

MODERN ECHOES OF PURIM

By Stephen J Spykerman 1st March 2018

Most of us will be familiar with the Purim story from the biblical book of Esther, in which the evil Haman planned genocide against the Jewish citizens of the Persian Empire, which stretched across 127 Provinces from India to Ethiopia and from Turkey to Arabia. Haman planned an empire wide attack, which had it been successful, would have annihilated the entire Jewish race in one fell swoop and in one single day! His evil plan was:

"And the letters were sent by couriers into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions."

(Esther 3:13, NKJV)

Of course, we know that Haman's plans were thwarted and that the terrible edict was rescinded. The Jews were then, through an incredible set of miraculous circumstances, to turn the tables on Haman and their enemies, culminating in the

hanging of the evil Haman on his own gallows, as well as the subsequent hanging of his ten sons.

Recent history has shown the timeless relevance of the Purim story, as



Haman was the ultimate role-model, inspiration, and forerunner of Adolph Hitler. The German Fuehrer was hell bent, much like Haman, on the eradication of the Jews from the face of the earth. Mordecai and Queen Esther were not around to save six million Jews from Hitler's extermination camps. Yet, the God of Israel, did provide a rescue plan in the form of the British, Canadian, Australian, New Zealand, Indian and South African sons of Ephraim, who for a time stood alone in stubborn resistance against the fearsome Nazi regime. We also know that later on, they were joined by the American (sons of Manasseh), and together those two sons of Joseph defeated the modern manifestation of Haman.

The prophet Isaiah has given us a dramatic end-time scenario, which appears to indicate that Ephraim will once again play a role in the rescue of Judah, and that this final effort will lead to peace and reconciliation between the two Houses of Israel.

"Also the envy of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim. BUT THEY SHALL FLY DOWN UPON THE SHOULDER OF THE PHILISTINES TOWARD THE WEST; TOGETHER THEY SHALL PLUNDER THE PEOPLE OF THE EAST; TOGETHER THEY SHALL LAY THEIR HAND ON EDOM AND MOAB; AND THE PEOPLE OF AMON SHALL OBEY THEM."

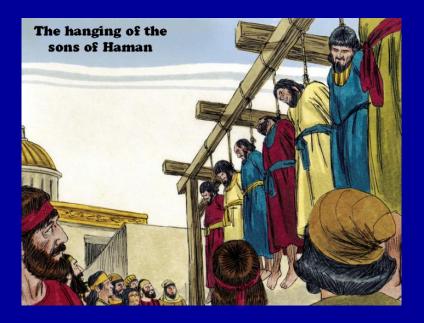
(Isaiah 11:13-14, NKJV, emphasis added)

Let us now examine how just in the last seventy one years the world has witnessed the most perfect fulfilment of a prophecy that was uttered by Queen Esther herself some 2,500 years ago. It is a prophecy that is so well hidden in the Book of Esther, that you could read the book a dozen times and not notice it. This prophecy, and its unerring fulfillment in our recent history, presents us with up to date and truly astonishing proof of the veracity of, not only the book of Esther, but also of the Bible itself.

We have read about the plan by Haman Ben Hamadatha, a descendant of Amalek, to exterminate the Jewish people on a scale the likes of which had never before been attempted.

"To destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all Jews young and old, little children and women."

(Esther 3:13, NKJV)



In Esther 9:12-14 there is a prophecy which is indicated by Queen Esther that lies yet in the future! Remember, that by the time she utters it that the evil Haman had been hanged. Notice also that Haman's Ten sons had already been killed – see verse 10.

What we see in the text starting at verse 12 is an intriguing dialogue between Esther and King Ahasverus:

"And the king said to Queen Esther, "The Jews have killed and destroyed five hundred men in Shushan the citadel, and the ten sons of Haman. What have they done in the rest of the king's provinces? Now what is your petition? It shall be granted to you. Or what is your further request? It shall be done." Then Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let it be granted to the Jews who are in Shushan to do again tomorrow according to today's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged on the gallows." So the king commanded this to be done; the decree was issued in Shushan, and they hanged Haman's ten sons."

(Esther 9:12-14, NKJV)

"Esther's request seems somewhat strange because Haman's Ten sons were already dead! WHY BOTHER TO HANG THEM?"

(Rashi on Esther 9:13)

They were dead! The key lies in the word "TOMORROW" in Esther's request in verse 13.

According to the Sages:

"There is a tomorrow that is now, and a tomorrow that is later."

