

SERMON NOTES

October 4 2026

Purim in the Book of Esther and Anti-Semitism

The Purim story started at a time when many Jews were living in _____ in Persia in the 5th century BC.

The king of Persia was _____ I, sometimes called Ahasuerus.

Esther 1:1 *"This is what happened during the time of Ahasuerus, the Ahaseurus who ruled from India to Ethiopia over 127 provinces."*

The queen was named Vashti, who fell out of favor with her husband when she refused the king's request. Esther 1:12 *"At this the king became enraged, and his anger burned within him."*

He _____ her by royal decree which could not be undone.

Esther 2:3, a search was made throughout the land for a _____ queen.

Esther 2:5 - *"Now there was in Susa a Jew named Mordecai who had been carried away from Jerusalem among the captives... He was bringing up Hadassah, that is Esther... for she had neither father or mother."*

Esther 2:17 *"the king loved her more than all the others so that he set the crown on her head."*

Esther 2:20 She kept her Jewish identity _____,

Esther 3 The Jewish people were _____ as outsiders. Haman, the _____ of Persia hated the Jews because Mordecai would not _____ before him.

Esther 3:6 Haman decided to "_____ any in the Jewish line in the whole kingdom of Ahasueras."

Genesis 12:3, God called Abram to be the father of a _____ people whom He would _____. *"I am choosing to bless you. Those who curse you I will curse. Those who bless you, I will bless, and you will be a blessing to the world."*

Israel is God's _____ nation. _____ wants the Jewish people destroyed. This is an example of God _____ His chosen people.

Sometimes Israel is called _____.

2 Chronicles 36:23 *"And in the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia ... he issued a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying: "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: "'The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up, and may the LORD their God be with them.'"*

Over _____ immigrated back to Israel.

Many were influenced by threats of _____ and genocide against the Jews. Today, it is no different. As a nation Israel is _____ by Arab nations wanting to destroy the Jewish nation.

Antisemitism is pervasive, but don't reject _____ Israel - those who place their faith in God

Jerusalem may be the center of _____, but Jesus Christ is the center of _____.

Esther 3:7 Haman casts a _____ (casting lots) to choose a date to _____ anyone Jewish. God chose that date. God has a plan and a will.

Esther 3:8-10 *"Haman went to the king and said, "There is a certain people dispersed among the peoples of your kingdom. Their laws are different from ours. They don't keep your laws O king. If it pleases the king, let it be decreed that they be destroyed." So the king took his signet ring and gave it to Haman, the enemy of the Jews."*

Esther 4:14 *"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"*

Esther 7:3-6 *"If I have found favor in your eyes O King, let my life be granted me and my people. For we have been sold, and I and my people are to be destroyed., to be killed and to be annihilated... Who is this one who dares to do this? Esther replies, "A foe and an enemy. This wicked Haman!"*

Vs. 10 *"Haman was hung on the very gallows meant for Mordecai."*

Esther 8 Mordecai _____ Haman as prime minister.

Esther 8:11 the Jews are given license to _____ themselves.

Esther 9 Jews _____ their enemy. God _____ them.

Esther 9:20-22 Purim is declared as an _____ festival remembering how Esther acted to save the Jews from destruction.