

Esther In God's Plan of Redemption

By
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Breaking News

Newly Deciphered Qumran Scroll Revealed
to Be Megillat Esther

Purim and Passover

Esther 3:7

“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.”

Purim and Passover

Esther 9:26a

“Therefore they called these days Purim, after the term Pur.”

Why Call It Purim?

Purim and Passover

“Pur, the word which in Ancient Persian or Aramaic means lots, just happens, in Biblical Hebrew, to mean: “annul.” In the context of the Megillah, the term pur, then, refers not just to Haman’s lots, it also refers to the act that Mordechai told Esther she has the power to accomplish in the face of the king’s decree; that is, she could annul it.”

- David Fohrman, *The Queen You Thought You Knew*

Purim and Passover

Esther 3:7

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Purim and Passover

Esther 3:12a

“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.

Purim and Passover

Exodus 12:5–6

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

Purim and Passover

Esther 3:13

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.

Purim and Passover

Esther 4:16

“Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and *do not eat or drink for three days*, night or day. I and my young women will also fast as you do. Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”

Purim and Passover

Exodus 12:8–10

They shall *eat the flesh that night*, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs *they shall eat it*. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.

Purim and Passover

“The two feast may be seen as ‘mirrored bookends’ of redemption, occurring as they do the same day in the first and last month of the Jewish festal calendar, at opposite ends of Israelite biblical history, and so calling attention to the year-round, enduring faithfulness of God toward the people he has sworn eternally to preserve.”

- Michael G. Wechsler, “The Purim-Passover Connection”

The Seven Feasts of the Lord

'These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.' Col 2:17



The Spring Feasts (fulfilled @ Jesus' first coming)

Passover	Unleavened Bread	FirstFruits	Pentecost
Crucifixion Of Jesus	Burial Of Jesus	Resurrection Of Jesus	Coming of the Holy Spirit
Nisan 14	Nisan 15-22	Nisan 17	Sivan 7
Exodus 12 Matt 26:17-27	Lev 23:6-8 I Cor 5:7-8	Lev 23:9-14 I Cor 15:20-23	Lev 23:15-22 Acts 1 & 2

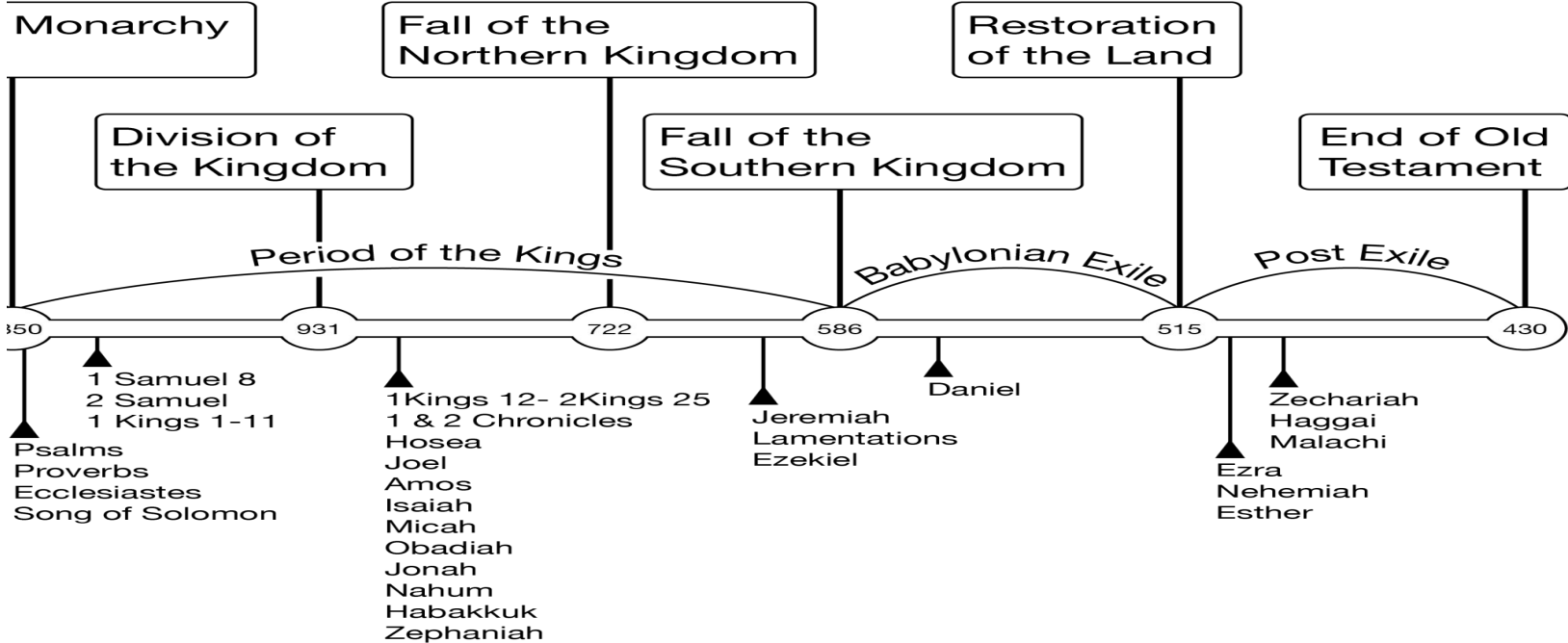
Feast Gap Period (fulfilled by Church Age)

The Autumn (Fall) Feasts (fulfilled @ Jesus' second coming)

Trumpets	Atonement	Tabernacles
Rapture & Resurrection Of Believers	Second Coming Of Jesus	Messianic Kingdom Age
Tishri 1	Tishri 10	Tishri 15-22
Lev 23:23-25 1 Cor 15:51-52	Lev 23:26-32 Matt 24:29-30	Lev 23:33-44 Rev 20:1-6

———— 'The Days of Awe' ————
Time of Jacob's trouble

In Exile



In Exile

Esther: Ishtar - love and war Persian “stara” - star

Hebrew root “str” - hide or conceal

Esther 2:10

**Esther had not made known her people or kindred, for
Mordecai had commanded her not to make it known.**

In Exile

“Esther’s name was more than a clever wordplay revealing her role in the story; it was an indication that the story as a whole was one of hiding—divine hiding.”

