



# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

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## Esther 3

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Esther 3.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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### Topics.

- King Ahasuerus promoted Haman and set his throne above his officials.
- All, the king's servant's bow down and pay homage to Haman.
- Mordecai the Jew does not bow down or pay homage.
- Haman seeing that Mordecai did not bow down was filled with fury.
- Haman plots to destroy Jews, throughout the kingdom of Ahasuerus.
- The king gives Haman authority to do what seems good to the Jews.
- Haman sends letters to all the king's provinces to annihilate all Jews.

**INTRODUCTION:** this is a brilliant story of the great faith of a young humble Jewish woman who became Queen of the Persian Empire that has a beautiful twist at the end and that clearly shows that God's sovereign hand is not only upon the Jewish nation, but also upon the secular nations to bring about his eternal plans and purposes. The primary focus of this study is upon the core beauty of the story and not upon the detail of the places or the history of it (see also the introduction to chapter one).

**NOTE:** for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

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## ESTHER 3

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**Esther 3:1-15:** After these things King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, and advanced him and set his throne above all the officials who were with him. <sup>2</sup> And all the king's servants who were at the king's gate bowed down and paid homage to Haman, for the king had so commanded concerning him. But Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage. <sup>3</sup> Then the king's servants who were at the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do you transgress the king's command?" <sup>4</sup> And when they spoke to him day after day and he would not listen to them, they told Haman, in order to see whether Mordecai's words would stand, for he had told them that he was a Jew. <sup>5</sup> And when Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage to him, Haman was filled with fury. <sup>6</sup> But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone. So, as they had made known to him the people of Mordecai, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews, the people of Mordecai, throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus. <sup>7</sup> In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur (that is, they cast lots) before Haman day after day; and they cast it month after month till the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. <sup>8</sup> Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom. Their laws are different from those of every other people, and they do not keep the king's laws, so that it is not to the king's profit to tolerate them. <sup>9</sup> If it please the king, let it be decreed that they be destroyed, and I will pay 10,000 talents of silver into the hands of those who have charge of the king's business, that they may put it into the king's treasuries." <sup>10</sup> So the king took his signet ring from his hand and gave it to Haman the Agagite, the son of Hammedatha, the enemy of the Jews. <sup>11</sup> And the king said to Haman, "The money is given to you, the people also, to do with them as it seems good to you." <sup>12</sup> Then the king's scribes were summoned on the thirteenth day of the first month, and an edict, according to all that Haman commanded, was written to the king's satraps and to the governors over all the provinces and to the officials of all the peoples, to every province in its own script and every people in its own language. It was written in the name of King Ahasuerus and sealed with the king's signet ring. <sup>13</sup> Letters were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with instruction to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, women and children, in one day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month

of Adar, and to plunder their goods. <sup>14</sup> A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province by proclamation to all the peoples to be ready for that day. <sup>15</sup> The couriers went out hurriedly by order of the king, and the decree was issued in Susa the citadel. And the king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was thrown into confusion.

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## THE STORY CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS CHAPTERS

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At this point Queen Esther has been married to King Ahasuerus for five years. After these things (Bigthan and Teresh were hanged for plotting against the king) (Esther 2:21-23) King Ahasuerus promoted Haman and set his throne above all the officials and servants and they all paid homage to Haman as the king had commanded them to do. But Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage so the king's servants ask Mordecai, "Why did he transgress the king's command?" and he told them that he was a Jew.

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## NOW HERE IS THE HORROR OF THIS STORY

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When Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow down or pay homage to him, he was filled with fury. Such fury he didn't just want to destroy Mordecai, but the entire Jewish race throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus. To achieve this slaughter Haman told King Ahasuerus there is a people scattered throughout all the provinces of his kingdom and that they do not keep the king's laws so it is not to the king's profit to tolerate them.

Haman then told the king to decree that they be destroyed, so the king took his signet ring and gave it to Haman the enemy of the Jews giving him permission to do whatever seemed good to him to do to the Jews. Haman obviously thrilled about this had letters sent to all the king's provinces with instruction to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all Jews, young and old, women and children, and to plunder their goods all in one day and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was thrown into confusion.

The day appointed for the slaughter of the Jews was the 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month of Adar.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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