbolism is important. The King represents Yeshua, and the Queen Vashti represents the Bride. There are two brides in the story – the one who rejects the king and the other who understands and submits to the king. We see that the first bride of the Messiah, or the King, was called to the King to come before him to display her beauty. The language here is so reminiscent, almost identical to the exact same language that God himself uses when He talks about his bride in Ezekiel, Chapter 16, verse 13/14. It reads “Thus you were adorned with gold and silver and your clothing was fine linen with silk and embroidered cloth. You ate pastry of fine flour of honey and oil. (This is talking about God’s bride), you were exceedingly beautiful and succeeded to royalty. Exactly the same language and even the same Hebrew word for beautiful is used here. He comes and says this “Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty. For it was perfect through my splendor which I bestowed upon you says the Lord God.”

We have this concept, multiple times throughout the Old Testament where God wants to display His bride. He is not mocking His bride, His plan is to display His splendor. Why did the King want to bring his bride and display her beauty before everyone? That seems vanity, and it seems vain and doesn’t seem right. That’s the way it mostly gets interpreted. But when you do your homework and study the King concepts and how they thought, (the greatest King being Jesus), the word searches in the Hebrew is exactly the way God describes his Queen, this is how He describes it. (Song of Solomon is such an important book regarding this intimate relationship). King Ahasuerus wants to show off her beauty because that is what it says on the Pashat level – the literal level. But if you go deeper into what God is saying, which is also in Ezekiel – My splendor. “You were made perfect through my splendor. Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty because of my splendor”. Do you know what the Hebrew word there is? It is *madar* – it means beauty or comeliness, gloriousness, honor, ornaments, majesty, royalty. So what’s happening here is this scripture in Ezekiel – God wants to display His bride before the nations – not for the beauty of the bride but where she got the dress. Where did she get the ornaments, where did she get the beauty, where did she get *madar*. **This is the important thing to understand - The royalty comes from the king – the riches and adornments all come from the king.** It is a symbol of **Yeshua as King of Kings and adorning us with his light and glory.** Ahasuerus was displaying the royalty of his kingdom, his ornaments, his power, his glory. He was a good King and he was saying “my glory is found in one thing – my bride”.

Now let’s discuss the dress of Queen Vashti. In biblical times the dress was called ornaments. They would put earrings and gold nose rings in. Sometimes in the Far East the necks would be ringed with gold. There was so much gold in Ahasuerus’ kingdom that it is indescribable the amount of splendor that was in his palace. If you read the scriptures carefully, the description is very close to the description of the Kingdom of God. Even the streets have sapphires and rubies built into it. Everything is gold, everything is silver, everything is rubies and emeralds – all down the line. Ahasuerus’ kingdom is the perfect description of the Kingdom of God. All God wants to do is bring ornaments onto his bride. Now let me talk about what ornaments are on a deeper level. **It is the dress of royalty and how the king has decided to ornament and ornate his queen.**

So if we are the bride of Messiah today, how does God ornament His bride? What are the ornaments that he puts on the bridal gown that make it sparkle, that make it gleam and make it brilliant, so that people can see the gifts of

the king? What are the gifts of the king? The gifts of the Holy Spirit are the giftings that are supposed to go onto the bridal dress. This is the gifting – the bible says – is supposed to make a massive difference in the body of Messiah and it is supposed to edify, lift up so that when you see the gifts of the Holy Spirit, they will glorify THE KING. So what is the one thing mainly missing in Christianity today - especially when they begin to read the front of the book (Esther) they forget that the bridal dress is supposed to be adorned first with brilliance of white linen – that’s purity being mikvah’d (baptized) in the truth of God’s word, and the spiritual gifts to show to the nations. The spiritual gifts are supposed to be attached to the dress. In the Greek interpretation, gifts from the spirit literally means “spirituals”. In Greek it literally says he gave the “spirituals” to his people, but was translated gifts of the spirit. And I believe there is a reason why it doesn’t say gift because its saying that “I’m giving myself, my characteristics, who I am, I’m choosing not to display them myself when I show up I could blow everybody away with my splendor and my beauty but I’m choosing not to do that. I’m going to remain on my throne I’m going to defer the glory to the bride and that’s who I’ve decided to defer the spirituals into.

