

The Life of **ESTHER**



**Preparation Workbook for JUNIORS
2010 Manitoulin Youth Camp**

YOUTH CAMP 2010 - JUNIOR WORKBOOK - Introduction and Instructions

Welcome to being a Junior at Youth Camp! This may be your first time as a camper at Youth Camp - how exciting! Or, you may have been there last year and now you know all about being a camper!

We have an exciting opportunity to study the life of faithful Esther. We recommend that you read through the book of Esther with your family as you begin your workbook to get familiar with the story.

There are 3 parts to your pre-camp assignment. We recommend that you get started as soon as possible - don't put it off to start 'later'!

Part A - The Workbook

There are three types of questions you will come across in this workbook.

Most are of the first type - straight forward questions requiring answers that can be found within the verses indicated. These are "fact questions". The King James Version has been used as the basis for these questions and any quotations, but please feel free to use whichever version you are most comfortable with.

The second type is labelled with the "TQ" symbol, which stands for "thought question" (or some like to call them 'tough questions!'). These are designed to make you think about the answer, so don't expect to find the answer in a specific verse. If you try really hard and still cannot figure out a good response to one of these "thought questions", then ask your Mom or Dad for some help. Actually, it's OK to ask them for help at any time. Do not be surprised if you can think of more than one answer for a "thought question" - that's just how they are! Don't worry about whether it's the 'correct' answer, simply write down what you think the best answer is.

The third type is labelled as a \neq DIARY ENTRY. Here you are to imagine yourself as Esther, writing a diary or journal entry. This is kind of like a "creative writing" assignment in school. There will be one of these at the end of most of the chapters.

Have fun and try to do your very best. You can do the puzzles any time you wish.

Part B - Special Project

You will present this project in a 5 minute presentation to your class during Youth Camp. (see further instructions on the next page)

Part C - Minute Meditation

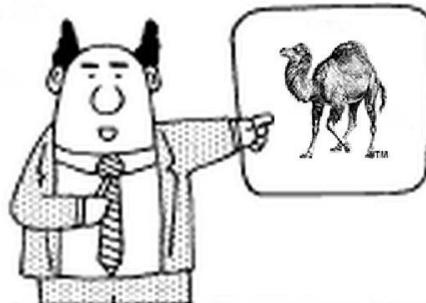
This can be completed once you receive your Youth Camp Program Booklet (approximately early June). The book of Esther will be divided into 4 sections and each camp group will be assigned to one of those sections of verses. You will select 1 verse from your section to complete your minute meditation on. Remember it's not meant to be too long!

If you have any questions about any of these assignments please don't hesitate to call or send a note to: Uncle Doug Jackson - 905-607-0016, dcjackson@sympatico.ca
We'll look forward to seeing you at Camp and hearing about your studies of Esther!

Part B - Special Project Instructions

Here are some project ideas to choose from. When thinking about your class presentation, it is best to pick one small idea and do it well, rather than trying to fit too much information into 5 minutes.

1. A Map of the Exile of the Jews from the land of Israel to Babylon.
Be sure it is well labelled with key places.
2. A Map of the land that King Ahasuerus reigned over.
3. A study of life in Persia to understand where Esther lived.
(e.g. The Persian Empire, government, religion, artifacts that depict life in Persia etc.)
4. A timeline of the life of Esther. Include important events in the book of Esther and indicate the year of Ahasuerus' reign, and the month and day (if applicable) on which the events took place.
4. A Character Study of one of the following characters:
 - Esther
 - King Ahasuerus
 - Vashti
 - Haman
 - Mordecai
5. A theme or topic from the book of Esther: (for example)
 - faith
 - courage
 - trials
 - leadership
 - influences
6. Draw a detailed picture or make a model of one of the events in Esther's life.
7. Write a skit or short play based on one of the events in Esther's life.
Find a couple of friends to help you enact your play for the class to enjoy.
6. Project of your choice: Please contact Uncle Doug Jackson to have your idea approved:
905 607 0016, dcjackson@sympatico.ca



Note: There are some pages at the back called "Appendices" - you may find some useful information there for your special project.

Esther at a Glance

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| FOCUS | THREAT TO THE JEWS | | TRIUMPH OF THE JEWS | |
| REFERENCE | 1:1 ————— 2:21 ————— 5:1 ————— 8:4 ————— 10:3 | | | |
| DIVISION | SELECTION OF ESTHER AS QUEEN | FORMULATION OF THE PLOT BY HAMAN | TRIUMPH OF MORDECAI OVER HAMAN | TRIUMPH OF ISRAEL OVER HER ENEMIES |
| TOPIC | FEASTS OF AHASUERUS | | FEASTS OF ESTHER AND PURIM | |
| | GRAVE DANGER | | GREAT DELIVERANCE | |
| LOCATION | PERSIA | | | |
| TIME | 10 YEARS (483-473 B.C.) | | | |

Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts © 1993 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.



CHAPTER 1: KING AHASUERUS & QUEEN VASHTI

Chapter 1:1-9 - Feast of Ahasuerus

v.1 How many provinces was Ahasuerus ruler over? _____

v.2 Find Shushan on a map. What country would it be in today? _____

v.3 What did the king do? _____

Who was invited? "...all his _____ and his _____; the power of _____ and _____, the _____ and _____ of the provinces..."

v.4 What did the king do during the festivities? _____

How long did the festivities last? _____ (**How many is a "score"? _____)

v.5 After that feast, the king held another feast. Who did he invite this time?

