

Year 3

Week 110

Esther Saves God's People

Scriptures: Esther 3 - 8

Key Verse: Esther 4:14 “If you remain 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?”

Key Points:

1. Haman receives promotions, and is angered when Mordecai does not bow down to him. Instead of punishing only Mordecai, Haman decides to seek his revenge by destroying all of the Jews in the kingdom. He persuades King Ahasuereus to let him write a decree that the Jews may be destroyed.
2. When Mordecai learns of the decree, he mourns in the midst of the city, and word of it reaches Esther. She discovers the reason for Mordecai’s grief and learns of the decree of the king, but does not want to go into the king’s presence, since she has not been summoned. Mordecai reminds her that she, too, will be killed. Esther asks for all the Jews to fast for her before she goes into the king.
3. Esther seeks an audience with the king, and when she is accepted, she requests that the king and Haman come that day to a banquet she has prepared. When they come, she requests that they attend another banquet tomorrow, where she will reveal her petition. Haman leaves joyful, but is angered when he sees Mordecai. He goes home to his wife and friends, who suggest that he have Mordecai hanged on a gallows. Haman has the gallows made.
4. Meanwhile, the king is unable to sleep, and he has his book of chronicles read for him, when he remembers that he needs to honor Mordecai. He asks Haman for his advice on what should be done for the man the king delights to honor. Haman, thinking the king is talking about him, suggests a great honor of riding through the city on horseback, with someone shouting about him. The king is pleased by this suggestion, and tells Haman to do so for Mordecai.

(Continued on next page)

5. At the banquet, Queen Esther asks that the king to save the lives of her and her people, and tells him that Haman devised the wicked plan. The king leaves in his anger, and when he returns, Haman is begging for his life before Esther, laying across her couch. Haman is then hanged on the gallows prepared for Mordecai.

6. King Ahasuerus gives Mordecai the house of Haman, and the king wrote a counter-decree to save the Jews. Instead of just being attacked, they may now fight back against their enemies. Many people in the land were converted to Judaism.



Brave Esther helped save God's people.

Esther
Esther

A Very Special Queen

Circle the words that tell about Esther.
When you are finished, copy the letters in
the crowns to the matching crown-spaces below.

be^utiful

was a
que^een

Mordecai's
cousin

ugly

lived in
a tent

marrie^d
King Xerxes

helped her
people

^stopped Haman

asked Xerxes
for gold

lazy

li^ved in a palace

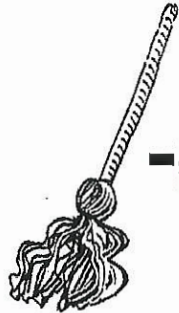
Esther



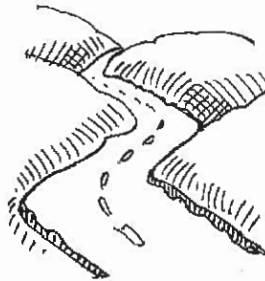
her people.

_____ knew that Queen Esther was the only one who could talk to the king about _____'s plot to kill all of the Jews. This was scary for Esther. The custom of the day was that if the king didn't summon you and you appeared before him, he might have you killed. Also, the king didn't know that Esther was a Jew. Esther bravely approached the king.

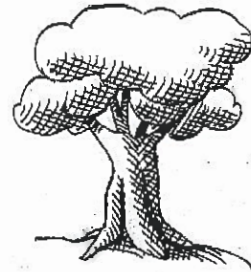
To fill in the missing names above, write the letters of the picture clues, adding or subtracting according to the math signs.



