

מגילת אסתר פרק א'

It was

א וַיְהִי

in the days of Achashveirosh,

בִּימֵי אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ

this is Achashveirosh

הוּא אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ

who ruled

הַמֶּלֶךְ

from Hodu to Cush,

מִהוּדוֹ וְעַד-כּוּשׁ

one hundred and twenty seven
provinces.

שִׁבְעֵי וְעֶשְׂרִים וּמֵאָה מְדִינָה:

During those days

ב בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם

as King Achashveirosh was sitting

כְּשֵׁבֶת | הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ

on the throne of his kingdom

עַל כִּסֵּא מַלְכוּתוֹ

that was in Shushan the capital.

אֲשֶׁר בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה:

In the third year of his reign

ג בְּשָׁנַת שְׁלוֹשׁ לְמַלְכוּ

he made a feast

עָשָׂה מִשְׁתֵּה

for all his officers and servants,

לְכָל-שָׂרָיו וְעַבְדָּיו

מגילת אסתר פרק א'

the army of Persian and Media

תָּיִל | פָּרְס וּמְדֵי

the nobles

הַפְּרָתִימִים

and the officers of the provinces

וְשָׂרֵי הַמְּדִינֹת

were before him.

לְפָנָיו:

When he showed

ד בְּהִרְאֹתוֹ

the wealth of his glorious kingdom

אֶת־עֹשֶׁר כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ

and the splendor

וְאֶת־יָקָר

of his magnificent greatness

תְּבָאָרַת גְּדוּלָּתוֹ

for many days -

יָמִים רַבִּים

one hundred and eighty days.

שְׁמוֹנִים וּמֵאָת יוֹם:

And when these days were completed

ה וּבְמָלֹאֵת | הַיָּמִים הָאֵלֶּה

the king made

עָשָׂה הַמֶּלֶךְ

for the entire nation that was to be found

לְכָל־הָעַם הַנִּמְצָאִים

in Shushan the capital

בְּשׁוּשַׁן הַבִּירָה

מגלת אֶסְתֵּר פֶּרֶק א'

from young to old

לְמִנְדוּל וְעַד-קָטָן

a feast

מִשְׁתֵּה

for seven days

שִׁבְעַת יָמִים

in the courtyard -

בְּחֲצֵר

at the garden of the orchard of the king.

בְּגַת בֵּיתֵן הַמֶּלֶךְ:

(Sheets of) white, fine cotton and blue wool

וְחֹר | כְּרִפָּס וּתְכֵלֶת

were held (bordered)

אֲחֻז

with threads of fine linen and purple wool,

בְּחֲבָלֵי-בִּיזָן וְאַרְגָּמָן

upon rods of silver

עַל-גְּלִילֵי כֶסֶף

and pillars of marble.

וְעַמּוּדֵי יָשֵׁשׁ

Couches of gold and silver (were)

מִטּוֹת | זָהָב וְכֶסֶף

upon

עַל

a floor of green and white (precious stones),

רִצְפַת בְּהַט־וְנִשֵּׁשׁ

and shell and onyx marble.

וְדָר וְסַחֲרָת:

מגילת אסתר פרק א'

And the giving to drink
(was in) vessels of gold
and (in) different types of vessels
and the wine of the kingdom
was abundant
like the hand of the king.

ז וְהַשְׁקוֹת

בְּכֵלֵי זָהָב

וּכְלִים מִכָּלִים שׁוֹנִים

וַיִּין מַלְכוּת

רַב

כְּיַד הַמֶּלֶךְ:

And the drinking was according to the law
there was nobody who forced (people to drink),
for so did the king establish
upon all the officers of his house
to do
like the will of each person.

ח וְהַשְׁתִּיחַ כַּדָּת

אִין אָנֹס

כִּי־כֵן | יִסַּד הַמֶּלֶךְ

עַל כָּל־רַב בֵּיתוֹ

לַעֲשׂוֹת

כְּרָצוֹן אִישׁ־וָאִישׁ:

Also Queen Vashti
made a feast for the women

ט גַּם וַשְׁתִּי הַמַּלְכָּה

עָשְׂתָה מִשְׁתֵּה נָשִׁים

מגילת אסתר פרק א'

(in) the royal house

בֵּית הַמְּלָכוֹת

that belonged to King Achashveirosh.

אֲשֶׁר לַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ:

On the seventh day

י בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי

when the heart of the king was glad

כְּטוֹב לִב־הַמֶּלֶךְ

with wine (i.e. he was drunk),

בַּיַּיִן

he said

אָמַר

to Mehuman,

לְמֵהוּמָן

Bizatah, Charvonah

בִּזְתָּא חַרְבוֹנָא

Bigtah and Avagtah,

בִּגְתָּא וְאַבְגְּתָא

Zeitar and Charkas

זַיְתָר וְכַרְכָּס

the seven officers

שִׁבְעַת הַסָּרִיסִים

who would serve

הַמְּשָׁרְתִים

before King Achashveirosh.

אֶת־פְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ:

To bring

יָא לְהָבִיא

מגילת אֶסְתֵּר פֶּרֶק א'

Queen Vashti

אֶת־וְשֵׁתִי הַמְּלָכָה

before the king

לְפָנַי הַמֶּלֶךְ

in the royal crown

בְּכִתֵּר מַלְכוּת

to show

לְהִרְאוֹת

the people and the officers

הָעָמִים וְהַשָּׂרִים

her beauty

אֶת־יְפִיָּהּ

for she was of good appearance.