How long did it last? _____

Verses 6 & 7 tell us it was a very fancy feast!

Chapter 1:9-12 - Vashti Refuses to Come to Ahasuerus' Feast

v.9 What was the name of the king's wife and what does her name mean?

_____ Strong's #2060 - _____

TQ: Do you think the meaning of her name fits her character?? _____

What was she doing while the king held festivities for the men? _____

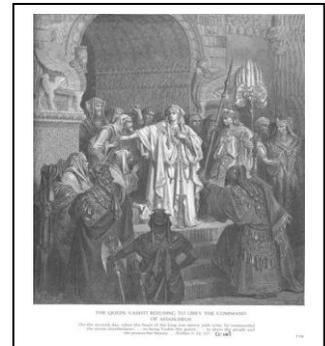
v.10,11 On the last day of his feast, the king commanded his 7 chamberlains to bring someone to his feast. Who was it? _____

v.11 Why did he want Vashti to come to the feast? _____

v.12 How did the queen reply to the king's request? _____

How did the king react to the queen's reply? _____

TQ: Do you think Vashti should have reacted this way? _____ Why or why not? _____



Chapter 1:13-22 - Vashti Removed as Queen

v.15 What did the king ask his wise men? _____

v.16 To whom did Memucan say Vashti had done wrong?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

v. 17-18 What was Memucan afraid would happen among the husbands and wives of the country because of Vashti's actions? _____

TQ: *What does this teach us about how decisions we make or things we do can affect others?*

v.19 What new law did Memucan say should be passed? _____

v.20 How did Memucan think this new law would affect the way wives treated their husbands?

v.21 Did the king decide to follow Memucan's advice? _____



CHAPTER 2: ESTHER CHOSEN AS QUEEN

Chapter 2:1-4 - Gathering Fair Young Maidens

v.1 What happened to queen Vashti in chapter 1? _____

v.2,3 What did the king's servants say should happen to replace Vashti? _____

v.4 Did the king like the idea? _____



Chapter 2:5-14 Preparation of Esther

v.5 There was a certain Jew living in Shushan. What was his name? _____

What does his name mean? Strong's # 4782 - _____

What tribe did he belong to? _____

v.6 How did he get to Shushan from Israel? _____

v.7 What was Hadassah's other name? _____

What is the meaning of this name? Strong's #0635 - _____

How was she related to Mordecai the Jew? _____

How had Mordecai helped Esther when she was young? _____

v.8 Why was Esther taken away from Mordecai? _____

Who was put in charge of taking care of Esther? _____

v.9 How did Hegai show his favour towards Esther and her maidens?

1. "he _____ gave her her things for _____"
2. how many maidens did he give her as servants? _____
3. "he preferred her and her maids unto the _____ of the house of the women"

v.10 What had Mordecai told her not to do? (put this answer in your own words!) _____

v.11 What did Mordecai do every day? _____

Why did he do this? _____

v.12 For how long did a young maiden prepare herself before going into the king?

Wow...that's a long time!



Chapter 2:15-20 - Esther is Chosen as Queen

v.15 TQ: Why do you think everyone liked Esther? _____

TQ: Do you think outward beauty is important to God? _____

Find a Bible verse that supports your answer. _____

What is important to God? _____

v.16 Compare chapter 1:3 and chapter 2:16. For approximately how long did the King look for a new queen? _____

v.17 What happened when Esther went to see the king? _____

v.18 How did the king show his happiness? _____

v.19 TQ: Why do you think Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate? _____

v.20 After Esther left Mordecai's household and moved to the palace, did she still obey him? _____

TQ: As a child who must we obey? _____

When we get older who must we obey? _____

Can you think of some Bible characters who showed their obedience to their parents or to God at a young age? _____

Chapter 2:21-21 - Mordecai Reveals the Plot to Murder Ahasuerus

v.21 When Mordecai sat in the king's gate, what did he find out about Bigthan and Teresh?

v.22 Who did Mordecai tell this to? _____

v.23 What happened to Bigthan & Teresh? _____

Was Mordecai rewarded at this time for saving the King? _____

TQ: *Should we always look to be noticed or recognized when we do something good or when we do the right thing?* _____

Who sees and notices what we do even if others don't? _____

This is what matters the most!

✍ **DIARY ENTRY:** Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 2.



A MESSAGE ABOUT ESTHER!

Directions:

This puzzle is called a Cryptogram. At the top there is a KEY that lists all the letters from A thru Z with a box below. Each of the letters has a corresponding number. The bottom part contains a secret phrase. Each of the blanks has a number underneath it. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|---|----|---|----|----|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| 23 | 17 | 15 | 20 | 8 | 18 | 14 | 13 | 5 | 2 | 26 | 22 | 16 | 19 | 12 | 1 | 6 | 24 | 11 | 3 | 21 | 9 | 10 | 25 | 4 | 7 |

_____ _____ _____ _____
 8 11 3 13 8 24 12 17 3 23 5 19 8 20 18 23 9 12 21 24 5 19

_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____
 3 13 8 11 5 14 13 3 12 18 23 22 22 3 13 8 16 3 13 23 3

_____ _____ _____
 22 12 12 26 8 20 21 1 12 19 13 8 24

CHAPTER 3: HAMAN'S WICKED PLOT

Chapter 3:1-6 - The Reason for Haman's Plot

v.1 What did Ahasuerus do for Haman?

v.2 What had the king commanded people to do to Haman?