In Verse 12 it says “but Queen Vashti refused to come to the king’s command brought to him by his eunuchs. Therefore the king was furious and his anger burned within him.” How many times did Israel decide she wasn’t going to come before the King? The Queen did not want the King to display her splendor, but she did not know the king’s real intent, or his heart, or purpose. Queen Vashti refused to come before the King and willfully broke the law of the king, against the torah of the king. She decided to do things her way. The king is brilliant and does what a good king should do. He consults the wise men – this is a connection to the wise men in the New Testament. Christians have thought the wise men were three because of the three gifts, but scriptures never say there were three. I believe there had to be seven because I believe the Book of Esther is also a prophetic book. In any event, the king consulted the **wise men** (the counselors) **who understood the times and the law**. Those close to him were the seven princes of Persia who had access to the king’s presence and who ranked highest in the kingdom. This is right out of Matthew. What does Matthew say? “I’ve not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it and anybody that teaches the law of God is done away with will be least in the Kingdom”. So by default it is saying that if you believe in God’s word and you keep God’s word you will be highest in the kingdom – the highest rank. And we see it in the Old Testament when it says that those who were closest to God were the princes and the princes were the ones who understood the times and who knew the law of the king and the justice. **They were the ones who had access to the king’s presence**. The ones who had access to the king’s presence were the ones who understood what the king said and could interpret what the king said.

The king consulted with the seven princes as to what to do Queen Vashti according to the law because she did not obey the law. She not only wronged the king, but she wronged the princes and all the people who were in the province of King Ahasuerus. This is another type and shadow - God chose Israel to be the captain of the guard for all of the world. Whether Israel liked it or not, Israel was chosen at Mt. Sinai to take His delight and law to the nations, and she chose not to go into the presence of the King and by doing so defrauded the entire world. Israel broke the law of God and therefore did not get the ornaments (spiritual power and glory). The law does not go forth to the other nations and are now unable to get close to God. As we have seen, the definition of being close to the king is to understand and keep the commandments of God through his ornamenting us with His Spirit.

Because Vashti defrauded the people, her behavior is going to be known throughout all the world. In V19 – “if it pleases the king, let the royal decree go out and let it be recorded in the laws of the Persians and the Medes, that it will not be altered that Vashti will never come before me again”. She had direct access to the king before this. It never says she was not loved. She is not allowed to ever go before the king again. The king sent letters to all the provinces to every people in their own language so that everyone knows the law of the king – 187 provinces. Then he called for all the beautiful virgins to be brought before him so that he could choose a worthy queen.

King Ahasuerus Search for a Bride

As the king’s law dictated, each of the candidates was required to go through 12 months of preparation: six months of myrrh baths and six months of spices and cosmetics. When the preparation was complete, each young girl would be evaluated by the king, and the one who pleased him the most would be chosen as his queen. But to completely understand how Esther was prepared we must look back to Mordecai. He had raised Hadassah. In

chapter 2 this is not only talking about Esther but the symbolism of Israel. The parents of Israel (the northern and southern kingdoms – the mother and father) die. They are almost non-existent – there is no one to raise Israel up. Israel is homeless, as was Esther before he takes her in and raises her righteously. He teaches her who she is really is.

Esther comes before the king's eunuchs and she has had to prepare for a year. This is very common for middle eastern and Jewish weddings that the betrothal process takes about a year. Esther had to first bathe (mikvah) and then beautify herself. There are so many scriptures that say that the bride has to come before Yeshua. We are supposed to be spotless, without blemish, without wrinkle. We are told we are to adorn ourselves, to prepare ourselves, our body, our temple, for the holy spirit to inhabit. Everything that is happening to you is going on your garments.

The very first time Esther is presented to the king – she is not the queen yet but only one of many candidates for queen. Before she is presented to the king, she has a caretaker who is teaching her about queenly life. Every one of the virgins have their own caretaker. Before being presented to the king, Esther has to decide what to wear. She doesn't know what to do as she doesn't know the king, but what she does know is that her assistant, the caretaker, knows the king. So while all the other virgins are picking out their dresses and their ornaments and doing their "own thing", Esther is the only one of the virgins that says "I don't know and I am not qualified", I'm going to let you (caretaker) choose what I should wear because you know the king. The caretaker is symbolic of the Holy Spirit guiding you – and you become submissive and surrender your will to God's will.

When Esther did come before the king, he decided she was the most beautiful woman and made her queen. Now this opens up another mystery – the Eastern Gate of the Temple in Jerusalem. The Eastern Gate is called the Beautiful Gate – the only entrance to the Holy of Holies. Keep that in mind as we discuss it below. When the virgins were gathered together a second time, Mordecai sat in the king's gate. Esther had not revealed her family or her people to the king as Mordecai had charged her not to do. Esther obeyed the commandment of Mordecai as she was brought up by him. While Mordecai was sitting by the gate, he heard others plotting to kill the king and told Esther. She in turn, reported the news to the King, and gave the credit to Mordecai.

