

~AHASUERUS 2 (213) (A-has-u-e'rus)

- The **Ahasuerus** of the book of Esther is believed to be Xerxes I, the son of the Persian king Darius the Great, Darius Hystaspis. Ahasuerus, Xerxes I. is shown as ruling over 127 jurisdictional districts, from India to Ethiopia. The city of Shushan was his capital during major portions of his rule.
- Now it came about in the days of Ahasuerus, that is, the **Ahasuerus** who was ruling as king from India to Ethiopia, over a hundred and twenty-seven jurisdictional districts. (**Esther 1:1**)
- That in those days as King **Ahasuerus** was sitting upon his royal throne, which was in Shushan the castle. (**Esther 1:2**)
- In the book of Esther the regnal years of this king apparently are counted from the coregency with his father Darius the Great. This would mean that Xerxes accession year was **496 B.C.E.** and that his first regnal year was **495 B.C.E.**
- In the third year of his reign, at a sumptuous banquet, he ordered lovely Queen Vashti to present herself and display her beauty to the people and princes. Her refusal caused his anger to flare up, and he dismissed her as his wife.
- In the third year of his reigning he held a banquet for all his princes and his servants, the military force of Persia and Media, the nobles and the princes of the jurisdictional districts before himself. (**Esther 1:3**)
- On the seventh day, when the king's heart was in a merry mood with wine, he said to Mehuman, Biztha, Harbona, Bigtha and Abagtha, Zethar and Carkas, the seven court officials that were ministering to the person of King **Ahasuerus**. (**Esther 1:10**)
- To bring Vashti the queen in the royal headdress before the king, to show the peoples and the princes her loveliness, for she was beautiful in appearance. (**Esther 1:11**)
- But Queen Vashti kept refusing to come at the king's word that was conveyed by means of the court officials. At this the king

**grew highly indignant and his very rage flared up within him.
(Esther 1:12)**

- **If to the king it does seem good, let a royal word go out from his person, and let it be written among the laws of Persia and Media, that it may not pass away, that Vashti may not come in before King **Ahasuerus**, and her royal dignity let the king give to a companion of hers, a woman better than she is. (Esther 1:19)**
- **And the decree of the king that he will make must be heard in all his realm, **for it is vast**, and all the wives themselves will give honor to their owners, the great as well as the small. (Esther 1:20)**
- **And the thing was pleasing in the eyes of the king and the princes, and the king proceeded to do according to the word of Memucan. (Esther 1:21)**
- **In the seventh year of his reign he selected Esther, a Jewess, as his choice out of the many virgins brought in as prospects to replace Vashti.**
- **After these things, when the rage of King **Ahasuerus** had subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decided against her. (Esther 2:1)**
- **Then the king's attendants, his ministers, said, Let them seek young women, virgins, beautiful in appearance, for the king. (Esther 2:2)**
- **And let the king appoint commissioners in all the jurisdictional districts of his realm, and let them collect together all the young women, virgins, beautiful in appearance, at Shushan the castle, at the house of the women in charge of Hegai the king's eunuch, the guardian of the women, and let there be a giving of their massages. (Esther 2:3)**
- **And that young woman who seems pleasing in the king's eyes will be queen instead of Vashti. And the thing was pleasing in the king's eyes, and he proceeded to do that way. (Esther 2:4)**
- **Then Esther was taken to King **Ahasuerus** at his royal house in the tenth month, that is, the month Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign. (Esther 2:16)**