1. _____

2. _____

Did Mordecai do this? _____

TQ: Can you think of anyone else in the Bible who refused to obey the king's commandment?

v.4 What did the king's servants do when Mordecai kept refusing to listen to them?

What had Mordecai told them? _____

v.5 How did Haman react when he saw that Mordecai refused to bow to him?

v.6 Because of his anger for Mordecai, who did Haman want to destroy? _____

v.7 How did they decide which day they should destroy the Jews on?



****Take note of the word 'Pur'...it will come up later in your study as a slightly longer word!****

What is the simple definition of the word 'lot'?

Strong's #1486 - _____

'Casting lots' was an old custom used to decide the answer to a question. It is mentioned approximately 70 times in the Old Testament and 7 times in the New Testament.

v.7 Compare chapter 2:16 with chapter 3:7. Approximately how long has Esther been married to the King at this point in the story? _____ (**he still doesn't know she's a Jew**)

What month are they in? _____ month, which is called _____

What month did the lot fall on to kill the Jews? _____ month, which is called _____

This is almost a whole _____ away! This is an important timeframe to keep in mind.

Read Proverbs 16:33 Who do you think was in control of this 'lot'/decision? _____

*Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 happen over the next 2 months! Proof: Esther 8:9.
Then chapter 9 skips to the 12th month.*

Chapter 3:7-11 - Haman Presents His Plot to the King

v.8 Who were the "certain people scattered abroad"? _____

Why did Haman tell the king that he shouldn't put up with these people?

1. their _____ are _____ from all people
2. neither keep they the _____

v.9 What did Haman recommend to the king that he should do? _____

How many talents of silver was Haman willing to pay to have this plan carried out?

v.10 **TQ:** The king gave Haman his ring. What was a king's ring used for in those days?

Chapter 3:12-15 - The Wicked Plot is Published

v.12 Letters were written to tell the people to destroy the Jews. Who was the letter sent to?

1. the king's _____
2. the _____ over every province
3. the _____ of every people
4. and to every _____ in their language

In the name of whom was the letter written? _____

Whose words were actually in the letter? _____

v.13 Which of the Jews were to be killed? _____

"both young and _____, little _____ and _____"

v.13 How long did the letter say it should take to destroy all the Jews? _____

v.15 **TQ:** How do you think Haman felt once the letter had been sent out? _____

What was the mood in the city of Shushan? _____

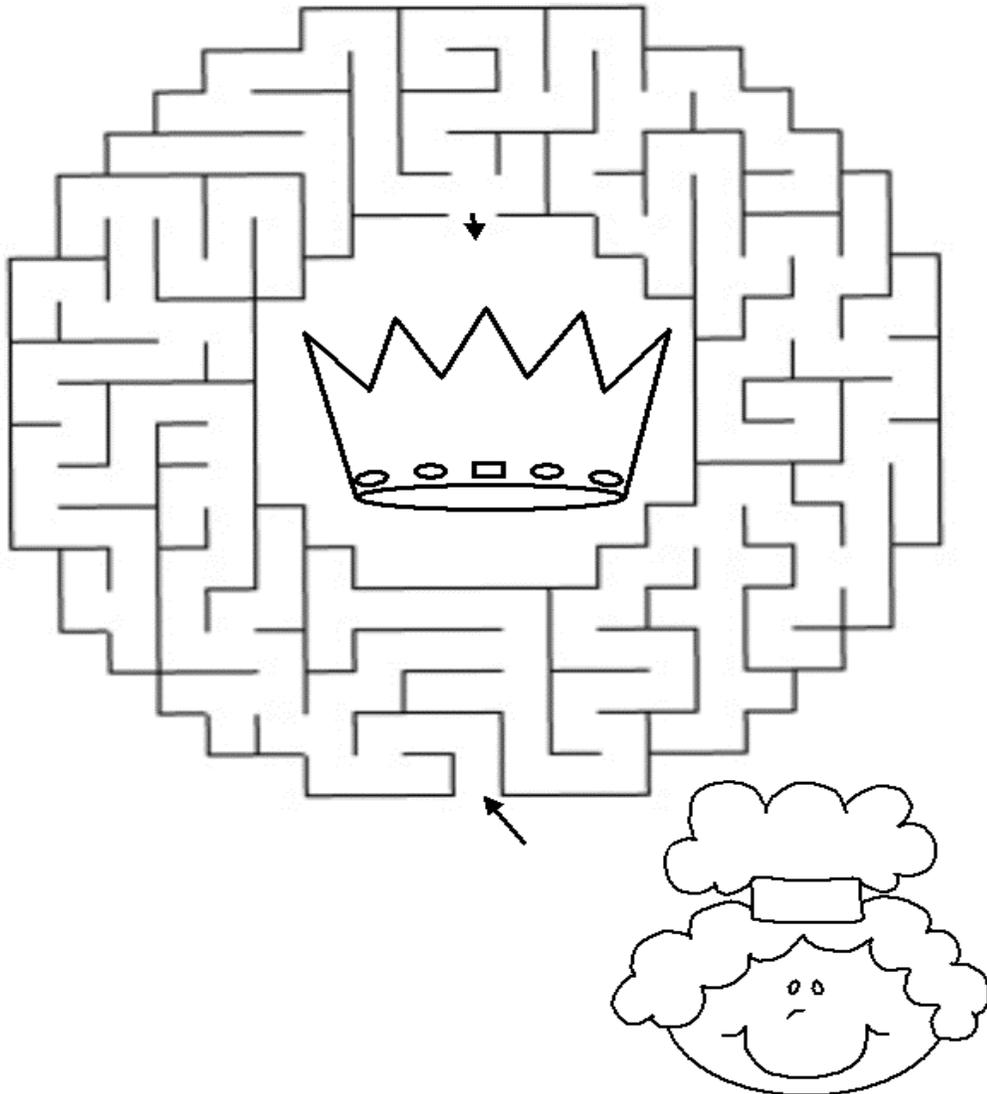
TQ: Why do you think they felt this way? _____



✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 3.

Esther the Queen Maze

Help Esther find her crown so she can save the Jews.



CHAPTER 4: MORDECAI'S APPEAL TO ESTHER

Chapter 4:1-3 - The Jews Mourn

v.1 What did Mordecai do when he heard about the king's letter?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

TQ: Why do you think he did this? _____

TQ: Can you think of other people in the Bible who reacted a similar way to a situation?

v.3 Did the Jews in all the provinces react the same way Mordecai did? _____

Chapter 4:4-14 - Esther & Mordecai Speak with Hatach as a Messenger

v.4 What did Esther send to Mordecai? _____

TQ: Why do you think he refused her help? _____

v.5 Did Esther know why Mordecai was sad? _____

v.7 What did Mordecai tell Hatach? 1. _____
2. _____

v.8 What did Mordecai give to Hatach to give to Esther? _____

Who did Mordecai want Esther to go and talk to about the decree? _____

v.11 What was Esther afraid would happen to her if she went into the king?

v.14 What did Mordecai say would happen to the Jews if Esther didn't help them?

Chapter 4:15-17 - Esther's Promise to Help

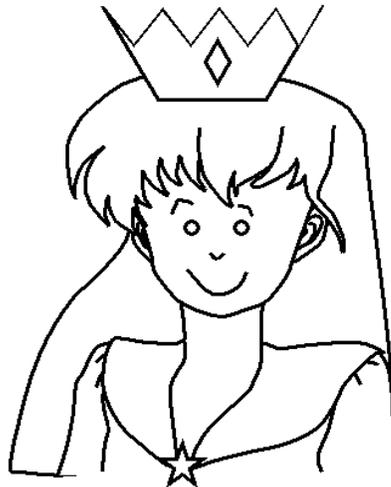
v.16 What did Esther ask all of the Jews to do for her? _____

How long did she want them to do this for? _____

What does it mean to fast? _____

v. 17 Do Mordecai do what she asked of him? _____

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 4.



How many different words can you make from the words:

Esther the Queen

| | |
|---|---|
| <hr/> | <hr/> |
|---|---|

CHAPTER 5: ESTHER'S BANQUET



Chapter 5:1-4 - Esther Approaches King Ahasuerus

v.1 What did Esther do that put her life in danger? (compare 4:11)

v.2 What did the king do when he saw Esther approach him? _____

What did Esther do to the top of the sceptre? _____

v.3 Was the king willing to grant her whatever she requested? _____ What did he promise her?

v.4 What was Esther's first request? _____

Chapter 5:5-8 - Esther's First Banquet

v.5 Did the king and Haman come to her banquet? _____

v.6 During dinner what did the king again offer to Esther? _____

v.7-8 What was Esther's second request? _____

TQ: Why do you think Esther again avoided asking the king to protect her people?

Chapter 5:9-14 - Haman Plots to Kill Mordecai

v.9 TQ: Why do you think Haman went out from the king so happy? _____

What did Mordecai refuse to do for Haman? 1. _____

2. _____ How did this make Haman feel? _____

v.10 Who did Haman call together?

1. _____ 2. _____

v.11 Look up the following words in a dictionary and write down their meaning:

proud: _____

boastful: _____

How was Haman being proud and boastful? _____

TQ: *Are these characteristics that we should be developing?* _____

If not, what are characteristics are opposite to these, that we should be developing?

v.12 How does Haman *think* Esther feels about him? _____

v.13 Why was Haman unhappy despite all the things he had just been bragging about?

v.14 What did Haman's wife and friends recommend to him? _____

Did he like their idea? _____

TQ: *People can either influence us for evil or for good. We must always try to resist being influenced in bad ways, but should let others influence us in good ways. Also, we should try our best to stand up for the right things, and try to be a good influence on others. Write about a time when you were influenced by someone else. Was it for good or for evil?*

DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 5.

CHAPTER 6: THE DEFEAT OF HAMAN



Chapter 6:1-3 - King Ahasuerus Can't Sleep!

v.1 What did the king do when he couldn't sleep? _____

v.2 When the records were read to him, what did the king find out had happened before?

(what the king hears about now, probably happened a few years before this point in the story)

v.3 What question did the king ask? _____

What was the answer to his question? _____

Chapter 6:4-9 - Haman's Plan to Honour Himself

v.4 Why had Haman come into the outward court of the king's house? _____

v.6 What did the king ask Haman? _____

Who did Haman think the king was referring to? _____

TQ: What does this tell you about Haman? _____

v.7-9 What did Haman say should be done? "Let the _____ be brought which the king useth to wear, and the _____ that the king _____ upon, and the _____ which is set upon his _____: And let this _____ and _____ be delivered to the hand of one of the king's most noble princes, that they may array the man withal whom the king delighteth to _____, and bring him on _____ through the _____ of the _____, and proclaim before him, Thus shall is be done to the man whom the king delighteth to _____."

