

NCYI Youth Groups Purim



by Yaffa Ganz

<http://www.aish.com/h/pur/ff/48970006.html>

Is Purim just a fun-filled dress up holiday? Or is it something more? Perhaps it's a flip-flop, upside-down, full of surprises kind of day...not at all what you'd expect.

Over 2,000 years ago, the Holy Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar. The Jewish people were sent away from the Land of Israel and were forced to live in Babylonia.

Fifty years later, Babylonia was defeated by Persia. Achashverosh (that's pronounced: Ah-chash-vey-rosh) was the second Persian king. He ruled 127 provinces from *Hodu* (India) to *Kush* (Africa) the largest, strongest kingdom in the world.

A new king needs a new capital, so Achashverosh chose the city of Shushan. To celebrate, he made a tremendous feast for all the important people in the kingdom. It lasted for 180 days. Then he made a second feast just for Shushan. Everyone in the city was invited, even the Jews.

Mordechai, the leader of the Jews, warned his people not to go to the feast, but they were afraid to disobey the king. And to tell the truth, they were honored and pleased to have been invited. For seven days they ate and drank to their heart's content. Only one thing troubled them. Achashverosh brought the gold and silver vessels from the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and used them for his wild celebration...

The drunken king began to brag that his queen Vashti was the most beautiful woman in the kingdom. On the last day of the feast, he commanded her to come and dance before the crowd. But Vashti was the proud granddaughter of the cruel Nebuchadnezzar and she refused to appear. "Am I a servant to the king?" she asked. In a fit of anger, the king had her killed.

Achashverosh now needed a new queen and he wanted someone even more beautiful than Vashti. His men went from house to house in all of Persia, taking the young girls away to Shushan where they were kept as hostages until they were brought before the king.

In Shushan, a Jewish orphan by the name of Hadassah lived with her uncle Mordechai. When the king's men came to her house, Mordechai said, "Don't be afraid. Go with them. Do not tell them you are a Jewess. Tell them your Persian name -- Esther. God will watch over you!"

Esther was kind and gentle and very beautiful. As soon as the king saw her, he chose her as his new queen. Esther appointed seven maidservants, one for each day of the week, so that she would always remember which day was the Sabbath. Her meals were cooked with kosher foods. And all the while, she kept her secret. No one knew she was a Jew. Everyday, Mordechai sat outside the palace gate to wait for news from Esther.

One day outside the palace, Mordechai happened to hear two men plotting to kill the king. He warned Esther and the two men were caught and killed. Although it was recorded in the Royal Book that Mordechai the Jew had saved the king, the matter was soon forgotten.

Soon after, Achashverosh appointed Haman -- the richest man in the kingdom -- as his new prime minister. All the king's subjects were ordered to honor Haman and bow down to him. Everyone did, except Mordechai. It was permissible to honor Haman and bow to him as the prime minister, but Haman wore a large medallion, engraved with the picture of an idol, on his chest. Mordechai said people might think he was bowing to the idol too, and a Jew is forbidden to worship or honor idols.

Haman was furious. He went straight to the king to complain. "There is one nation," he said, "scattered throughout your kingdom, which is different from all other nations. They don't eat our food, drink our wine, or marry our daughters! They don't keep the king's laws and they don't work! Every seventh day they rest and they are always celebrating holidays. If you give me permission, I will destroy them for you. I will even pay for any expenses from my own money!"

Achashverosh gave Haman his royal ring, to seal the orders and decrees. Anxious to do a perfect job, Haman wanted to execute his plan on the right day, a lucky day blessed by his gods and the stars. He cast lots -- *purim* in Hebrew -- to choose the day. Then he sent out letters, sealed with the king's royal ring, to each of the 127 provinces in the kingdom.

"On the 13th day of the month of Adar," the decree said "you are to destroy, kill and slaughter all Jews, young and old, women and children, all in one day. Their money and property will then belong to you."