-p +



-oa +



-tre +

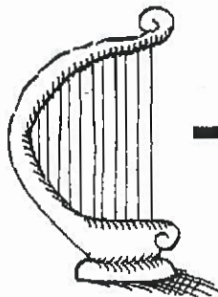


-t

+



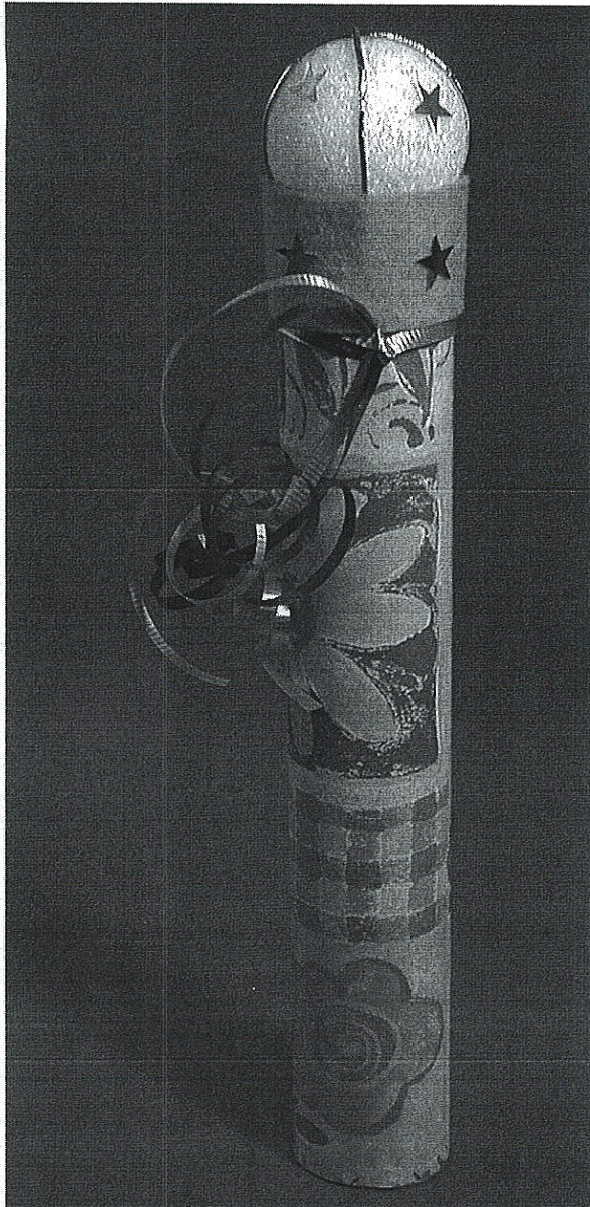
- dce



-rp

+



**MATERIALS**

12-inch tube from paper towel
wrapping paper
2-inch Styrofoam ball
various trims
felt
tape

Esther knew the king would talk to her because he held out his scepter when she came into the room. The scepter was a symbol of his authority over all the people.

You can make a scepter out of a cardboard tube. Cut a piece of wrapping paper large enough to cover the entire tube. Tape it in place. Then push the Styrofoam ball in one end of the tube as far as it will go. Use small rope-type trim to hold the ball in place, overlapping the tube about half an inch, and taping it down. Then cover the tape with trim, ribbon, or a piece of felt. Glue small decorations to the ball and tube, and add ribbons if you like.

 <p>King Ahasuerus</p>	 <p>Queen Esther</p>	 <p>Esther's cousin, Mordecai</p>
 <p>Wicked Prince Haman</p>	 <p>The king's decree</p>	 <p>Esther before the king</p>
 <p>The king's scepter</p>	 <p>Esther's banquets</p>	 <p>Decree sealed by the king's ring: The Jews may live!</p>
 <p>Haman hanged on his own gallows</p>	 <p>Mordecai crowned as prince</p>	 <p>The Feast of Purim</p>

Esther

Esther 2, 4, 5, 8

A Petition and a Request

Use the code to decipher the message
by writing the opposite letter on the
lines provided. Example: for the letter C,
P would be the answer.

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

Wicked Haman plotted to kill all of the Jews throughout the kingdom
of Xerxes. Queen Esther brought a petition to the king for her people.
Use the code to discover Esther's request (Esther 3:5, 6; 7:1-4).