Chapter 6:10-14 - Haman is Forced to Honour Mordecai

v.10 Who did Ashasuerus tell Haman to do all of this to?

TQ: How do you think Haman would have felt when the king told him to do this? _____

v.11 TQ: How do you think Haman felt as he was taking Mordecai through the street? _____



v.12 Where did Haman go next? _____

What did he do? 1. _____ 2. _____

v.13 What did Zeresh tell Haman would happen to him if we went against Mordecai, the Jew?

TQ: Why do you think she told him this? _____

v.14 Compare chapter 6:14 with chapter 5:8. How many days had gone by since Haman had last eaten dinner with the king and queen Esther? _____

TQ: How had Esther known all of the things that happened to Mordecai and Haman would happen between her two dinners? _____

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 6.

WHO'S WHO IN ESTHER??

Match the people with their correct description.
(write the correct letter next to the number in the left column)

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. _____ HAMMEDATHA | A. A Conceited Prime Minister |
| 2. _____ VAJEZATHA | B. King of Persia |
| 3. _____ JAIR | C. Haman's Wife |
| 4. _____ ZERESH | D. Esther's Father |
| 5. _____ HATACH | E. A Jewish Cousin of Esther |
| 6. _____ AHASUERUS | F. Hadassah's Hebrew Name |
| 7. _____ VASHTI | G. A Son of Haman |
| 8. _____ MORDECAI | H. One of the Men who Wanted to kill Ahasuerus |
| 9. _____ ESTHER | I. Mordecai's Father |
| 10. _____ HAMAN | J. A King's Chamberlain - he was a Messenger between Esther & Mordecai |
| 11. _____ ABIHAIL | K. Ahasuerus' First Wife |
| 12. _____ HEGAI | L. Haman's Father |
| 13. _____ BIGTHANA | M. Keeper of the Women in Shushan |

CHAPTER 7: HAMAN HANGED

Chapter 7:1-4 - Esther's Second Banquet

v.1-2 Was the king still willing to grant Esther her request? _____

v.3 What was Esther's request? (try to put this in your own words) _____

v.4 What would the king now know about Esther? _____

Esther said she would have held her tongue and not asked the king if something different was going to happen to the Jews - what did she say that was? _____

Chapter 7:5-8 - Esther Exposes Haman as the Enemy

v.5 What did the king now want to know? _____

v.6 Who did Esther say was the Jews' enemy? _____

Give 3 words Esther uses to describe Haman:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

How did Haman react? _____

v.7 How did the king feel now? _____

TQ: Why do you think he went into the palace garden? _____

TQ: Is it wrong to get angry? YES NO

Find a Bible verse to support your answer: _____

What do you do to try to control your anger, or to 'cool down' when you're feeling angry?

v.7 What did Haman ask Esther now? _____

v.8 What did the king find when he returned from the garden? _____

Chapter 7:9-10 - Haman is Hung on the Gallows

v.9 What did Harbonah tell Ahasuerus was 'standing in the house of Haman'?

How high were the gallows? _____ cubits

Approximatley how high is that in our measurements today? _____

What did the king order concerning Haman? _____

v.10 How did the king feel now? _____

✍️ **DIARY ENTRY:** Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 7.