When Mordechai heard of the decree, he ripped his clothing and put ashes on his head as a sign of mourning. He told Esther she must go to the king to try and save the Jews. Esther was afraid, for it was forbidden to come before the king without being invited. But Mordechai said, "Who knows if you have not been put in the palace for this very purpose? If you are silent now, help will come to the Jews from some other place -- and you will perish!"

Esther asked that the Jews in Shushan fast and pray for her for three days. Mordechai gathered all the Jewish children in Shushan and told them to pray, too. (In the end, it was the prayers of the children which were answered.)

The Jews finally realized they should not have gone to the king's feast; they should not have eaten at the royal banquet nor drunk the wine, nor used the vessels from the Holy Temple. They understood that this was their punishment for fearing the king more than they feared God.

When the three days of prayers and fasting were over, Esther went to the king. "What is your request, my queen?" he asked. "Half of my kingdom is yours for the asking!"

But Esther asked only that the king and Haman come to a private banquet she was making. At the banquet, Achashverosh asked again, "What is your wish? Whatever you want is yours!" But Esther only invited the king and Haman to a second party. "How strange," thought the king. But Haman was delighted. On his way out of the palace, he passed Mordechai at the gate. His delight turned to hate. "I am important enough to be invited to the queen's private banquets together with the king -- and that Jew refuses to bow down to me?!" He wanted to kill Mordechai then and there, without waiting for the 13th of Adar!

"Do it!" advised his evil wife Zeresh. So Haman built a gallows, 50 cubits high, in his own courtyard. He would hang Mordechai at the first opportunity!

That night, the king could not fall asleep. He tossed and turned and finally called for his servant to bring out the Royal Book and read him to sleep. The heavy book fell open to the story of how Mordechai the Jew had warned of the plot against the king and saved the king's life.

"What reward did the Jew receive?" asked the king.

"None, sir," was the reply.

"He saved my life and received no reward?!" stormed the king.

Just then, someone knocked. It was Haman, coming for permission to hang Mordechai the Jew. He was in such a hurry he couldn't even wait for the morning!

"Haman!" thundered the king. "Tell me, what shall be done for a man the king wishes to honor?"

"He must be referring to me," thought Haman gleefully. "I know just the thing," he said. "Let him wear the king's royal robes. Place the king's royal crown upon his head. Let him ride the king's royal horse. And let a servant walk before the horse and cry out: Thus shall be done to the man whom the king wishes to honor!"

"Wonderful idea!" cried the Achashverosh. "I shall leave it all to you. Find Mordechai the Jew and do exactly as you described, down to the last detail!"

Haman did as he was commanded, and Mordechai was led with royal honor through the streets of Shushan.

Haman returned home, a bitter, broken man. But he had no time to brood. He had to be at the royal palace in time for the Queen's second banquet. Once again, the king asked, "What is it you desire, Esther? Why have you invited us here? Speak and it shall be done!"

This time, Esther spoke. "Spare my life," she cried, "and the lives of my people. We have been sentenced to death!"

"Death? Your people? By whom?" asked the surprised king.

"By an evil and wicked man -- by your minister Haman!"

The king was so astounded that he marched out of the room to regain his composure.

Trembling and fearful, Haman threw himself on the queen to beg for mercy. At that very moment, Achashverosh returned.

"What?" he cried. "Do you dare to attack the Queen in my palace? Take him away and hang him!" he shouted.

In the end, Haman was hung on the gallows he himself had built for Mordechai. And Mordechai became the king's new prime minister in place of Haman!

According to Persian law, it was impossible to change a decree stamped with the royal seal, so the king could not cancel the decree against the Jews. But Mordechai was given the royal signet ring to issue whatever new decrees he could think of to help save the Jews.

Now it was Mordechai's turn to send out a royal letter. It said: On the 13th of Adar, all the Jews in the kingdom would organize to defend themselves. The Persians were more than happy to listen to Haman and kill Jews, but if the Jews were going to arm themselves and fight back under royal protection, well then, that was another story!