- And the king came to love Esther more than all the other women, so that she gained more favor and loving-kindness before him than all the other virgins. And he proceeded to put the royal headdress upon her head and make her queen instead of Vashti. (**Esther 2:17**)
- In the 12th year of his reign he allowed his prime minister Haman to use the king's signet ring to sign a decree that would result in a genocidal destruction of the Jews. This scheme was thwarted by Esther and her cousin Mordecai, Haman was hanged, and a new decree was issued, allowing the Jews the right to fight their attackers.
- After these things King **Ahasuerus** magnified Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite and proceeded to exalt him and to put his throne above all the other princes that were with him. (**Esther 3:1**)
- And all the king's servants that were in the king's gate were bowing low and prostrating themselves to Haman, for so the king had commanded respecting him. But as for Mordecai, he would neither bow low nor prostrate himself. (**Esther 3:2**)
- And the king's servants who were in the king's gate began to say to Mordecai; Why are you sidestepping the king's commandment? (**Esther 3:3**)
- And it came about that, as they talked to him day by day, and he did not listen to them, then they told Haman to see whether Mordecai's affairs would stand, for he had told them that he was a Jew. (**Esther 3:4**)
- Now Haman kept seeing that Mordecai was not bowing low and prostrating himself to him, and Haman became filled with rage. (**Esther 3:5**)
- But it was despicable in his eyes to lay hand upon Mordecai alone, for they had told him about Mordecai's people, and Haman began seeking to annihilate all the Jews who were in all the realm of **Ahasuerus**, Mordecai's people. (**Esther 3:6**)
- In the first month, that is, the month Nisan, in the twelfth year of King **Ahasuerus**, someone cast Pur, that is, the Lot, before Haman from day to day and from month to month, to the twelfth, that is,

the month Adar. (**Esther 3:7**)

- And Haman proceeded to say to King **Ahasuerus**; There is one certain people scattered and separated among the peoples in all the jurisdictional districts of your realm, and their laws are different from all other peoples, and the kings own laws they are not performing, and for the king it is not appropriate to let them alone. (**Esther 3:8**)
- If to the king it does seem good, let there be a writing that they be destroyed, and ten thousand silver talents I shall pay into the hands of those doing the work by bringing it into the kings treasury. (**Esther 3:9**)
- And the king went on to say to Haman; The silver is given to you, also the people, to do with them according to what is good in your own eyes. (**Esther 3:11**)
- Harbona, one of the court officials before the king, now said, Also, there is the stake that Haman made for Mordecai, who had spoken good concerning the king, standing in Haman's house, fifty cubits high. At that the king said; You men, hang him on it. (**Esther 7:9**)
- And they proceeded to hang Haman on the stake that he had prepared for Mordecai, and the kings rage itself subsided. (**Esther 7:10**)
- And the Jews went striking down all their enemies with a slaughter by the sword and with a killing and destruction, and they went doing to those hating them according to their liking. (**Esther 9:5**)
- And in Shushan the castle the Jews killed and there was a destroying of five hundred men. (**Esther 9:6**)
- Also, Parshandatha and Dalphon and Aspatha. (**Esther 9:7**)
- And Poratha and Adalia and Aridatha. (**Esther 9:8**)
- And Parmashta and Arisai and Aridai and Vaizatha. (**Esther 9:9**)
- The ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the one showing hostility to the Jews, they killed, but on the plunder they did not

lay their hand. ([Esther 9:10](#))

See Also PERSIA, PERSIANS

- Subsequently,
- And King **Ahasuerus** proceeded to lay forced labor upon the land and the isles of the sea. ([Esther 10:1](#))
- This activity fits well with the pursuits of **Xerxes**, who completed much of the construction work his father Darius initiated at Persepolis.
- **Xerxes** I also appears to be the fourth king mentioned at;
- And now what is truth I shall tell to you; Look! There will yet be three kings standing up for Persia, and the fourth one will amass greater riches than all others. And as soon as he has become strong in his riches, he will rouse up everything against the kingdom of Greece. ([Daniel 11:2](#))
- The three preceding one's being Cyrus the Great, Cambyses II, and Darius Hystaspis. While seven other kings followed Xerxes on the throne of the Persian Empire, Xerxes was the last Persian emperor to carry war into Greece, whose rise as the dominant world power is described in the verse immediately following.
- And a mighty king will certainly stand up and rule with extensive dominion and do according to his will. ([Daniel 11:3](#))