כִּי־טוֹבֵת מְרֵאָה הִיא:

(However) Queen Vashti refused

יב וְהִמָּאֵן הַמְּלָכָה וְשֵׁתִי

to come

לְבוֹא

at the word of the king

בְּדַבַּר הַמֶּלֶךְ

that was (sent) by the hand of the officers,

אֲשֶׁר בְּיַד הַסָּרִיסִים

and the king got very angry

וַיִּקְצֹף הַמֶּלֶךְ מְאֹד

and his wrath

וַחֲמָתוֹ

burned within him.

בָּעֵרָה בּוֹ:

מגילת אסתר פרק א'

The king said

יג וַיֹּאמֶר הַמֶּלֶךְ

to the wise men -

לְחַכְמַיִם

those who know the times,

יָדְעֵי הַעֲתִים

for such is the word of the king

כִּי־כֵן דְּבַר הַמֶּלֶךְ

before

לִפְנֵי

all those who know

כָּל־יָדְעֵי

law and judgment.

הַתִּשְׁבֵּי־וְדִין:

And the ones close to him (were)

יד וְהַקְּרֹב אֵלָיו

Karshanah, Sheitar,

כַּרְשָׁנָא שֵׁיטָר

Admatah, Tarshish

אַדְמָתָא תַּרְשִׁישׁ

Meres, Marsinah

מֶרֶס מַרְסִינָא

(and) Memuchan,

מְמוּחָן

the seven officers of Persia and Media

שִׁבְעַת שָׂרֵי אֲפֻרָס וּמְדֵי

those who see the face of the king

רְאִי פָנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

who sit first

הַיֹּשְׁבִים רִאשְׁוֹנָה

מגלת אסתר פרק א'

amongst the royalty.

במלכות:

(To know) according to the law,

טו כדת

what to do

מה-לעשות

about Queen Vashti

במלכה ושתי

for that which she did not do

על אשר לא-עשתה

the word of King Achashveirosh

את-מאמר המלך אחשוורוש

(sent) through the hand of the officers?

בגד הסריסים:

Memuchan said

טז ויאמר ממוכן [מומכן]

before the king and the officers,

לפני המלך והשרים

“Not only against the king alone

לא על-המלך לבדו

has Queen Vashti sinned

עותה ושתי המלכה

but rather against all the officers

כי על-כל-השרים

and against all the people

ועל-כל-העמים

that are in all the provinces

אשר בכל-מדינות

מגלת אֶסְתֵּר פֶּרֶק א'

of King Achashveirosh.

הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ:

For the matter of the queen shall go out

יִזְכָּר כִּי יֵצֵא דְבַר־הַמֶּלֶכֶה

upon all the women

עַל־כָּל־הַנְּשִׁים

to disgrace their husbands

לְהַבְזוֹת בְּעֵינֵיהֶן

in their eyes,

בְּעֵינֵיהֶן

when they will say

בְּאָמְרָם

'King Achashveirosh

הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ

said

אָמַר

to bring Queen Vashti

לְהָבִיא אֶת־נִשְׁתֵּי הַמֶּלֶכֶה

before him

לְפָנָיו

and she did not come.'

וְלֹא־בָּאָה:

And on this day

יַחַד וְהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה

the princesses of Persia and Media
will say -

תֹּאמְרֶנָּה | שָׂרוֹת פֶּרְסִיָּה וּמְדִיָּה

מגילת אסתר פרק א'

those who heard

אֲשֶׁר שָׁמְעוּ

the word of the queen,

אֶת־דְּבַר הַמַּלְכָּה

to all the officers of the king (i.e. the princess
will say similar words to their husbands),

לְכָל שָׂרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ

and it (will bring) much disgrace and anger.

וְכָרַי בְּזִיוֹן וְקִצְףִי:

(Therefore) if it is good upon the king

יֵט אִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב

let a royal decree go out before him

יֵצֵא דְבַר־מַלְכוּת מִלְּפָנָיו

and it shall be written

וַיִּכְתֹּב

in the laws of Persia and Media

בְּדַתֵי פָּרְס־וּמְדֵי

and it shall not be taken back,

וְלֹא יֵעָבֹר

that Vashti shall no longer come

אֲשֶׁר לֹא־תָבֹא וּשְׁתִּי

before King Achashveirosh,

לְפָנָי הַמֶּלֶךְ אַחַשְׁוֵירוֹשׁ

and her kingship (i.e. position as queen)

וּמַלְכוּתָהּ

the king shall give

יִתֵּן הַמֶּלֶךְ

to her friend

לְרֵעוּתָהּ

מגלת אסתר פרק א'

that is better than her.

הטובה ממנה:

The saying of the king which he shall do will be heard

כ ונשמע פתנם המלך אשר-יעשה

in his entire kingdom

בכל-מלכותו

even though it is large,

כי רבה היא

and all the women

וכל-הנשים

will give honor to their husbands

יהנו יקר לבעליהן

from old to young.”

למנודול ועד-קטן:

The matter was good

כא ויטב הדבר

in the eyes of the king

בעיני המלך

and the officers

והשרים

and the king did

ויעש המלך

like the word of Memuchan.

כדבר ממוכן:

מגלת אסתר פרק א'

He sent documents

כב וישלח ספרים

to all the provinces of the king

אל כל מדינות המלך

to each province

אל מדינה ומדינה

like its writing (i.e. in its script)

ככתבה

and to each nation

ואל עם ועם

like its language,

כלשונו

that each man shall be

להיות כל איש

a ruler in his house

שגר בביתו

and he shall speak

ומדבר

like the language of his nation.

כלשון עמו: