

Purim: Queen Esther's Biblical Feast

The Festival of Purim is in the Hebrew month of Adar, which is the 12th month on the Biblical Hebrew calendar.

Purim (*poo-reem*)

- Purim means = lots (**casting lots**)

Types in the Scroll of Esther:

- Esther-Bride of Christ
- Mordechai-Holy Spirit
- King-Messiah
- Haman-HaSatan (Satan)



The casting of lots is like us throwing the dice in modern times. The thought is that *by chance* we will get a positive outcome (the luck/chance of the roll of the dice.) Haman the villain of this story had plotted to destroy Mordechai and his people once he realized that Mordechai would not bow to his authority. Haman was enraged and asked the people under his authority to **cast lots**.

*In the first month, which is the month of Nisan, in the twelfth year of King Ahasuerus, they cast Pur (that is, the **lot**), before Haman to determine the day and the month, until it fell on the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. Esther 3:7*

He wanted to choose which day by "lot" to annihilate Mordechai and the Jewish race. As we continue reading we can see the evil plans of Haman seemingly gaining the upper hand over God's people, or is he?

Hummm... it appears the luck of the dice (**lots**) was not working. So what did they do? They kept throwing them until Haman received the desired results. Several things could be said at this point about the enemy's deceptive ways! Yet as we continue reading the scroll of Esther, the invisible hand of God moving is evident. God is working behind the scenes on behalf of Mordechai, Esther and the Jewish people.

The book of Esther is about "hidden things." The 1st thing that we see hidden is the name of God. This sets a sub-theme for the entire book. The God of heaven is working behind the scenes (hidden) on behalf of His chosen people. He uses the life of an orphaned young woman

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and her beauty to "Please the King" to win over His favor. This brought about a chain of events that saved the Jewish people from total annihilation.

In chapter five we see Esther's courage. Esther understood that going before the king, doing it afraid was her only option. She uttered these words; "If I Perish I Perish" as she continued to move into position, as Mordecai her mentor and teacher had instructed her to.

So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter. Esther 5:2

Esther had gained the favor of King. The story continues and Haman was destroyed by his own devious plans. Esther's obedience to the voice of the Holy Spirit save her people and so what she did is celebrated throughout the generations up to this present day. The Feast of Purim is a joyous celebration; the enemy has been defeated and God's people prevailed.

Why Should Christians Celebrate Purim?

The Feast of Purim has great significance to Christians who are pressing into the God of Esther. Celebrating this Biblical festival reminds us of the hidden nature of God at work in these end times. It puts us as Christians in a position to not remain silent but proclaim the glorious work of redemption to our world. Even when it *appears* that the enemy has **cast lots** against us. We know without a shadow of a doubt that God (the hidden God of Esther) is working behind the scenes on our behalf. We must remember that things are not as they would seem.

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

The darkness and lawlessness of our times is visible to everyone. But we know the evil enemy will not succeed in destroying us, God's people. Esther 9:1 - things are not as they seem!

Will you accept the challenge to speak in this hour and declare the hidden hand of your God is working mightily in our midst?

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"For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14

The People of God Prevail - The Jews Destroy Their Tormentors

Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month of Adar, on the thirteenth day, the time came for the king's command and his decree to be executed. On the day that the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, the opposite occurred, in that the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them. Esther 9:1

The Feast of Purim in the Scriptures (Esther 9:18-32)

*Vs) 32 so the decree of Esther confirmed these matters of **Purim**, and it was written in the book.*

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