THE BOOK OF ESTHER

WHY PURIM

Josephus tells us that Purim came to be associated with the Greek verb φρουρεω "to be on one's guard" but its undoubted original meaning was "lots" (from the Persian *puru* "a stone". A French archaeologist working at Shushan in 1884-6 actually verified the location of the kings gate and found the palace garden and even one of the dice of "pur" of the sort cast (3.7) to determine when the enemies of the Jews would strike.-namely in the month Nisan or the first month.

ATTEMPTED GENOCIDE

The 20th century holocaust where 3 million Jewish people, dear to God, were sacrificed by the whim of a ruthless dictator is the exact counterpart of the Haman plot on Jews in the Persian Empire. This ancient plot was an under cover satanic attack on the Messianic bloodline of the house of David. The holocaust in Europe was another sinister ploy to achieve a different purpose-the end of a race that could be ruled by the returning Messiah. On this occasion the tool was the German leader Hitler and the compliant machine of his third Reich. As a testimony to this ancient genocidal attempt on the Jewish people it right well deserves to be read in every synagogue in the world on Adar 14-15. Besides that every true Christian should appreciate the stamping of feet and hissing o voice on the mention of the name of the instigator of this plot at annual celebrations in this connection and more than that we ought to deeply thank the Creator and Redeemer LORD that this plot was foiled by *divine intervention.*

ABSENCE OF GOD'S NAME

God is not mentioned directly in Esther. This is highly unusual in a canonical book. The writer has however hidden *the sacred name* several times in the narrative in a coded form. Such code appears also in the Torah in respect of the word Torah spelt forwards as the start of Genesis and Exodus and backwards in Numbers and Deuteronomy and pointing to the sacred Tetragrammaton at the beginning of Leviticus in the centre of the 5 books.

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A Bible Companion