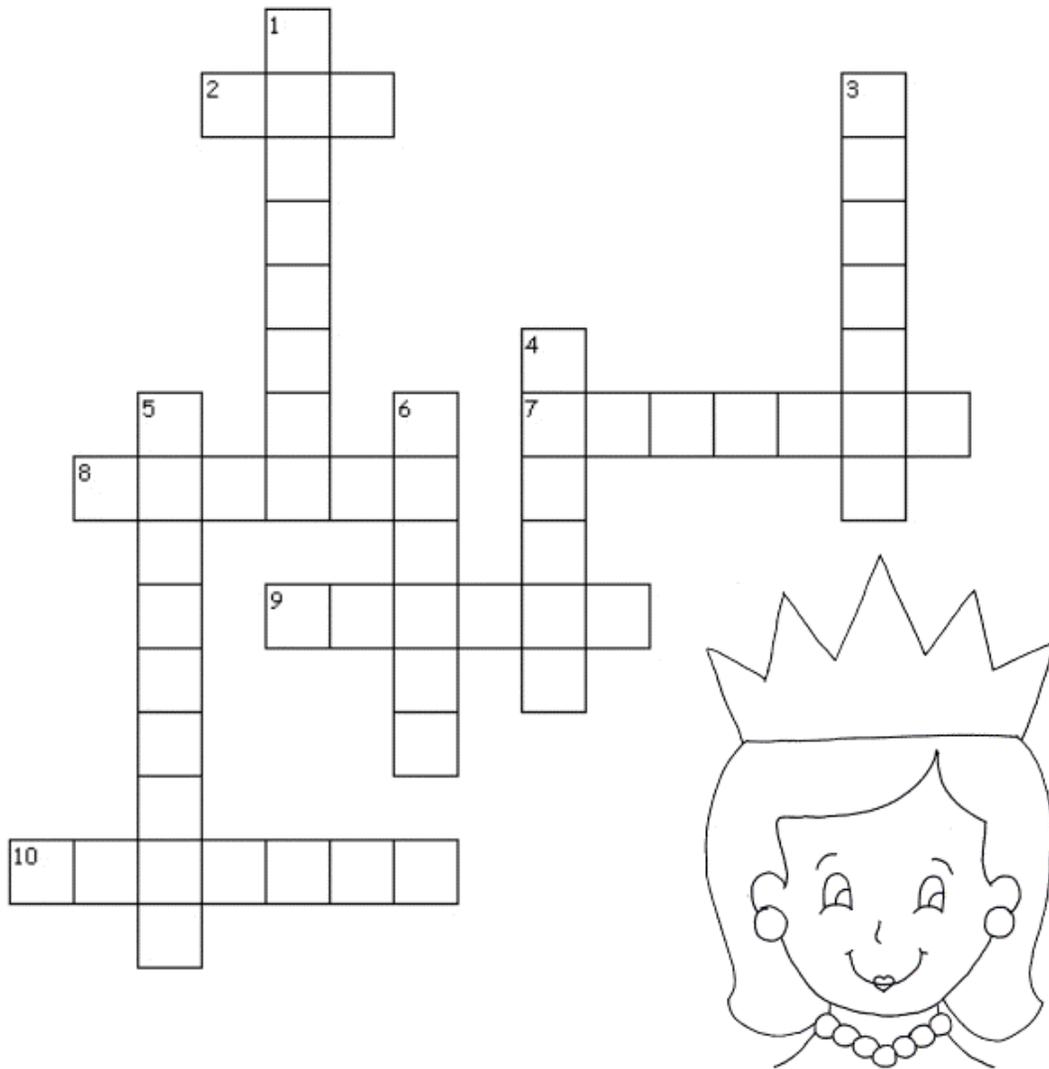
"Esther Accusing Haman" by Gustave Doré



Doré Bible Illustrations • Free to Copy
www.creationism.org/images/

Est 7:5-6 ... Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so? And Esther said, The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman. Then Haman was afraid before the king

Esther Crossword



Across

2. Mordecai refused to do this to Haman, so Haman decided to get rid of all the Jews.
7. Esther could not approach the king unless he ____ her first.
8. Haman and the king didn't know that Esther was this.
9. Esther prayed and ____ for three days before she went to the king.
10. Esther was full of this as a young Queen who wanted to do the right thing.

Down

1. The name of Esther's cousin.
3. Mordecai was ____ by the king because he saved his life.
4. Esther could've been ____ for going to the king without permission.
5. Young Esther won the king's heart because she was so ____.
6. God made Esther queen because she was ____ to save the Jews.

CHAPTER 8: THE DECREE OF KING AHASUERUS & MORDECAI

Chapter 8:1-2 - Esther is Given the House of Haman

v.1 What did the king give to Esther? _____

v.2 What did the king give to Mordecai? _____

What did Esther set Mordecai as ruler over? _____

Chapter 8:3-6 - Esther Approaches King Ahasuerus Again

v.3 What evil did Esther still have to try to stop? _____

v.5 Who did Esther ask to reverse the letters devised by Haman to destroy the Jews?

v.8 What did the king tell Esther and Mordecai to do? _____

What were they to seal the writing with? _____

Chapter 8:7-14 - The King's New Decree

v.9 What day was this new decree written on?

the _____ month, which is called _____, on the _____ day

Approximately how much time had elapsed since the first law was made? (compare chapter 3:12)

v.10 What animals were used to deliver these new letters to everyone in the kingdom?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

v.11 What did the king's letter say? "Wherein the king granted _____ which were in every

_____ to gather themselves together, and to stand for their _____, to

_____, to _____ to cause to _____, all the power of the people and

province that would _____ assault them, both _____ ones and _____,

and to take a _____ of them for a prey."

v.12 On what day was this decree to happen?

the _____ day of the _____ month, which is called _____

How many months away was this from the day that the new law was issued in v. 9?

(hint: compare your answer for v. 9) _____

Chapter 8:15-17 - The Response of Jews & Gentiles

v.15, 16 Why were the Jews so happy? _____

v.17 What did many of the people who were not Jews do? _____

TQ: Why did they do this? _____

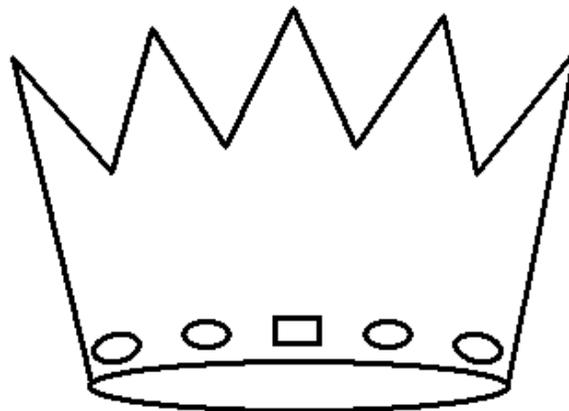
✍ **DIARY ENTRY:** Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 8.