-Bryan R. Gregory, *Inconspicuous Providence*

In Exile

“God is present even when he is most absent; when there are no miracles, dreams or visions, no charismatic leaders, no prophets to interpret what is happening, and not even any explicit God-talk. And he is present as deliverer.”

- B. G. Webb, *Five Festal Garments*

In Exile

Deuteronomy 31:16-18

In Exile

Deuteronomy 32:20

**And he said, 'I will hide my face from them;
I will see what their end will be,
for they are a perverse generation,
children in whom is no faithfulness.**

In Exile

Deuteronomy 32:21

**They have made me jealous with what is no god;
they have provoked me to anger with their idols.
So I will make them jealous with those who are no
people;
I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.**

In Exile

Tabernacle and Temple Imagery

- **Esther 1:1-9**

In Exile

“There was white material of fine linen (חור כרפס) and blue material (תכלת) [of fine linen], fastened by cords of flax (בוץ) and purple material (ארגמן) upon rods of silver; and there were columns of marble (עמודי שש); there were couches of gold and silver upon a pavement (רצפת) of marble (שש) and alabaster (בהט), and mother-of-pearl (דר) and precious stone (סחרת).”

- Max Rogland, “The Cult of Esther”

In Exile

Tabernacle and Temple Imagery

- **Esther 5:1**

In Exile

“And on the third day Esther put on royal (clothes) and stood in the inner court of the house of the king (בַּחצֵר בֵּית־הַמֶּלֶךְ), in front of the house of the king (נִכַּח בֵּית הַמֶּלֶךְ), and the king was sitting upon his royal throne in the royal house in front of the entrance of the house (נִכַּח פֶּתַח תְּבִיָּה).”

- Max Rogland, “The Cult of Esther”

In Exile

“The cumulative effect of the thematic parallels subtly sets up God, his temple, his garden, and his banquet for all the peoples over against Ahasuerus, his palace, his garden, and his banquet for all the peoples.”

- Bryan R. Gregory, *Inconspicuous Providence*

In Exile

Vashti's Refusal to Obey the King's Command

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Israel's Refusal to Obey God's Command

In Exile

Israel's Disobedience and Unfaithfulness

- **Jeremiah 2:23-5:19**
- **Ezekiel 14:12-16:63**
- **Hosea**

Blessings and Cursings

Esther 2:5

“Now there was a Jew in Susa the citadel whose name was Mordecai, the son of Jair, son of Shimei, son of Kish, a Benjaminite”

Blessings and Cursings

Esther 3:1

“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.”

Blessings and Cursings

- **1 Samuel 15**
- **Exodus 17:8-16**
- **Deut 25:17-19**

Blessings and Cursings

Esther 6:13

“And Haman told his wife Zeresh and all his friends everything that had happened to him. Then his wise men and his wife Zeresh said to him, ‘If Mordecai, before whom you have begun to fall, is of the Jewish people, you will not overcome him but will surely fall before him.’”

Blessings and Cursings

Esther 10:3

“For Mordecai the Jew was second in rank to King Ahasuerus, and he was great among the Jews and popular with the multitude of his brothers, for he sought the welfare of his people and spoke peace to all his people.”

Blessings and Cursings

***zě'·rǎ'* : seed; offspring, descendants**

“The noun zera' (seed) never occurs in the plural in the OT. Accordingly, the singular term can be used “collectively,” that is, the singular form is used for both an individual seed and a group of seeds.”

- James Hamilton, Jr., “The Skull Crushing Seed of the Woman”

Blessings and Cursings

1 Kings 2:33b

“So shall their blood come back on the head of Joab and on the head of his descendants forever. But for David and for his descendants and for his house and for his throne there shall be peace from the LORD forevermore.”

Recommended Resources

Fohrman, David, *The Queen You Thought You Knew*. Dallas TX: OU Press, 2011.

Gregory, Bryan R. *Inconspicuous Providence: The Gospel According to Esther*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 2014.

Rogland, Max. "The Cult of Esther: Temple and Priestly Imagery in the Book of Esther." *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*, vol. 44, no. 1, 2019, pp. 99-114.

Schellekens, Jona. "Accession Days and Holidays: The Origins of the Jewish Festival of Purim." *Journal of Biblical Literature*, vol. 128, no. 1, 2009, pp. 115-134,

Recommended Resources

Tomasino, Anthony J. "Interpreting Esther from the Inside Out: Hermeneutical Implications of the Chiastic Structure of the Book of Esther." *Journal of Biblical Literature*, vol. 138, no. 1, 2019, pp. 101-120.

Webb, Barry G. *Five Festal Garments: Christian Reflections on The Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentation, Ecclesiastes and Esther*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2000.

Wechsler, Michael G. "The Purim-Passover Connection: A Reflection of Jewish Exegetical Tradition in the Peshitta Book of Esther." *Journal of Biblical Literature*, vol. 117, no. 2, 1998, pp. 321-327.