(Tanchuma Bo 13; Rashi on Exodus 13:14)

In other words, Esther was asking that the hanging of Haman's sons not remain an isolated case in history, but that it should recur in the future as well. Only God Himself could make such a promise, and in this, we have an indication that King Ahasverus here symbolises the Holy One of Israel, as no human king could make such a promise.

"And the King commanded it to be done."

(Esther 9:14, NKJV)

If Queen Esther spoke with Divine inspiration, we should expect Queen Esther's prophecy to come true at some time in the future. The question is: *Has it become true?*

In the Megilla of Esther the list of Haman's ten sons appears on a separate page, written in a prominent, unusual manner. The passage is written in a narrow pattern. The left hand column contains the word '<u>ve-at</u>' (and) ten times. According to the Sages, the term '<u>ve-at</u>' is used to denote replication. Thus, we have to conclude that another 10 people are to be hung in addition to Haman's 10 sons. (See Yalkut Me'am <u>Lo'ez on Esther (Jerusalem: Or Hadas, 5734)</u>, p. 237)

WHICH TEN OTHERS WERE HUNG?



For the answer, we must jump nearly 2,500 years forward – if we examine the list of names of Haman's ten sons, we discover that three letters are written smaller. The three letters are: **TET** (2), **SHIN** (2) & **ZAYIN** (7). The three letters together form the Jewish year 5707 (1946 C.E.), and this is the year we find the most astounding ECHO OF PURIM AS IT IS THE YEAR THAT TEN NAZI WAR CRIMINALS ARE HUNG ON THE GALLOWS. 1946 is the year that ten Nazi war criminals were executed. Of the 23 Nazi war criminals on trial in Nuremberg, 11 were in fact sentenced to execution by hanging. Two hours before

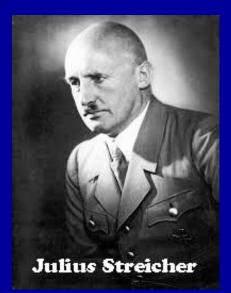
the sentence was due to be carried out, Hermann GOERING, Hitler's designated Deputy and the Head of the Luftwaffe, committed suicide the night before his execution with a cyanide capsule he had hidden in a medicinal jar of skin cream in his cell. (www.history.com/topics/world-war-II/Nuremberg - trials)



Therefore only 10 descendants of Amalek were hung, thus fulfilling the request of Queen Esther; "Let Haman's ten sons be hanged."

Furthermore, since the trial was by a military tribunal, the sentence handed down should have been death by firing squad, or by electric chair, as practised in America. However, the court specifically prescribed hanging, exactly as in Esther's original request: "Let Haman's ten sons be hanged."

Though doubt may linger about the connection between the Book of Esther and the Nazi war one of the condemned criminals. **JULIUS** STREICHER, certainly had none. Streicher was editor of the notorious Nazi weekly *Der Sturmer*, which for 22 years disseminated venom and hate against the Jewish people by publishing the most virulently anti-Semitic diatribes in history. Streicher seemed to be aware of the parallel with Purim. Through some insight, Streicher appears to have grasped the link to Purim, as revealed by his final shout, with the noose around his neck, mere seconds before he was hanged.



Eyewitnesses reporting on Streicher's last moments in the execution chamber commented as follows:

Streicher appeared in the chamber.... His scream of "HEIL HITLER" sent a shiver down the back... as he mounted the platform, he called out: "and now it goes to God."

He glared at the Allied officers and the eight Allied correspondents representing the world's press, who were lined up facing the gallows.

With burning hatred in his eyes, Streicher looked down at the witnesses and shouted:

"PURIM FEST 1946!"

(The New York Herald Tribune, October 16, 1946)

Thus, both Goering and Streicher had become unwitting instruments in fulfilling Esther's prophecy.

If these coincidences are not enough, the calendar for that month provides us with further confirmation. The date of the execution was October 16, 1946, which fell on the Jewish festival of HOSHANNA RABA (21 Tishrei), which is the day God's verdicts are sealed.

This was the very day they were hanged.



The death sentences imposed were carried out by Master Sergeant John C. Woods, who told a reporter from Time magazine that he was proud of his work. "The way I look at this hanging job, somebody has to do it....ten men in 103 minutes. That's fast work!"

(<u>www.history.com/topics/world-war-II/Nuremberg</u> - trials)

Solomon said:

"That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the son."

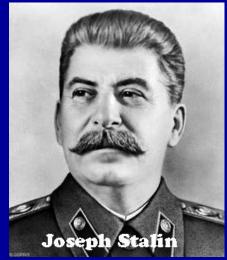
(Ecclesiastes 1:9, NKJV)

The French encapsulate Solomon's words very well, as they say: "L'Histoire ce repete!" In

English this means "The story repeats itself."