On the 13th of Adar, Jews across the kingdom assembled and defended themselves. Thousands of their enemies were killed, including Haman's 10 evil sons who were hanged from a tree. Unlike the Persians who planned to take money and property, the Jews took no loot at all. On the 14th of Adar, they gave thanks to God and celebrated.

But in the walled capital city of Shushan, the Jews continued to fight an additional day. On the 15th of Adar the Jews of Shushan celebrated their victory. Therefore we celebrate:

The Fast of Esther on the 13th of Adar

Purim Day on the 14th of Adar

And in the walled city of Jerusalem, the main celebration is:

Shushan Purim on the 15th of Adar.

Esther asked the rabbis to write the story of Purim and include it in the Bible. Scrolls - *megillot* – were written and sent to the Jews throughout the kingdom. The rabbis

commanded the people to keep the holiday of Purim forever as a day of thanksgiving and feasting and joy; of sending gifts to friends and money to the poor. And that is just what the Jewish people have been doing for the past 2,400 years!

THE FOUR MAIN MITZVOT OF PURIM

1. MEGILLAT ESTHER -- we read the story of Purim in the evening and the next day. And whenever Haman is mentioned, we make as much noise as possible to blot out his name and his memory!

2. SENDING GIFTS OF FOOD to at least one friend or relative, because Purim is a time of love and friendship between Jews.

3. GIVING GIFTS OF MONEY TO THE POOR because Purim is a time of sharing and caring and helping.

4. EATING A FESTIVE PURIM MEAL – the special holiday meal eaten on Purim afternoon.

AND DON'T FORGET, PURIM IS COSTUME-TIME! We celebrate how everything can turn upside-down and into something else, and nothing is exactly what it seems to be. So start thinking about who you want to be on Purim!

A joyous Purim to all of you! May Purim – and all other days in the year!-- be full of light and gladness, honor and joy, just as it was for the Jewish people in the time of Esther and Mordechai so many years ago.

"PURIM SMARTS":

Yaffa Ganz © 2000

Put on your Purim cap and see how much of the Purim story you remember.

Name the country; name the king.
Who made the threats? Who got the ring?
Name the wise counsellor; name the two queens.
Which remained silent and which ranted and preened?

Who looked for honor but soon fell from power?
Who set up gallows as high as a tower?
Who sat and watched at the palace gate?
Who came to the king filled with evil and hate?

Where did it happen – which country and city?
What was the date? Who was filled with self-pity?
Who made a party to save the Jews?
Who sent out letters to tell the good news?

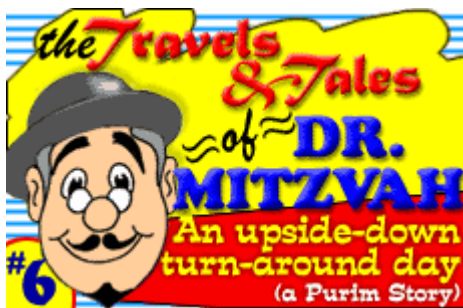
Where can you read the entire story?
When do you hear it with joy, noise and glory?
Name Four Purim things we do to remember
This dreadful-turned-happy Jewish adventure!

Yaffa Ganz © 2000

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<http://www.aish.com/h/pur/f/48970836.html>



An upside-down turn-around day.

by Yaffa Ganz

It was a week before Purim and everyone in Cedarville was busy preparing for the holiday. But before they cooked their Purim meal or prepared Mishloach Manot -- the two gifts of food we send to friends and neighbors to help celebrate the holiday -- they were busy preparing their Purim costumes.

"What are you going to be this year?" Seth asked his twin sister Sarah.

"You'll see!" answered Sarah. "It's a surprise."

"What about you?" David asked Seth.

"I'm not telling either," said Seth with a laugh. "And you?"

