

A TIME OF REJOICING

A person is seen from behind, standing in a vast field of bright yellow flowers. Their arms are raised high in the air, suggesting a moment of joy or triumph. The sky above is a mix of blue and yellow, with a bright light source on the right side, creating a hazy, golden atmosphere. The overall scene conveys a sense of freedom and happiness.

ESTER 9

Elder : Cedric Lebrun

Date: 6-12-22

MORNING READING

Isaiah 9:2-3 New King James Version

2 The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt
in the land of the shadow of death,
Upon them a light has shined.

3 You have multiplied the nation, And
[a]increased its joy; They rejoice before
You, According to the joy of harvest,
As men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

Esther 2:17 King James Version

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.

Esther 2:23 King James Bible

And when inquisition was made of the matter, it was found out; therefore they were both hanged on a tree: and it was written in the book of the chronicles before the king.

MAIN READING

Esther 9 New International Version

1 On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out. On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them.

2 The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes to attack those determined to destroy them. No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them. 3 And all the nobles of the provinces, the satraps, the governors and the king's administrators helped the Jews, because fear of Mordecai had seized them.

4 Mordecai was prominent in the palace; his reputation spread throughout the provinces, and he became more and more powerful. 5 The Jews struck down all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them, and they did what they pleased to those who hated them. 6 In the citadel of Susa, the Jews killed and destroyed five hundred men. 7 They also killed Parshandatha, Dalphon, Aspatha,

8 Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha, 9 Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai and Vaizatha, 10 the ten sons of Haman son of Hammédatha, the enemy of the Jews. But they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

11 The number of those killed in the citadel of Susa was reported to the king that same day. 12 The king said to Queen Esther, “The Jews have killed and destroyed five hundred men and the ten sons of Haman in the citadel of Susa.

What have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? Now what is your petition? It will be given you. What is your request? It will also be granted."

13 "If it pleases the king," Esther answered, "give the Jews in Susa permission to carry out this day's edict tomorrow also, and let Haman's ten sons be impaled on poles."

14 So the king commanded that this be done. An edict was issued in Susa, and they impaled the ten sons of Haman.

15 The Jews in Susa came together on the fourteenth day of the month of Adar, and they put to death in Susa three hundred men, but they did not lay their hands on the plunder.

16 Meanwhile, the remainder of the Jews who were in the king's provinces also assembled to protect themselves and get

relief from their enemies. They killed seventy-five thousand of them but did not lay their hands on the plunder. 17 This happened on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar, and on the fourteenth they rested and made it a day of feasting and joy. 18 The Jews in Susa, however, had assembled on the thirteenth and fourteenth, and then on the fifteenth they rested and made it a day of feasting and joy.

19 That is why rural Jews—those living in villages—observe the fourteenth of the month of Adar as a day of joy and feasting, a day for giving presents to each other.

Purim Established

**20 Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far,
21 to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the**

month of Adar 22 as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

Esther 9:1 New Living Translation

The Victory of the Jews

1 So on March 7[a] the two decrees of the king were put into effect. On that day, the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but quite the opposite happened. It was the Jews who overpowered their enemies.

Jeremiah 32:18 Authorized (KJV)

18 thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of hosts, is his name,

2 Timothy 3:1-5 New International Version

1 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good,

**4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—
5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.**

ESTHER 9:2

2 The Jews assembled in their cities in all the provinces of King Xerxes (Aka Ahasuerus) to attack those determined to destroy them. No one could stand against them, because the people of all the other nationalities were afraid of them.

Esther 8:15-16 King James Version

15 And Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a garment of fine linen and purple: and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad.

16 The Jews had light, and gladness, and joy, and honour.

ESTHER 9: 3

And all the nobles of the provinces, the satraps, the governors and the king's administrators helped the Jews, because fear of Mordecai had seized them.

ESTHER 9: 5

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

**12 The king said to Queen Esther,
“The Jews have killed and destroyed five
hundred men and the ten sons of Haman
in the citadel of Susa. What have they
done in the rest of the king’s provinces?
Now what is your petition? It will be given
you. What is your request? It will also be
granted.” 13 “If it pleases the king,” Esther
answered, “give the Jews in Susa permission to
carry out this day’s edict tomorrow also, and
let Haman’s ten sons be impaled on poles.”**

ESTHER 9: 20-22

20 Mordecai recorded these events, and he sent letters to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Xerxes, near and far, **21** to have them celebrate annually the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar **22** as the time when the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month when their sorrow was turned into joy and their mourning into a day of celebration. He wrote them to observe

another and gifts to the poor.

Isaiah 61:1

**The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me;
because the LORD hath anointed me to
preach good tidings unto the meek; he
hath sent me to bind up the
brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the
captives, and the opening of the prison to
them that are bound;**

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