AN OTHER ECHO OF PURIM is found in the Soviet Union a few years later. In early 1953, Stalin was planning to deport most of the Jews in the Soviet Union to Siberia. Then just before he could put his plans into operation, he suffered a major stroke on the night of March 1, 1953: the night after Purim and he died a few Days later. The plan to deport Jews was mercifully not carried out.

Purim certainly appears to be as relevant as ever even unto this very day. By all accounts, it is plain to see that the Islamic world is united in their hatred for the Jewish people. It is a burning hatred that is



beyond all reason. The vitriolic clamour for the destruction of Israel grows by the day

and anti-Semitism has sadly once again become a world-wide phenomenon, exceeding even that of 1939.

DOES ANYONE SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THIS IS JUST A COINCIDENCE?



Purim has featured again some 46 years after the Second World War ended, as the best Purim the Jewish people have had in centuries was when GULF WAR I came to an end on the Feast of Purim in 1991. Little Jewish kids exchanged their gasmasks for festive Purim masks and Purim party costumes, while their parents marvelled at how the evil Saddam Hussein was forced to surrender on the same day that Haman's forces were defeated some 2,500 years earlier.

Imagine Judah's surprise just 12 years later when GULF WAR II, as if guided by an unseen hand, was started at Purim in 2003. If you remember, the notorious Saddam Hussein was hung also! Remember also that it was once again those two intrepid sons of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, that is to say the coalition forces led by America and Great Britain who saved the day by defeating the tyrant. Furthermore, no sooner than Saddam Hussein has joined his evil forebears, the Purim story continues to this day, as another Persian gentleman by the name of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and his successors, ably assisted by some 1.2 billion followers of Islam, are clamouring to follow in the footsteps of Haman. It is a great



irony that the Jewish State of Israel today faces a ruthless enemy in much of the Islamic world, which is led by Iran. Make no mistake about it, they too are bent on the extermination of the Jewish people! The irony is that the ANCIENT name for Iran is PERSIA, which takes us straight back to Haman. The echoes of Purim seem to be everywhere! History does indeed repeat itself!



We can take comfort from the fact that Haman, Hitler, Stalin and Saddam Hussein all came to a very sticky end, and we may be sure that Ahmadinejad, President Rhuhani and Grand Ayatolla Khomenei and the Koranic followers of the jihadic "Moon god" of Islam will suffer the same fate in our day.





History does indeed repeat itself, and for sure, we may even now not have seen the last of Haman's ten sons yet, as we may infer an end-time scenario from the Book of Daniel 7:24:

"The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom...."

Who is to say if in the future, we will not see yet another major Echo of Purim with yet another ten sons of Haman being hanged?

SEE: REVELATION 17:12:

"The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast."

This makes Purim one of the most relevant and up to date Festivals of Judaism.

As the world and its society rushes headlong into the close of this age, the world will witness man's final diabolical quest to exterminate every single Jew and Israelite on this planet at a time the Bible refers to as **THE TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE**. This satanic plan will be **THE FINAL EXCHOE OF PURIM**, and it will be led by a new end-time Haman, who will be at the head of a ONE World Government with absolute power over all of mankind. This new Haman will unleash unspeakable

horrors and tribulation upon the world in order to destroy the remnant of Israel: "To destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish, all Jews, Israelites, Christians young and old, little children and women, in one day, the thirteenth of Adar, and to plunder their possessions."

Messiah Yeshua comments on this time in the most absolute terms, as follows:

"21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."

(Matthew 24:21-22, NKJV)

Just as on every previous occasion this new end-time Haman is not permitted to succeed......

"5 Behold, the days are coming, says YEHOVAH, "That I WILL RAISE TO DAVID A BRANCH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 6 In His days JUDAH WILL BE SAVED AND ISRAEL WILL DWELL SAFELY;..."

(Jeremiah 23:5-6, NKJV, emphasis added)

Purim is an awesome real life story of deliverance, yet some people have little regard for the book of Esther because the name of God is not mentioned in its pages. While His "written" name is not there, we clearly see His name, meaning His character, plus His Mighty Right Arm of protection in action throughout. Yehovah's name may not be spelled out in writing but His signs of deliverance abound throughout its pages.

All of us had, or perhaps are presently having times when we need to be delivered from our enemies. So let us follow the example of Mordecai and Esther and trust that our Elohim can save us.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the New King James Version.

For more on Purim, please see our other article titled "Hidden Purim Secrets of Esther."