

# ESTHER

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Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
August, 2008

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A1 JEWISH ASCENDANCY 1 - 2

A2 JEWISH DANGER 3 - 7

A3 JEWISH POWER 8 - 10

MAJOR DIVISIONS OF ESTHER  
Based on THE ANALYSIS OF ESTHER  
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### **A1 JEWISH ASCENDANCY 1 - 2**

- B1 The King's Deposing of the Reluctant Queen Vashti 1
- B2 Esther's Selection as Queen from the King's Expanded Harem 2:1-20
- B3 Mordecai's Prevention of the King's Assassination 2:21-23

### **A2 JEWISH DANGER 3 - 7**

- B1 Haman's Retaliatory Plan to Exterminate Mordecai and All Other Jews 3
- B2 Mordecai and Esther's Plan to Save the Jews 4
- B3 Esther's Holding of a Banquet for the King and Haman 5:1-8
- B4 Haman's Renewed Anger at Mordecai 5:9-14
- B5 The King's Exalting of Mordecai 6
- B6 The Debasing of Haman 7

### **A3 JEWISH POWER 8 - 10**

- B1 National Self-Preservation 8 - 9
- B2 International Prominence: Mordecai's Supremacy in Power 10

CONDENSED OUTLINE OF ESTHER  
Based on THE ANALYSIS OF ESTHER  
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August, 2008

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#### **B1 The King's Deposing of the Reluctant Queen Vashti 1**

- C1 The open house and banquet of King Ahasuerus 1:1-9
- C2 Queen Vashti's refusal to be displayed at the king's banquet 1:10-12
- C3 The king's deposing of the queen 1:13-22

#### **B2 Esther's Selection as Queen from the King's Expanded Harem 2:1-20**

- C1 King Ahasuerus' reflection upon his deposed queen 2:1
- C2 The initiation of efforts to select a new queen 2:2-4
- C3 The introduction of Mordecai, uncle and foster parent of beautiful Esther 2:4-7
- C4 The taking of Esther into the king's harem of virgins 2:8-11
- C5 The procedure for the king's evaluation of each virgin 2:12-14
- C6 The king's selection of Esther as his queen 2:15-18
- C7 Esther's care in not revealing her Jewish ancestry 2:19-20

#### **B3 Mordecai's Prevention of the King's Assassination 2:21-23**

### **A2 JEWISH DANGER 3 - 7**

#### **B1 Haman's Retaliatory Plan to Exterminate Mordecai and All Other Jews 3**

- C1 The historical background behind Haman's hatred of the Jews 3:1-6
- C2 Haman's enactment of legislation authorizing extermination of Jews 3:7-15

**B2 Mordecai and Esther's Plan to Save the Jews 4**

- C1 The mourning of Mordecai and the Jews 4:1-3
- C2 Esther's attempts to ascertain Mordecai's grief 4:4-6
- C3 Mordecai's informing Esther of the plot against the Jews 4:7-9
- C4 Esther's reminding Mordecai of her personal danger in visiting the king without a royal summons 4:10-12
- C5 Mordecai's reminding Esther of her jeopardy in any case 4:13-14
- C6 Esther's instructions to Mordecai to organize fasting support preparatory to her visiting the king 4:15-17

**B3 Esther's Holding of a Banquet for the King and Haman 5:1-8**

- C1 Esther's invitation to her banquet 5:1-4
- C2 Esther's invitation to another banquet 5:5-8

**B4 Haman's renewed anger at Mordecai 5:9-14**

- C1 Haman's pleasure at his status before the king and queen 5:9
- C2 Haman's anger at Mordecai's lack of respect toward him 5:9
- C3 Haman's report to his friends and wife 5:10-13
- C4 Haman's preparation of a gallows for Mordecai 5:14

**B5 The King's Exalting of Mordecai 6**

- C1 The king's discovery of an official lapse of etiquette toward Mordecai 6:1-3
- C2 The king's seeking advice on honoring Mordecai 6:4-9
- C3 The king's commanding Haman so to honor Mordecai! 6:10-12
- C4 The somber prediction of Haman's wife and friends 6:13
- C5 The arrival of messengers to bring Haman to the queen's banquet 6:14

**B6 The Debasing of Haman 7**

- C1 The expose' of Haman 7:1-6
- C2 The execution of Haman 7:7-10

**A3 JEWISH POWER 8 - 10**

**B1 National Self-Preservation 8 - 9**

C1 The king's authorizing of the Jews to defend themselves on "Extermination Day" 8

C2 The Jews' defense of themselves 9:1-16

C3 The institution of the feast of Purim 9:17-32

**B2 International Prominence: Mordecai's Supremacy in Power 10**

C1 The taxation levied by King Ahasuerus 10:1

C2 The annals of the king 10:2

C3 The greatness of Mordecai 10:3

OUTLINE OF ESTHER

Based on THE ANALYSIS OF ESTHER

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#### **B1 National Self-Preservation 8 - 9**

- C1 The king's authorizing of the Jews to defend themselves on "Extermination Day" 8
  - D1 The elevation of Mordecai to power 8:1-2
  - D2 Esther's beseeching of the king to protect the Jewish people 8:3-8
  - D3 The description of the legislation 8:9-14
  - D4 The reaction to the legislation 8:15-17
- C2 The Jews' defense of themselves 9:1-16
  - D1 The summary of the Jewish victory 9:1
  - D2 The invincibility of the Jews 9:2-4
  - D3 The Jews' victory in Susa 9:5-15
  - D4 The Jews' victory in the provinces 9:16
- C3 The institution of the feast of Purim 9:17-32
  - D1 The origins of the celebration of the victory 9:17-19
  - D2 The institutionalizing of the Feast of Purim 9:20-32

#### **B2 International Prominence: Mordecai's Supremacy in Power 10**

- C1 The taxation levied by King Ahasuerus 10:1
- C2 The annals of the king 10:2
- C3 The greatness of Mordecai 10:3

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