Esther the Queen Word Search

I K I L L E D C P B S H H X K
C A I G I I R B E N R A O A I
H H C Q N O O A R X C A V G N
O S E E W W U D M M Y L V E G
S I G N D T E Z I N V I T E D
E W A F I R I Y S U O L A E J
N E R F O Y O V S R E Y A R P
A J U N B K W M I D E T S A F
A L O N A M A H O S U P P E R
B H C Q U E E N N W M H Y D W

beautiful
bow
brave
chosen
courage
crown
fasted
Haman
honored
invited



jealousy
Jewish
killed
king
Mordecai
permission
prayer
Queen
saved
supper

CHAPTER 9: THE JEWS' ENEMIES DEFEATED

Chapter 9:1-11 - Victories on the First Day: 13th Day of Adar

v.3 Who helped the Jews defend themselves?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Why did they do this? _____

v.4 What are we told about Mordecai in this verse? _____

TQ: Who do you think blessed Mordecai this way? Explain your thinking. _____

v.6 How many men did the Jews kill in Shushan? _____

v. 10 How many of Haman's sons were killed? _____

Chapter 9:12-16 - Victories on the Second Day: 14th Day of Adar

v.12 Was the king still willing to grant Esther a further request? _____

v.13 What 2 things did Esther request?

1. _____

2. _____

v.15 How many more men were killed in Shushan on the 14th day of the month Adar?

v.16 How many people in the rest of the provinces did the Jews kill? _____

TQ: Look at Esther's decree in chapter 8:11. Now read chapter 9:10,15,16.

What part of the decree did the Jews choose not to do? _____

BIBLE MATH: Transfer your answers from the verses listed and add up the total number of people that were killed by the Jews.

v.6 _____

v.10 _____

v.15 _____

v.16 + _____

TOTAL: _____

Chapter 9:17-32 - Israel's Celebration, The Feast of Purim

v.21 Mordecai decreed that the Jews should always remember this time. Which days were set aside for doing this? _____

v.22 What should the Jews do on these days?

1. make them days of _____ and _____ and
2. _____ and
4. _____

v.26 What is the name for this time of feasting? _____

Look up the meaning of this word: Strong's #6332 - _____
_____ ***think back to where this word came up earlier in your study***

v.28 For how long in history were these days supposed to be remembered?

_____ Do the Jews still celebrate this feast today? _____

If so, see if you can find out approximately when they celebrate it on our calendar. _____
(hint: there is an appendix in the back of this workbook that will help you.)

✍️ DIARY ENTRY: Pretend you are Esther. Write a diary entry based on the events of chapter 9.

CHAPTER 10: MORDECAI'S FAME

v.1 What did king Ahasuerus do? _____

What is a 'tribute'? _____ Do we have something like this today? _____

v.2 What had the king done for Mordecai? _____

v.3 What exactly was Mordecai's position? _____

Was he liked by the rest of the Jews? _____

Why? What did he do? _____

SUMMARY

TQ: We are never told of a time in the book of Esther that she prayed to God. In fact 'God' is never even mentioned in the whole book! Based on what you have learned about Esther do you think she trusted in God and prayed to Him for guidance? Explain your thinking.

TQ: Thinking about the life of Esther, list 2 characteristics that Esther displayed that you would like to try to develop. Write a sentence about how you will try to develop those characteristics in your life.