"Try and guess," said Eric.

"The wicked Haman? Queen Esther? Mordechai the Jew?" guessed Seth.

"Wrong, wrong, wrong!" laughed Eric. "You'll never guess!"

It seemed as though no one could guess who or what anyone else would be this year. They all tried, but all the guesses were wrong and no one would tell. As Purim day approached, all the town could talk about was costumes. What would everyone be wearing? In all the guessing and excitement, they almost forgot to prepare Mishloach Manot!

On Purim day, the townspeople streamed out of the synagogue after hearing the Megillah, the story of how the Jews of faraway Shushan were saved from the evil Haman by Queen Esther and her wise uncle Mordechai. The town of Cedarville was transformed. The streets were full of balloons and streamers. Masked children and adults went back and forth bringing boxes and baskets of Mishloach Manot to their friends. But this year, something looked very strange. Everyone was wearing the same costume!



The entire town had dressed up as Dr. Mitzvah! Everyone wore a little black mustache, a neat pointy beard, a gray bowler hat and a red dotted bowtie. There were tall Dr. Mitzvahs, short Dr. Mitzvahs, fat Dr. Mitzvahs and skinny Dr. Mitzvahs. Some wore big masks; others had small ones. Some carried a doctor's bag and others held baskets or boxes.

"Wow! This IS a surprise!" said David. "Look over there! There are five big, strong Dr. Mitzvahs in a row. I bet those are the Steel Brothers from the Goat Farm."

"And look at that funny Dr. Mitzvah lady," giggled Sarah. "I'm sure it's Dr. Mitzvah's housekeeper, Mrs. Goldengreen! Those are her shoes sticking out under her skirt!"

"And look at us!" laughed Seth. "We're a pretty funny looking bunch ourselves!"

"A regular Dr. Mitzvah Brigade!" They looked at each other and burst out laughing.

"Let's go see what Dr. Mitzvah dressed up as!" said Sarah. "I hope he's wearing a costume or we'll never find him with all of these Dr. Mitzvahs walking around. Won't he be surprised to see us looking just like him!"

They hurried past the corner of Cobblestone Lane and marched up to Dr. Mitzvah's little house next to the neatly lettered sign:

DR. EMANUEL J. MITZVAH

Doctor of Mostly Everything

They rang the bell and waited patiently. No one answered. They knocked on the door. No one came to open it.

"Maybe he's out delivering Mishloach Manot," suggested Bruce.

"Or taking care of a patient. People get sick on Purim too," said Seth.

"Sometimes from eating too much candy!" said David. "Anyway, here comes Mrs. Goldengreen in her Dr. Mitzvah costume. Let's pretend we don't recognize her."

"Dr. Mitzvah! We were waiting for you to come home," cried all the children.

"Were you now? Well, you'll have to keep waiting. I'm not Dr. Mitzvah. I'm me -- Mrs. Goldengreen! Fooled you, didn't I? I knew this costume was a good one. But I thought one of you was Dr. Mitzvah -- I just wasn't sure which one!"

"Really? That means our costumes are pretty good too!" said Sarah. "None of us are Dr. Mitzvah. I'm Seth; she's Sarah. The rest are David, Eric, Bruce and Julie! But where is Dr. Mitzvah?"

"I don't know," said Mrs. Goldengreen. "It's getting late and he hasn't even delivered his Mishloach Manot yet. It's almost time for our Purim meal. I wonder where he can be. It's not like him to be so late."

"We could ask around. Maybe someone has seen him. What did he dress up as, Mrs. Goldengreen?" asked Seth.

"I don't really know. I didn't see him. He left the house bright and early this morning to hear the Megillah at the synagogue and he hasn't been back since."

"Well, since everyone in town seems to have dressed up as Dr. Mitzvah, if he's wearing a different costume, it should be easy enough to find him," said Sarah.