Now enters Haman. He is the right hand man to the king and hated that Mordecai wouldn't bow to him. Haman thought so much of himself that he had the king make a decree that said everyone was also to bow to him. This is symbolic of the story of Lucifer. Before creation, Lucifer, the highest angel, the right hand man to the King himself, decided that he wanted people to bow to him. When Haman found out that Mordecai was a Jew, he decided to not only destroy Mordecai but the entire Jewish race as they were his enemy. Haman comes through Esau (Iranians) and they haven't stopped trying to destroy the Jews. The reason they want to destroy the Jewish people is because the Jewish people hold the Torah. They hold the decrees of THE KING. Haman and Esau's descendants are going after the law of God, to obliterate and destroy it. Haman says in v. 8 - "Haman said to King Ahasuerus, there is a certain people scattered and dispersed among the people throughout all the province of your kingdom. Their laws are different than other people's and they do not keep the king's laws, therefore it is not fitting for the king to let them remain. If it pleases the king, let a decree be written that they be destroyed."

Do you know what this is? This Is Satan accusing us, pointing to the king's laws. He is saying those people have their own laws and their keeping their laws but they are not keeping your laws and he is in a legal situation now with God. And he will win every time because Satan can point to chapter and verse and say we are not doing what the King says – and that we should be banished from His kingdom. And the King has to comply because that's what the law says. This is incredible because it is a parallel to Revelation chapter 12, v. 17 – The dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed which keep the commandments of God and have a testimony of Yeshua Messiah. The enemy at the end of times, you see the first time his accusation was to go after those not keeping the king's laws and commands and when that didn't work he ended up trying to kill the Messiah. He didn't realize that the Messiah's death would embolden the people of God, but at the end times Satan is now specifically going after those who are keeping the commandments. Before, the people were never keeping his commands and the threat was the law of God. After the Messiah, the threat is much larger to Satan because Yeshua made the willing sacrifice to redeem us.

Back to Esther - Up until this time, Queen Eshter had kept her Jewish heritage a secret from the King. Now Mordecai encouraged her to go into the King's presence and beg for mercy on behalf of the Jews. She sends back word to him that she can't go to the King unless he calls for her and she hasn't been summoned for 30 days. Everyone knows if you invade the king's chamber without being called, he can have you killed. Mordecai tells Esther that she will die also with her people, if she does not approach the King and explain to him what is going on. He said in Esther 4:14 " **Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**" [Esther 4:14] to which Esther replied "If I perish, I perish" [Esther 4:16]. She surrendered her will to God's will and asked Mordecai and her people to join in a fast for 3 days to petition God 's protection.

On the **third day** – Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace across from the king, facing the entrance to the house. This literally describes the temple of God where there is one entrance to the house, the eastern gate if you will, (the one called the Beautiful Gate) there's only one entrance into the temple, you walk through the holy place and there is another veil, and the other side of the veil is the holy of holies and inside the holy of holies is the ark of the covenant which is one giant throne and the king sits on the throne facing the entrance to the house. Esther is in the process of coming into the holy of holies. Esther put her trust in God and went walked the path of faith. It says "... and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the throne room, opposite the entrance to the place. When the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight; and the king extended to Esther the golden scepter which was in his hand. So Esther came near and touched the top of the scepter. Then the king said to her, "What is troubling you Queen Esther? And what is your request? Even to half of the kingdom it shall be given to you." This is when Queen Esther asked that he and Haman come to a banquet.

During this time Esther devises a brilliant plan in her acts of inviting Haman to the banquets with the King. This request may have made the King suspicious of a relationship that Haman may have with Esther. Why would Esther want Haman at a banquet? The King may not have been able to sleep at nights wondering if Esther had feelings for Haman. Esther had 2 banquets prepared, not just one. She was keeping the King in suspense and this may have helped when she told him at the 2nd banquet of the threat that Haman was to not only her people, but to the King. Esther's courage in explaining to the King that her people were sold as slaves to Persia to be slave labor, but now Haman wants to kill all the slaves and if that happened, there would be no slaves left to labor for the King. **She makes the argument that they were not sold as slaves to actually be killed but to work and provide profit for the King** and Esther tells him that Haman is a threat because Haman wants the Queen dead also. So even though Hama is executed for his plot, the King cannot withdraw the decree to kill the Jews but he makes another decree that the Jews can protect themselves by fighting back.

