

# Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



*God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.*

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## Esther 9.

(2014)

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises  
But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it.***

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## Esther 9.

(A brief overview of the main topics).

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### Topics.

- The Jews defeat their enemies.
- No one could stand against the Jews for fear of them had fallen on all people.
- For fear of Mordecai the king's officials in every province helped the Jews.
- The 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of Adar becomes a Jewish holiday of joy and feasting.
- The two day feast is called the feast of Purim.
- During these two days Jews are to send gifts of food to one another.

**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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**The story continued:** in the twelfth month, the month of Adar, on the thirteenth day when the king's command and edict were about to be carried out, on the very day when the enemies of the Jews hoped to gain the mastery over them, the reverse occurred: the Jews gained mastery over those who hated them.

The Jews gathered together in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus to destroy those who sought their harm. Fear of them had fallen on all people so no one could stand against them. Added to this Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame and power had spread throughout all the provinces so all the officials of the king's provinces, the satraps, the governors and the royal agents helped the Jews for the fear of Mordecai.

The Jews struck all their enemies with the sword, killing and destroying them. After this the King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, Now what is your wish? It shall be granted you. And what further is your request? It shall be fulfilled," and Esther said: -

- If it please the king, let the Jews who are in Susa be allowed tomorrow also to do according to this day's edict. And let the ten sons of Haman be hanged on the gallows.

So the king commanded this to be done. A decree was issued in Susa, and the ten sons of Haman were hanged. Since this was such a great victory for the Jews Mordecai sent letters to all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, obliging all Jews to keep the fourteenth and fifteenth day of the month Adar as the two days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday and that they should make these two days of feasting and gladness and days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

The Jews called the day that the plot of Haman to annihilate all Jews had return on his own head and he and his ten sons were hanged on the gallows the days of Purim, because of: -

- All that was written in the letter of Mordecai.
- The fearful terror they had faced.
- The great victory they had won.

Queen Esther and Mordecai gave full written authority, confirming the letter about the two days of Purim and sent copies of the letter throughout the one-hundred and twenty-seven provinces of the kingdom of King Ahasu-erus stating that the two days of Purim should be observed at their appointed seasons, as Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther obligated them, and as the Jewish people had obligated themselves and their offspring, with regard to their fasts and their lamenting. The command of Queen Esther confirmed these practices of Purim, and it was recorded in writing.

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#### FOOTNOTE.

**Purim and Pur:** both come from the Hebrew word (*puwr*). From Strong's Concordance it means a broken piece and carries the idea of crushing, breaking and utterly destroy. It refers to the evil plot Haman and enemy of the Jews had to annihilate the entire Jewish race in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, because Haman cast Pur (that is, cast lots), to crush and to destroy them, but his evil plan returned on his own head, and he and his ten sons were hanged. This is why the Jews called these days Purim, it is after the word Pur, because Haman cast lots to entirely destroy the Jewish nation in all the kings one-hundred and twenty-seven provinces (Esther 9:24-26).

**The Feast of Purim:** Mordecai after seeing that the Jews were feasting and celebrating their great victory for two days sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus obliging them to keep the fourteenth day and fifteenth day of Adar, year by year, as the two days and as the month of the year on which all Jews were to celebrate: -

- The relief they got from their enemies.
- That their great terror and fear had been turned into great victory and triumph.
- That their great sorrow and mourning had been turned into great joy and gladness.

These two days were to be kept as a holiday of feasting and gladness and as days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor (Esther 9:20-22). The Jews keep this feast today.

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End.