"Of course, if he DIDN'T dress up, it will be impossible. There are so many Dr. Mitzvahs walking around today!"



Suddenly a little man with a moustache and pointy beard, a gray bowler hat and a red dotted bow tie turned the corner onto Cobblestone Lane.

"Here comes another Dr. Mitzvah," said Eric.

"Maybe he's the real Dr. Mitzvah!" suggested Seth.

"Of course I'm the real Dr. Mitzvah!" said the man. "Who else would I be? The question is, where is Mrs. Goldengreen? It's almost time for our Purim meal and we can't begin without her!"

Suddenly Dr. Mitzvah noticed the collection of Dr. Mitzvahs standing in front of him. "My, my, look at you all! It's like I'm looking into the mirror in a funny house. Dr. Mitzvahs in all sizes and shapes!"

"But why are you dressed as Dr. Mitzvah?" asked Sarah. "And why didn't you deliver your Mishloach Manot? "

"I didn't have time for Mishloach Manot," said Dr. Mitzvah, "but I shall give each of you a box right now!"

"Of course you didn't have time!" said Mrs. Goldengreen. She was a tiny bit annoyed. "You were gone all day long. Where were you? Disappearing is no way to celebrate a holiday, especially when there are so many things to be done!"

"Is that you, Mrs. Goldengreen? Even you look like me today! Indeed there are a lot of things to do on Purim and I was doing one of them! I was busy bringing Matanot La'evyonim -- gifts of money to the poor who can't afford to make their own Purim meal.

"Everyone in town was so busy with costumes and the Megillah and Mishloach Manot that I was afraid they would forget about gifts for the poor. So I decided to look after those who needed extra Purim assistance. And while I was distributing Purim money, I checked a few patients and visited a few others. It added a bit of Purim joy to their day. It's lovely to make people happy, isn't it? I was so busy that I didn't have time to come home and put on my Purim costume."

"What costume were you going to wear?" asked Seth.

Dr. Mitzvah looked out of the corner of his eye at Mrs. Goldengreen. "Well," he said with a grin, "if Mrs. Goldengreen can dress up as Dr. Mitzvah, then I can dress up as Mrs. Goldengreen!"

"Me?" cried Mrs. Goldengreen. "Oh my, you wouldn't make a very good housekeeper, Dr. Mitzvah. You don't even know how to set the table properly!"

"And you," answered Dr. Mitzvah, "wouldn't make a very successful doctor. The only medicine you would ever prescribe would be tea and honey!"

"However," he continued, "I do think the two of us would make a splendid Purim couple! And since Purim is an upside-down turn-around sort of day, I was planning to serve Mrs. Goldengreen her Purim meal instead of her serving me mine!"

And may you all have a Happy Purim!



JUST PUBLISHED: THE TRAVELS AND TALES OF DR. EMANUEL J. MITZVA (Doctor of Mostly Everything). Available from [Feldheim Publishers](#).

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Purim Songs

ניגונים לתג פורים

- א- משנכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה :
- ב- ונהפוך הוא אשר ישלטו היהודים המה בשנאייהם :
- ג- שושנת יצקב צהלה ושמחה בראותם יחד תכלת מרדכי ; תשועתם היית לנצח ותקנותם בכל דור ודור : להודיע שכל קויה לא יבשו ולא יכלמו לנצח כל החוסים בך ; ארור המן אשר בקש לאבדי ברוך מרדכי היהודי ; ארוכה ורש אשת מפידי ברוכה אסתר בעדי, וגם תרבונה זכור לטוב :
- ד- ליהודים היתה אורה ושמחה וששון ויקר :
- ה- על הנסים ועל הפרקן ועל הגבורות ועל התשועות ועל המלחמות שעשית לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה :
- ו- צו עצה ותפר דברו דבר ולא יקום כי עמנו קל :
- ז- ויהי בימי אחשורוש הוא אחשורוש המלך מהדו ועד כוש שבע ועשרים ומאה מדינה :
- ח- תג פורים תג פורים תג גדול הוא ליהודים מסכות, רעשנים שירים ורקודים הבה נרעישה רש רש רש ברעשנים :