T^E N A G Z^R Z^L Y V S R

F N E C^R

Z^L

C^B R C^R Y

Purim

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Purim (Hebrew: פורים *Pûrîm* "lots", related to Akkadian *pûru*) is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people of the ancient Persian Empire from Haman's plot to annihilate them, as recorded in the Biblical Book of Esther (*Megillat Esther*). According to the story, Haman cast lots to determine the day upon which to exterminate the Jews.

Purim is celebrated annually according to the Hebrew calendar on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Adar, the day following the victory of the Jews over their enemies; as with all Jewish holidays, Purim begins at sundown on the previous secular day. In cities that were protected by a surrounding wall at the time of Joshua, including Shushan (Susa) and Jerusalem, Purim is celebrated on the 15th of the month, known as *Shushan Purim*. Purim is characterized by public recitation of the Book of Esther (*keriat ha-megilla*), giving mutual gifts of food and drink (*mishloach manot*), giving charity to the poor (*mattanot la-eyyonim*), and a celebratory meal (*se'udat Purim*);^[1] other customs include drinking wine, wearing of masks and costumes, and public celebration.

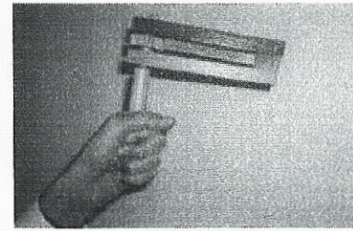
Jewish exiles from the Kingdom of Judah who had been living in the Babylonian captivity (6th Century BCE) found themselves under Persian rule after Babylonia was in turn conquered by the Persian Empire. According to the Book of Esther, Haman, royal vizier to King Ahasuerus / Xerxes,^[2] planned to kill the Jews, but his plans were foiled by Esther, who was made queen after Xerxes kicked out his previous queen, Vashti, and Mordechai, the palace gatekeeper for Xerxes who raised Esther when her parents died, though he was her cousin. The Jews were delivered from being the victims of an evil decree against them and were instead allowed by the King to destroy their enemies, and the day after the battle was designated as a day of feasting and rejoicing.

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 - 3.2 Burning of Haman's effigy
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- 4 Giving of food gifts and charity
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- 13 Purim Katan
- 14 Fasting before and after Purim
- 15 Other "Purims"
 - 15.1 Public / Communal

