ُ وَفَى الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ لَبِسَتْ أَسْتِيرُ ثِيَاباً مَلَكِيَّةً وَوَقَفَتْ فِي دَارِ بَيْتِ الّْمَلِكُ الدَّاخِلِيَّة مُقَابِلَ بَيْتِ الْمَلِكُ، وَالْمَلِكُ جَالِسٌ عَلَى كُرْسِيٍّ مُلْكِهِ فِي بَيْتِ الْمُلْكِ مُقَالِلَ مَدْخَل الْنَنْت. ْفَلَمَّا رَأَى الْمَلكُ أَسْتِيرَ الْمَلكَةَ وَاقفَةً فِي الدَّارَ نَالَتْ نِعْمَةً فِي عَيْنَيْهِ، فَمَدَّ الْمَلِكُ لأَسْتِيرَ قَضِيتَ الذَّهَبَ الَّذِي بِيَدِهِ، فَدَنَتْ أَسْتِيرُ وَلَمَسَتْ رَأْسَ الْقَضِيبِ. ۚ فَقَالَ لَهَا ٱلْمَلكُ، مَا لَكِ يَا أَسْتِيرُ الْمَلِكَةُ وَمَا هِيَ طِلْبَتُك. إِلَى نَصْفِ الْمَمْلَكَةِ ثُعْطَى لَكِ. ۖ فَقَالَتْ أَسْتِيرُ، إِنْ حَسُنَ عَنْدَ الْمَلك فَلْيَأْتِ الْمَلكُ وَهَامَانُ الْيَوْمَ إِلَى الْوَلِيمَةِ الَّتِي عَمِلْتُهَا لَهُ. ۚ فَقَالَ الْمَلكُ، أَسْرِعُوا بِهَاْمَانَ لِنُفْعَلَ الْمَلِكُ وَهَامَانُ إِلَى الْوَلِيمَةِ الَّتِي عَرِ أَسْتِيرُ. ُ فَقَالَ الْمَلِكُ لأَسْتِيرَ عِنْدَ شُرْبِ الْخَمْرِ، مَا سُؤْلُك فَيُعْطَى لَكِ، وَمَا هِيَ طِلْبَتُكِ. إِلَى نِصْفِ الْمَمْ تُقْضَى. ۖ فَأَجَابَتْ أَسْتِيرُ، إِنَّ سُؤْلِي وَطِلْبَتِي، ْ إِنْ وَجَدْتُ نِعْمَةً فِي عَيْنَي الْمَلِكِ وَإِذَا حَسُنَ عِنْدَ الْمَلِكَ أَنْ يُعْطَى سُؤْلَى، وَتُقْضَى طلْنَتِي، َ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ الْمَلِكُ وَهَامَانُ إِلَى الْمَلِكُ. فَخَرَجَ هَامَانُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ فَرِحاً وَطَيِّتَ الْقَلْبِ. وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا رَأَى هَامَانُ مُرْدَخَايَ فِي بَابِ الْمَلِكِ وَلَـمْ يَقُـمْ وَلاَ تَحَـرَّكَ لَـهُ، امْتَلاْ هَامَـانُ غَيْظاً عَلَـي مُرْدَخَايَ. 10 وَتَجَلَّدَ هَامَانُ وَدَخَلَ بَيْتَهُ وَأَرْسَلَ فَاسْتَحْضَرَ أُحِبَّاءَهُ وَزَرَشَ زَوْجَتَهُ، ¹¹وَعَدَّدَ لَهُمْ هَامَانُ عَظَمَةَ غِنَاهُ وَكَثْرَةَ بَنِيهِ، وَكُلُّ مَا عَظَّمَهُ الْمَلِكُ بِهِ وَرَقَّاهُ عَلَى الرُّؤَسَاءِ وَعَبِيدِ الْمَلِكِ.12وَقَالَ هَامَانُ، حَتَّى إِنَّ أَسْتِيرَ الْمَلِكَةَ لَمْ تُدْخِلْ مَعَ الْمَلِكِ إِلَى الْوَلِيمَةِ الَّتِي عَمِلَتْهَا إِلاَّ إِتَّايَ. وَأَنَا غَداً أَيْضاً مَدْعُوُّ إِلَيْهَا مَعَ الْمَلك.13وَكُلُّ هَذَا لَا ىُسَاوِي عِنْدِي شَيْئاً كُلُّمَا أَرَى مُرْدَخَايَ الْيَهُودِيَّ حَالِساً في بَابِ الْمَلِكُ. 14فَقَالَتْ لَهُ زَرَشُ زَوْجَتُهُ وَكُلَّ أُحِبَّائه، فَلْيَعْمَلُوا خَشَبَةً ارْتِفَاعُهَا خَمْسُونَ ذِرَاعاً، وَفِي الصَّبَاحِ قُلْ لِلْمَلِكَ أَنْ يَصْلِبُوا مُرْدَخَايَ عَلَيْهَا، ثُمَّ ادْخُلْ مَعَ الْمَلِكِ إِلَى الْوَلِيمَةِ فَرحاً. فَحَسُنَ الْكَلاَمُ عِنْدَ هَامَانَ وَعَمِلَ الخَشَبَةَ.

Now it came to pass on the third day, that Esther put on her royal apparel, and stood in the inner court of the king's house, over against the king's house: and the king sat upon his royal throne in the royal house, over against the gate of the house. And it was so, when the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, that she obtained favour in his sight: and the king held out to Esther the golden sceptre that was in his hand. So Esther drew near, and touched the top of the sceptre. Then said the king unto her, What wilt thou, gueen Esther? and what is thy request? it shall be even given thee to the half of the kingdom. And Esther answered, If it seem good unto the king, let the king and Haman come this day unto the banquet that I have prepared for him. Then the king said, Cause Haman to make haste, that he may do as Esther hath said. So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. And the king said unto Esther at the banquet of wine, What is thy petition? and it shall be granted thee: and what is thy request? even to the half of the kingdom it shall be performed. Then answered Esther, and said, My petition and my request is ;8 If I have found favour in the sight of the king, and if it please the king to grant my petition, and to perform my request, let the king and Haman come to the banquet that I shall prepare for them, and I will do to morrow as the king hath said. Then went Haman forth that day joyful and with a glad heart: but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate, that he stood not up, nor moved for him, he was full of

in dignation against Mordecai. 10 Nevertheless Haman refrained himself: and when he came home, he sent and called for his friends, and Zeresh his wife. 11 And Haman told them of the glory of his riches, and the multitude of his children, and all the things wherein the king had promoted him, and how he had advanced him above the princes and servants of the king. 12 Haman said moreover, Yea, Esther the queen did let no man come in with the king unto the banquet that she had prepared but myself;

to be made.

and to morrow am I invited unto her also