The king finds out that Haman has been tricking him and was going to kill his bride and Mordecai who both are Jewish. The king becomes infuriated and decides to hang Haman on the same gallows that Haman was going to hang Mordecai on. This fulfills multiple scriptures – it's all over the Psalms as well. Whatever the enemy has planned for you God has to turn him on his head. This is the conundrum that most of us don't get to see the enemy turned on its head. And maybe we don't see this is because we don't choose to die (to our self) and to sacrifice and to surrender to God and follow the King's decree and come before him in fear and trembling.

And what day does Esther enter the king's chamber? **The third day** - but let's back up - The decree to exterminate all the Jews was made on the eve of **Passover**. Esther and her people fast for three days before she goes into the king. For three days they are not eating unleavened bread – sin is getting out of their house – the bible says a fast is the time to take off the yoke of sin. And then on the third day – is when she goes into the king. When that morning comes it is resurrection day – **First fruits** when Esther is in the holy of holies with the king. When Yeshua arose from the dead he then awaits for a great and bountiful harvest in the fall (harvest of souls) – the queen is asking the king to hold back his judgment and to see the lie that the enemy had put before him so that all of the harvest of her people would be spared. And after Esther revealed Haman's plan, the next day Haman was hung from the gallows as Judas Isacariot was hung. There had to be 3 days – the connection between Esther the Bride and Haman/Isacariot and the King, our Messiah is not a coincidence. Look at all the "third days" below. It seems "on the third day" has connections to life/freedom and being released.

On the third day -- "The earth brought forth vegetation: seed-bearing plants of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit" (Genesis 1:12).

On the third day -- "Abraham looked up and saw the place [Mount Moriah] from afar." There he intends to offer his son Isaac as a burnt offering to God. Yet he assures his companions, "We will worship *and return*." (Genesis 22:4-5).

On the third day -- Pharaoh releases his chief cupbearer from death-row (Genesis 40:20-21).

On the third day -- Joseph releases his brothers from prison in Egypt (Genesis 42:17-18).

On the third day -- The Israelites request Pharaoh's permission to make a three-day journey to offer sacrifice in the desert to God (Exodus 3:18).

On the third day -- Plague Nine, the Plague of Darkness, in Egypt ends, "though the Israelites enjoyed light in their dwellings" (Exodus 10:22).

On the third day -- God descends to Mount Sinai in fire with the sound of a shofar. He then reveals The Ten Words, Israel's constitution of new life as a nation after their resurrection from the death of slavery in Egypt (Exodus 19:16-19).

On the third day -- Israelites are to purify themselves with water after being in contact with the dead (Numbers 19:12).

On the third day -- After coming to the river and preparing themselves, the Israelites cross the Jordan "to enter and possess the land that the LORD [their] God is giving to [them] as a possession" (Joshua 1:11; 3:2).

On the third day -- Joshua's spies emerge from hiding from the Jerichoites, then return to their commander (Joshua 2:16, 22).

On the third day -- After asking God for release, King Hezekiah is healed of his fatal disease and offers thanks in the temple (II Kings 20:5).

On the third day -- Jonah is expelled from the fish belly (Jonah 1:17/2:1) (Matthew 12:40; cf. Matthew 16:21; 17:23).

On the third day -- After fasting, Esther puts on royal apparel and enters the palace of the Persian king in order to thwart a death-plot against her people, the Jews (Esther 4:16; 5:1).

Now , let's look at the significance of Nissan 17. It was on Nissan 17 that Haman was destroyed. What else has taken place on Nissan 17?

- Noah's ark lands on Mt. Ararat
- Israelites pass through the Red Sea
- Manna stopped on the 16th and the Israelites started feasting on the grain of the promised land on the 17th
- Haman was killed and life came to Esther's people.
- Satan was hung (through Judas) and life came to all through Yeshua's resurrection

MORE CONNECTIONS:

- Joseph and Mordecai both were raised to positions of 2nd in command
- Gen. 35:28 Now the Days of Isaac were 180 years – 180 days of feasting by the king. The whole next section after the 180 days has everything to do with Israel
- King of Persia had 127 provinces – Sarah's life was 127 years.
- The connection between the story of Joseph and Mordecai and Esther are incredible.