Make out of poppicle sticks + construction paper

Purim



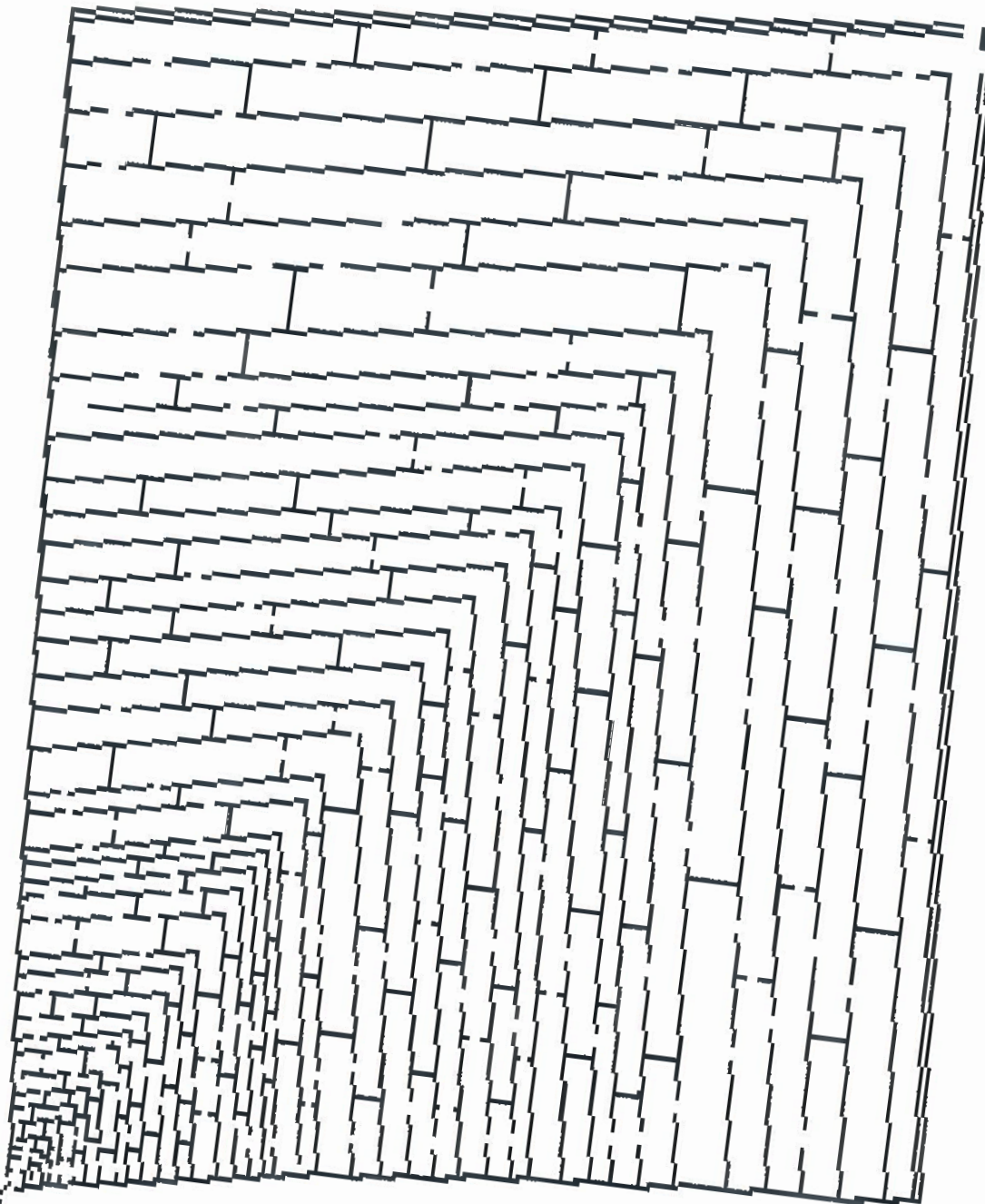
A Purim gragger, also called "ra'ashan" (noisemaker), used when Haman's name is mentioned during the reading of the Megilla, as tradition dictates, to blot out the name of evil.

Official name	Hebrew: פורים Translation: "Lots" (of a "lottery" performed by the wicked Haman)
Observed by	Judaism
Type	Jewish
Significance	Celebration of Jewish deliverance as told in the Book of Esther. After the destruction of the Kingdom of Judah, the Jews were taken into the seventy-year Babylonian captivity. When ancient Persia took control, Haman, royal vizier to King Ahasuerus, planned to kill the Jews, but his plans were foiled by Esther and Mordechai.
Date	14th day of Adar (in Jerusalem and all ancient walled cities on 15th of Adar)
2008 date	Sunset, 20 March – nightfall, 21 March
2009 date	Sunset, 9 March – nightfall, 10 March
Celebrations	Listening to the reading of the Book of Esther - the <i>Megillah</i> ("scroll") in synagogue. Giving Tzedakah "gifts to the poor" (<i>matanot le'evyonim</i>). Sending "gift food portions" (<i>mishloach manot</i>). Eating a festive meal.
Related to	Hanukkah, as a rabbinically decreed holiday



131 **MORDECAI IS HONORED**
(ESTHER 6:1-14)

Mordecai's procession begins here



The place of honor

132 **HAMAN'S EVIL IS REPAID** **(ESTHER 7:1-10)**

MEMORY VERSE:

***"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."* ROMANS 12:21**

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. "So the king and Haman went to dine with Queen Esther." **ESTHER 7:1**
TRUE OR FALSE

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

2. Queen Esther said to the king, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let ____ life be given me at ____ petition, and ____ people at ____ request."
ESTHER 7:3

UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

3. "For we have been sold, my people and I,..." **ESTHER 7:4**
a. to be destroyed
b. to be killed
c. to be annihilated
d. all of the above

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

4. "Then King Ahasuerus answered and said to Queen Esther, 'Who is he, and where is he, who would dare presume in his (**HEAD, HEART**) to do such a thing?' " **ESTHER 7:5**
5. "And Esther said, 'The adversary and enemy is this wicked (**HAMAN, KING**)!' So Haman was (**HAPPY, TERRIFIED**) before the king and queen." **ESTHER 7:6**

TRUE OR FALSE:

6. "Then the king arose in his wrath from the banquet of wine and went into the palace garden: but Haman stood before Queen Esther, pleading for his life, for he saw that evil was determined against him by the king." **ESTHER 7:7**
TRUE OR FALSE
7. "So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king's wrath subsided." **ESTHER 7:10**
TRUE OR FALSE

32. HAMAN'S EVIL IS REPAID

(ESTHER 7:1-10)

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

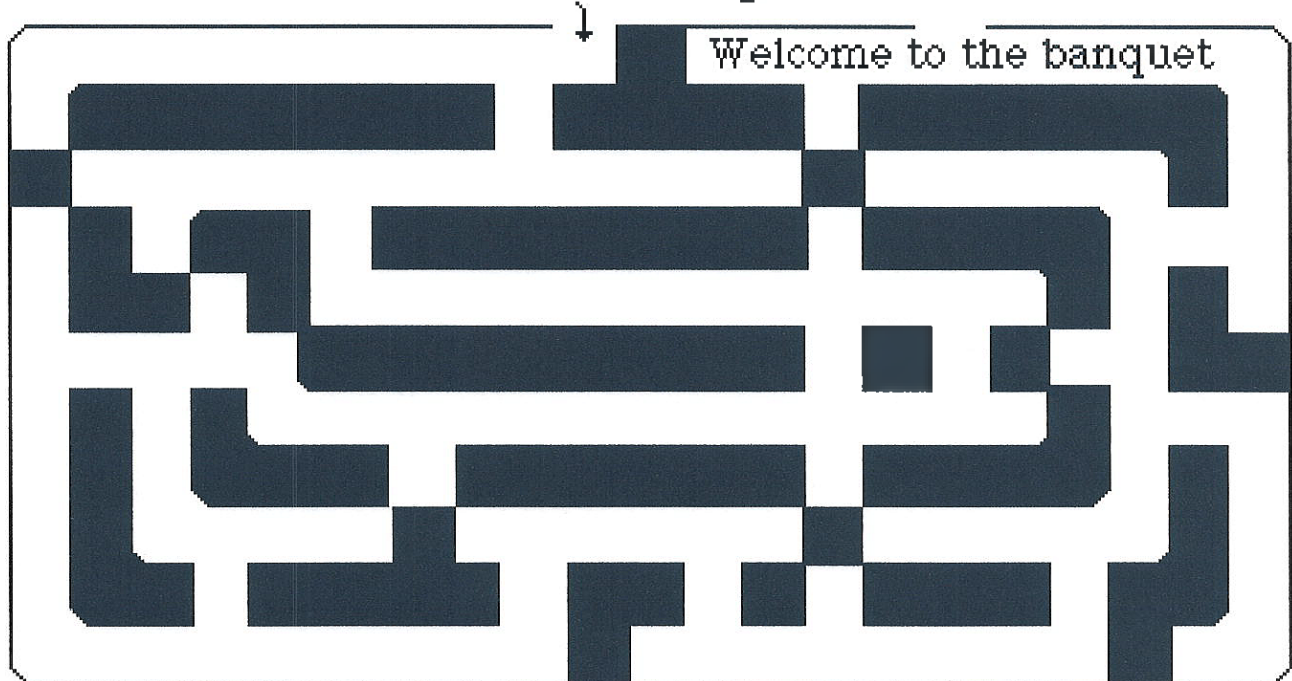
BANQUET
ENEMY
ESTHER
FAVOR

GALLOWS
GARDEN
HAMAN
HANGED

HEART
KING
MORDECAI
WRATH

PETITION
SOLD
TERRIFIED

You are invited to dine with the king!



