

Officer Eleazar prepares us for Purim; a time to remember that the best answer to hatred is unity p.2

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Read how Esther and Mordecai used faith and wisdom to rescue Israel from slaughter.

IUIC

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PURIM: ESTHER'S LOVE SAVES ISRAEL

ESTHER 3:1 - 7:10 THE HOLY BIBLE, KJV

Long ago, in a country called Persia, King Ahasuerus, was horribly disrespected by his beautiful wife, Vashti. She was nasty and arrogant. So the king ordered her to be killed, and ordered a search for his next queen.

Soon after the king's scouts found Esther, a most beautiful and graceful Israelite woman, and chose her. Her uncle and caretaker, Mordecai, leader of the Jews, allowed Esther to marry the king. Though he warned her not to reveal her identity as an Israelite from the tribe of Benjamin. She agreed.

One of the king's advisors, Haman, did not like Israelites because they kept the laws of God, and he especially did not like Mordecai. He would not bow to Haman in the streets.

This angered Haman so much that he asked King Ahasuerus if he could annihilate all Jews. Haman decided that on the thirteenth day of the month of Adar the killing would begin.

Hearing of this Mordecai told Esther what Haman was planning, and to go to the king to plead for the Jews. She fasted and prayed three days, planned a beautiful banquet for the king, and wisely invited Haman. To help her cause, later that night one of the king's workers read to him a book that exposed Haman's plot to assassinate the King. It was written by Mordecai.

To this, the king spared Esther and her people. Then he ordered Haman to be hung on the same gallows that he had built for Mordecai.

Purim: Esther's love for Israel

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

- 1 What country did the story of Purim take place?
- 2 He was the king, and had a disrespectful wife, named Vashti.
- 3 He asked King Ahasuerus to annihilate the Jews.
- 4 She fasted and prayed 3 days before going to see the king.
- 5 This man was the leader of the Jews and exposed a plot to kill the king.
- 6 In this month on the 13th day the Jews were to be killed.

WORD SEARCH: CAN YOU FIND...

Ahasuerus, Esther, Adar, Mordecai, Haman, Persia

Sabbath Recipes for Kids

Chef Chana's Awesome Garlic Herb Hummus!

Step 1: In a blender add 1 can of Garbanzo beans (rinsed and drained), 1 or 2 cloves of garlic, 1 tbsp lemon juice, 1 tsp tahini paste or 1/4 tsp of sesame oil, 1/2 tbsp of fresh herbs (optional), 1/4 cup water and 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil, and blend, adjust thickness using a little more water or olive oil.

Step 2: As you blend add spices to taste: salt, pepper, garlic powder and paprika. When done dip with pretzels, crackers or fresh veggies. All Praises to the most High for that! Enjoy.





A MESSAGE FOR THE KIDDOS FROM OFFICER ELEAZAR'S DESK

SMART TALK:
What does it mean to be an Israelite?

PURIM: THE ANSWER TO HATRED IS UNITY.

For Officer Eleazar of IUIC-ATL, there are many lessons to take from the story of Queen Esther, the heroine of the story of Purim. Though one of his favorites is that we are stronger together.

"Esther told Mordecai to gather the Israelites. And as one they prayed and fasted for her success," the officer said.

"Because of this she overcame Haman's plan to get rid of all

the Jews. In the end Haman was hung on the same gallows that he planned to hang Mordecai on."

He went on to note that Esther was not only beautiful, but also wise. She took counsel with her elder, Mordecai, and applied the advice.

"Although the Persians gave Israel a great deal of freedom considering they had been

exiled from the homeland, they were still in captivity and she kept that in mind."

"Her courage was inspiring. Esther was nice and respectful to the king. Her wisdom is why Israel was saved."

The officer also reminds us that the word "Purim" comes from the Akkadin word "Puru," which means to "cast lots." As Haman did to decide the day of to slaughter all the Jews.

Esther 9:19

"Therefore the Jews of the villages, that dwelt in the unwalled towns, made the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, and a good day, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor"

PURIM TALK: WHO SAID THAT?

Read Esther 3:1-7:10. Draw a line to match the quote with the person who said it.



"If I have found favor in your sight, O King, please spare my life and the life of my people."

"And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

"There is a certain people in your kingdom whose laws are different from those of every other people."

"What is it, Queen Esther? It shall be given you, even half of my kingdom."