In the Book of Esther, there are three small letters and there is not a Jewish scribe on the planet knows why these three tiny letters that appear throughout the text – Tav, Shin and Tzion. Maybe God is trying to tell us something – if you add those three letters numerically you get 5707. Do you know what happened in the Hebrew year 5707? Haman had 10 sons who were killed the day Haman was. On Oct. 16, 1946 (Hashana Rabba – where the verdict of God is sealed - it was in the Hebrew year 5707. The reason why this is important and those small letters are important is that Hitler's 10 men were hung on the same day that one by one, each of the 10 men were sentenced to be hanged at the gallows and said their last words. Then Julius Streicher walked up to the spot under the noose and shouted his last words "Purim Fest 1946" just as he was about to be hanged. He even knew what this was connected to. It should have been a theologian that caught this, but maybe Julius was under the same spirit

Caiaphas was under when he said – “this man is going to die, not just for this nation but for other nations”. Another echo of Purim is found in the Soviet Union a few years later. In early 1953, Stalin was planning to deport most of the Jews in the Soviet Union to Siberia, but just before his plans came to fruition, he suffered a stroke and died a few days later. He suffered that stroke on the night of March 1, 1953: the night after Purim (note: Jewish days end at sunset; you will see March 1 on the calendar as Purim). The plan to deport Jews was not carried out.

The Book of Esther is the only book God is not mentioned. Just like Esther went through an entire year of preparation to meet her king, we should go through the necessary preparation to remove all filth from us. The Book of Esther is all about:

- King choosing his bride
- A bride approaching her king
- Knowing when to submit to authority and knowing when to defy authority. Knowing the law of God and knowing when it’s okay to break it.
- Knowing who you are – where do you fit in the story? Which one of the characters do you most connect with?
- Using your lot in life to help free your people
- God setting up every detail of your life

Esther laid down her life and her will. Just as Jesus literally did for us. She broke the Torah of the king (not to come to him unless summoned) to save her people. And in the process she impressed the king so much that he extended the scepter to give her life, not knowing prophetically that he would be giving life to all of her people. One person saved millions because she was willing to give her life. And at the time Esther had no idea if she would live or die – she acted on faith.

From the time that the King made the decree to kill the Jews was 11 months before the decree would be executed. (This has connections to the 11th hour) - To walk successfully during daytime you need the light of this world, and JESUS is the true Light that lighteth every man that cometh into this world. To be successful during the night-time walk, which is, during times of trouble and trials, you need what the Lord called the “light in you”. The eleventh hour is about the remnant in the last days – the parable of the workers in the vineyard. The spirit said to me “The worst thing about being in control, is being in control”. The greatest thing about not being in control is that HE (God) is in control”. The thing about control is that you want control and then you want control over other people. Let God be the Head of your life.

Life would be different if we knew the future. That’s why we don’t. Because that is what requires faith. Faith is just God’s way of figuring out whose on His team, who is really the bride. There is no other way to find out.

FIRST AND LAST TESHUVAH

- In the beginning (Passover), God did all the work and the people did nothing but follow (all the people had to do was follow Yeshua)
- At the very end – before the beginning of the millennium, we must do all the work while He watches and works on our behalf behind the scene. It seems like we are the ones doing all the work, but really we are just following in obedience of what He puts in our paths.
- One of the Main Goals of Purim is to unite God’s people, cause us to look into who we really are and prepare us to meet the Messiah of Passover.

IS GOD IN THE BOOK OF ESTHER?

It is a well-known biblical fact that the name of [God](#) is not found even once in the text of Esther. This fact has played a part in some people doubting the canonicity of the book. None of the Dead Sea Scrolls found at Qumran contain even a snippet of the book of Esther, probably because the Essenes were primarily a monastic male community that did not look favorably on writings whose main characters were women. Thus, for this reason,

along with the absence of God's name, Esther does not appear in their canon. But is God really missing from this book? Obviously, God and His providence are major factors in the outcome of events, so the argument is strictly over His absent name. However, it may not be so truant after all.

Esther 5:4, almost exactly in the middle of the book, can be considered its pivotal verse: "So Esther answered, 'If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to the banquet that I have prepared for him.'" At this point Esther has committed herself in *faith* to her plan of action, and as yet she does not know if the king will intervene. It is in this context, then, that God's name "appears." In Hebrew, the phrase **“let the king and Haman come today”** contains four words: *yaabow' hamelek wahaamaan hayown*. The initial letters of this phrase forms an acrostic, **Y-H-W-H**, the consonants of the tetragramaton that spell the name **Yahweh**, translated **LORD** in the *Scriptures*. Acrostics, especially those that spell out God's name, are very rare. In fact, Jewish copyists carefully guarded against the accidental acrostic that might spell out this divine name because it was considered inviolate and ineffable. We can only assume, then, that *this acrostic is purposeful*, including God in the events of Esther's day, though working in the background

Sources: A combination of Jim Staley – 2014 Purim Youtube; along with TheTCPNotes website (http://thectp.org/Notes/Bride/Bride_4.pdf) ; Jonathan Cahn; and Derek Prince Ministries <https://bible.org/seriespage/23-esther-irony-and-providence>