Purim Games

Purim

Coke and Pepsi

Activity: Coke and Pepsi with the four mitzvot of Purim. Everyone gets a partner, and lines up in the middle facing their partner. Then they must follow your commands:

Megila- return to your own side and act out reading a Megila standing up

Mishte- come to the middle and sit down

Mishloah manot- come to the middle and stick your hand out to your partner

Matanot laevyonim- one person kneels, only one partner sticks out their hand

Keep in mind all of the commands start with "m" so you can drag it out and leave them in suspense.

Courtesy of parshaactivities.com

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Purim Questions Sheets

By [Shmuel Krawatsky](#)

Available from the following website:

<http://chinuch.org>

בית תפילה _____ חס"ז
דינים כתה ה' ו' _____ שמי
תאריך _____



ארבע פרשיות

1. What are the **פרשיות**? 1) _____ 2) _____
3) _____ 4) _____
2. From how many **ספרי תורה** do we read from during the **ארבע פרשיות**? _____
3. When do we read **פרשת שקלים**? _____
4. For what purpose were the **שקלים** used for during the time of the **בית המקדש**? _____

5. Which **פרשה** mentions the erasing of **עמלק**? _____
6. For which purpose was the dust of the **פרה אדמה** used for? _____
7. Why was **פרשת החודש** given its name? _____

פורים

8. In which land did the miracle of **פורים** take place? _____
9. What was the name of its capital? _____
10. Who sat on its throne then? _____
11. From which descendant did **המך הרשע** come from? _____
12. Why was **המך** especially angry with **מרדכי**? _____

13. Why did **מרדכי** not do as **המך** had commanded him? _____
14. Why did **המך** set up a lottery (**פור**)? _____
15. On which day did the **פור** fall out? _____

16. What did מרדכי tell אסתר המלכה not to say? _____
17. Why did the King get angry at המן? _____
18. What did the King order the Jews to do on יג' אדר? _____
- _____
19. How did the Jews celebrate the 14th day in שושן of that year? _____
- _____
20. What did the חכמים command us to read to remember thi great miracle? _____
- _____
21. What were the 2 מצוות that our חכמים added to fulfill on חג פורים? _____
- _____

תענית אסתר

22. What terrible decree was abolished pertaining to the Jews? _____
23. When did the Jews gather to fight their enemies? _____
24. Why was this day specially set aside for a fast day? _____
25. What do we call this fast day? _____
26. Bring a proof that אסתר was the first to call the nation to fast? _____
- _____
27. When do we give the מחצית השקל? _____

קריאת המגילה

28. How is kosher מגילה similar to a ספר תורה? _____
29. How many times are we obligated to hear the מגילה? _____
30. What do we dave at night before we read the מגילה? _____