1. _____

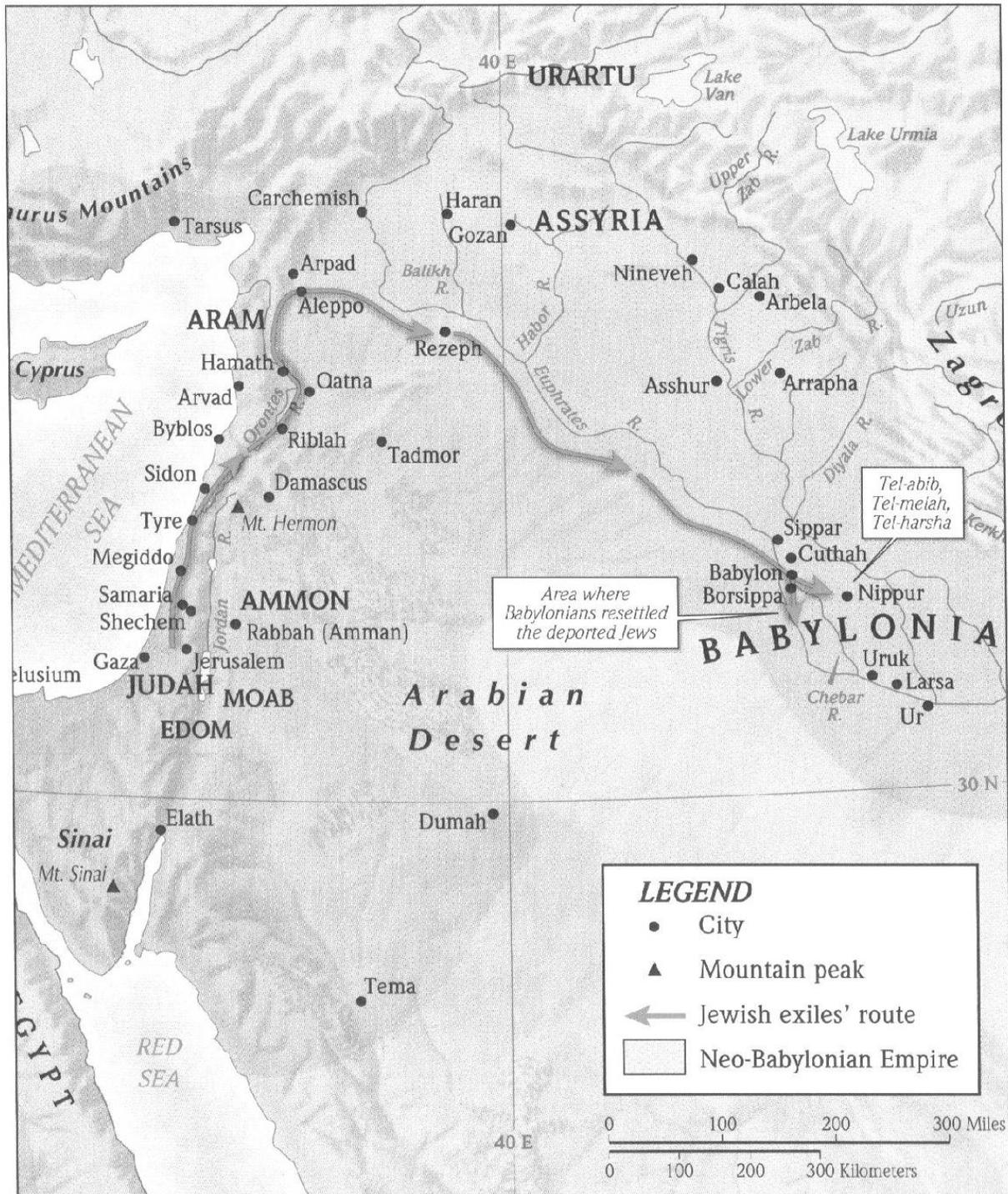
2. _____

Congratulations, you have completed your workbook!! 😊

What a wonderful example Esther is for us today.



107 JEWISH EXILES IN BABYLONIA



Who's Who in the Exile

Jehoiachin
Exiled from Jerusalem at 18, having ruled 3 months. Probably kept under house arrest until 37 years later given a place of honour in the royal court. Seen as important figure by the Jewish exiles. Probably died during the exile. (2 Kings 24: 1-15; 25: 27-30.)

Daniel
Exiled with King Jehoiachin. Selected for training to serve in the royal court of Babylon. Daniel rose to become head of the royal advisers. Later in the exile, he was put in charge of all the Empire's governors. Some traditions say he returned to Jerusalem at the end of exile.

Ezekiel
Exiled with King Jehoiachin. He prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem, and later, that the exiles would return to Jerusalem with its rebuilt temple. Probably died before the end of exile.

Esther and Mordecai
Exiled with King Jehoiachin. Esther became queen to Xerxes, the Persian emperor, not long before the return of Nehemiah to Jerusalem. With her cousin Mordecai, she prevented the persecution of Jews throughout the Persian Empire. Mordecai became a powerful figure in Xerxes' court.

Jeremiah
Forced to go to Egypt at the start of Judah's exile by a group who fled after killing the Babylonian governor of Judah. He spent the rest of his life in Egypt. (Jeremiah 43.)

Ezra
A high official in the Persian Empire - 'minister for Jewish affairs'. Emperor Artaxerxes I sent him to Jerusalem to reform the people there in accordance with Jewish Law. He led the fourth group of exiles home. (Ezra 7.)

Nehemiah
Cupbearer to Artaxerxes I, Nehemiah was sent by the emperor in 445BC to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He led the third group of exiles home. (Nehemiah 1 - 2.)

Ordinary people
Many Jews in the exile became prosperous (see Ezra 2: 68-69). Living in ghettos in Babylon and other places, they stayed together. But despite their wealth they despaired at the loss of their land and heritage. Psalm 137 expresses their feelings.

MENTIONED IN EARLY PART OF EXILE
 MENTIONED DURING EXILE
 MENTIONED AT END OF EXILE

Jewish Feasts

| <i>Month on Jewish Day</i> | <i>Month</i> | <i>Corresponding Feast of References</i> | | <i>Calendar</i> |
|--|-------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Passover | Nisan | 14 | Mar. -Apr. | Ex. 12:1-14; Matt. 26: 17-20 |
| 'Unleavened Bread | Nisan | 15-21 | Mar. -Apr. | Ex. 12:15-20 |
| Firstfruits | Nisan or Sivan | 16 6 | Mar. -Apr. May-June | Lev. 23:9-14; Num. 28:26 |
| *Pentecost (Harvest or Weeks) | Sivan | 6 (50 days after barley harvest) | May-June | Deut. 16:9-12; Acts 2:1 |
| Trumpets, <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> | Tishri | 1, 2 | Sept. -Oct. | Num. 29:1-6 |
| Day of Atonement, <i>Yom Kippur</i> | Tishri | 10 | Sept. -Oct. | Lev. 23:26-32; Heb. 9:7 |
| *Tabernacles (Booths or Ingathering) | Tishri | 15-22 | Sept. -Oct. | Neh. 8:13-18; John 7:2 |
| Dedication (Lights), <i>Hanukkah</i> | Chislev | 25 (8 days) | Nov. -Dec. | John 10:22 |
| Purim (Lots) | Adar | 14, 15 | Feb. -Mar. | Esth. 9:18-32 |
| *The three major feasts for which all males of Israel were required to travel to the Temple in Jerusalem (Ex. 23:14-19). | | | | |

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