ESTHER SAVES HER PEOPLE

(ESTHER 8:1-17)

MEMORY VERSE:

"When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; and when the wicked perish, there is shouting." PROVERBS 11:10

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. "King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her." **ESTHER 8:1**
TRUE OR FALSE

UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

2. "So the king..." **ESTHER 8:2**
a. took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman
b. gave it to Mordecai
c. and Esther appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman
d. all of the above

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

3. The king said to Queen Esther and Mordecai, "You yourselves write a decree for the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet _____; for a letter which is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet _____ no one can revoke." **ESTHER 8:8**
4. "By these _____ the king permitted the Jews who were in every city to gather together and _____ their lives." **ESTHER 8:11**

UNDERLINE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

5. "Now Mordecai went out from the presence of the king..." **ESTHER 8:15**
a. in royal apparel of blue and white
b. with a great crown of gold
c. and a garment of fine linen and purple
d. all of the above

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:

6. "The Jews had..." **ESTHER 8:16**
LIGHT GLADNESS SADNESS MADNESS JOY HONOR

FILL IN THE BLANKS:

7. "And in every province and city, wherever the king's command and decree came, the Jews had _____ and _____, a feast and a holiday. Then many of the people of the land became Jews because _____ of the Jews fell upon them." **ESTHER 8:17**

ESTHER SAVES HER PEOPLE

(ESTHER 8:1-17)

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

DECREE
 FEAR
 GLADNESS
 GOLDEN SCEPTER
 HAMAN

HONOR
 HOUSE
 JEWS
 JOY

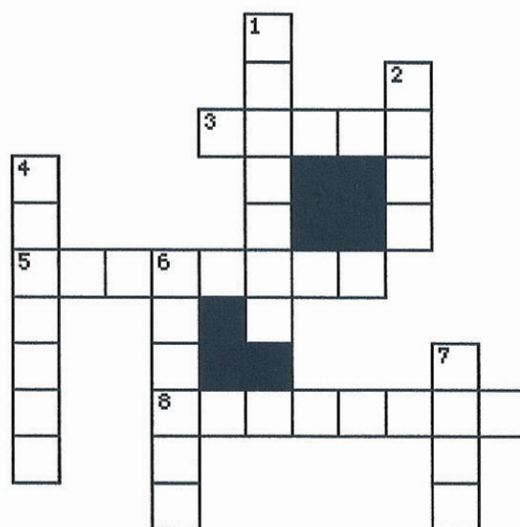
KINDRED
 KING AHASUERUS
 LETTER
 LIGHT

PLOT
 PROTECT
 QUEEN ESTHER
 SIGNET RING



ESTHER SAVES HER PEOPLE

(ESTHER 8:1-17)



- 8 ACROSS "When it goes well with the righteous, the city _____; and when the wicked perish, there is shouting." **PROVERBS 11:10**
- 3 ACROSS "King Ahasuerus gave Queen Esther the _____ of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her." **ESTHER 8:1**
- 7 DOWN "So the king took off his signet _____, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai; and Esther appointed Mordecai over the house of Haman." **ESTHER 8:2**
- 6 DOWN The king said to Queen Esther and Mordecai, "You yourselves write a _____ for the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; for a letter which is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke." **ESTHER 8:8**
- 1 DOWN "By these letters the king permitted the Jews who were in every city to gather together and _____ their lives." **ESTHER 8:11**
- 5 ACROSS "Now _____ went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, with a great crown of gold and a garment of fine linen and purple." **ESTHER 8:15**
- 2 DOWN "The _____ had. light and gladness, joy and honor." **ESTHER 8:16**
- 4 DOWN "And in every province and city, wherever the king's _____ and decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a holiday. Then many of the people of the land became Jews, because fear of the Jews fell upon them." **ESTHER 8:17**