31. How many ברכות do we say before the reading of the מגילה and what are they? ____

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

32. How is the reader able to fulfill the reading of the listeners in their obligation of reading the מגילה? _____

33. Why do we also say the ברכה of שהחיינו in the morning? _____

34. What are woman obligated in the reading of the מגילה? _____

35. Why is it forbidden (אסור) to speak during the reading of the מגילה? _____

36. What do you call the פסוקים that we are accustomed to say aloud? _____

37. What are the 4 פסוקים that we are accustomed to say aloud? _____

38. What is the benefit of reading from Kosher מגילה? _____

תפילה

39. Why do we not say הלל on פורים? _____

40. What do we add in our שמונה עשרה on פורים? _____

41. From which סדרה do we read from on פורים and why? _____

42. How many עליות are there on פורים? _____

43. What do we add in our ברכת המזון? _____

44. Where do we praise ה' and publicize the miracle that occurred? _____

שמחת החג

45. What are the things that are forbidden to on פורים? _____

46. What do we do to show that פורים is a day of happiness and feasting? _____

47. What do we learn from the word of "ימי משתה"? _____

48. What do we call the 15th of אדר? _____

49. Who should we invite to סעודת פורים? _____

50. How do we fulfill the מצוה of "משלח מנות איש לרעהו"? _____

51. How do fulfill the מצוה of מתנות לאביונים? _____

שושן פורים

52. Why does the City of שושן celebrate the Holiday on the 15th day of אדר? _____

53. Which cities in ארץ ישראל celebrate חג פורים on the 15th day of אדר? _____

54. When do we celebrate פורים on a שנה מעברת? _____

55. When is פורים קטן? _____



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Puerile Purim

by Rabbi Yirmiyahu Ullman - www.rabbiullman.com
http://ohr.edu/holidays/purim/the_story_of_purim/3841

From: Pamela in Portland, OR

Dear Rabbi,

I seem to remember some story about school children saving the day for Mordechai against Haman. Could you refresh my memory and explain what that was all about. I teach at a Jewish school and think my kids could relate to the involvement of children in the Purim story. Thanks in advance.

Dear Pamela,

It seems you are referring to the Midrash which relates that after the letters decreeing the destruction of the Jews were sealed and sent in Achashverosh's name, Haman and his cohorts rejoiced. They then saw Mordechai approach three school children, each of whom he asked to recite a verse he'd learned (children, according to the Talmud, can be a source of prophetic information even after the destruction of the Temple and termination of true prophecy).

The first child replied by quoting "Have no fear of sudden dread, or of the calamity of the wicked when it comes" (Prov. 3:25). The second answered, "Take counsel [you enemies of the Jews] and it shall be nullified, speak a word and it does not transpire, for G-d is with us" (Is. 8:10). The third child cited a verse in which G-d says, "Until old age I am...I shall endure and I shall save" (Is. 46:4). After hearing these verses, Mordechai became very happy and began to laugh.

When Haman saw that Mordechai, who should have been mourning because of the decree, was actually jumping for joy, he became irate. "What have these children told you that has made you so happy?" Mordechai replied, "They have revealed to me that we need not fear your evil counsel which you have contrived against us because G-d will rescue us from your evil designs." The enraged Haman retorted, "I'll show you. I shall start the slaughter with none other than these very children."

Of course, Haman's declaration against the children was never executed – he was. But what was the meaning of this exchange with the children and in what way did the verses they quoted prophetically reveal G-d's intention to save the Jews?

Mordechai realized that these three verses allude to the three wars that Amalek waged against Israel whom G-d delivered, and would deliver, from their archenemy. The first time Amalek attacked Israel they did so suddenly after the Jews departed from slavery in

Egypt: “And they happened upon you while you were on your way” (Deut. 25:18). The verse quoted by the first child applies to this war, for it states: “Have no fear of sudden dread”. The second time Amalak attacked, they plotted against Israel in disguise as Canaanites to trick and confuse the Jews’ tactics and prayers. The verse quoted by the second child thus assures: “[Their] counsel shall be nullified”.

The third attack of Amalek against the Jews was lead by the Amalekite Haman. In the letter he composed in the name of Achashverosh to the nations he wrote that the time had come that this people could finally be destroyed. Their G-d, he claimed, had grown old. Just as He was not able to save His Temple from the onslaught of Nevuchadnetzar, so too could He no longer save His people from destruction. G-d’s response to Haman’s audacity was communicated through the verse quoted by the third child: “Until old age I am...I shall endure and I shall save.”

Thus encouraged by the prophetic inspiration communicated through these pure and Jewishly-learned children, Mordechai led his people to a third victory over the forces of evil as described in the Megilla. May the Hamans of the world and their cohorts be eradicated for good and may we merit the final redemption speedily in our days. Amen.

* * * * *



Hi!
I'm Morty
Mermeltashen!



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