

MY LITTLE

PURIM

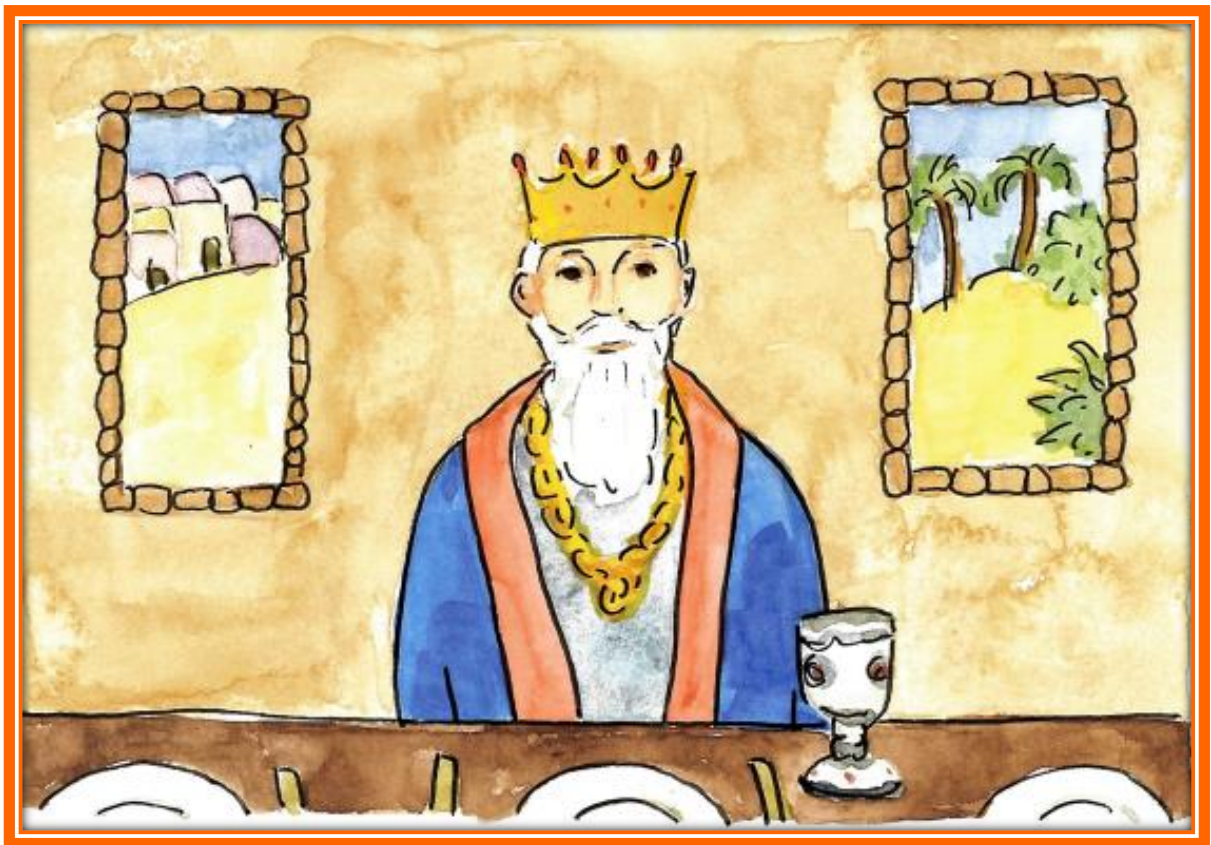
BOOK





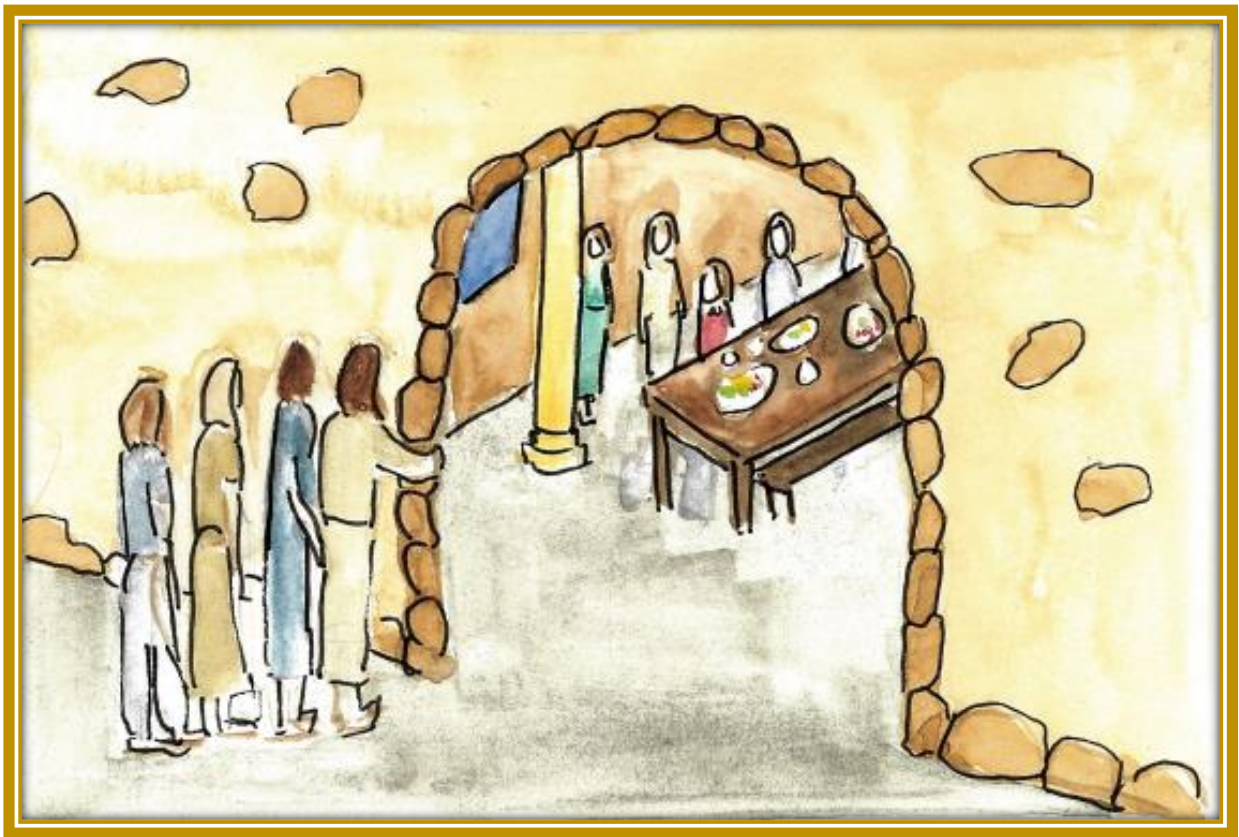
**Purim is a holiday,
full of joy and fun!
We dress up and have a party,
With food gifts for everyone.**

**But what are we celebrating?
What happened on this day?
Come, sit down, I'll tell you
How we were saved today...**



**A long time ago,
There was a powerful king,
Who was called Achashverosh,
And ruled over everything.**

**He made a huge feast,
To celebrate the fact,
That the Jews' holy temple,
Was no longer intact.**



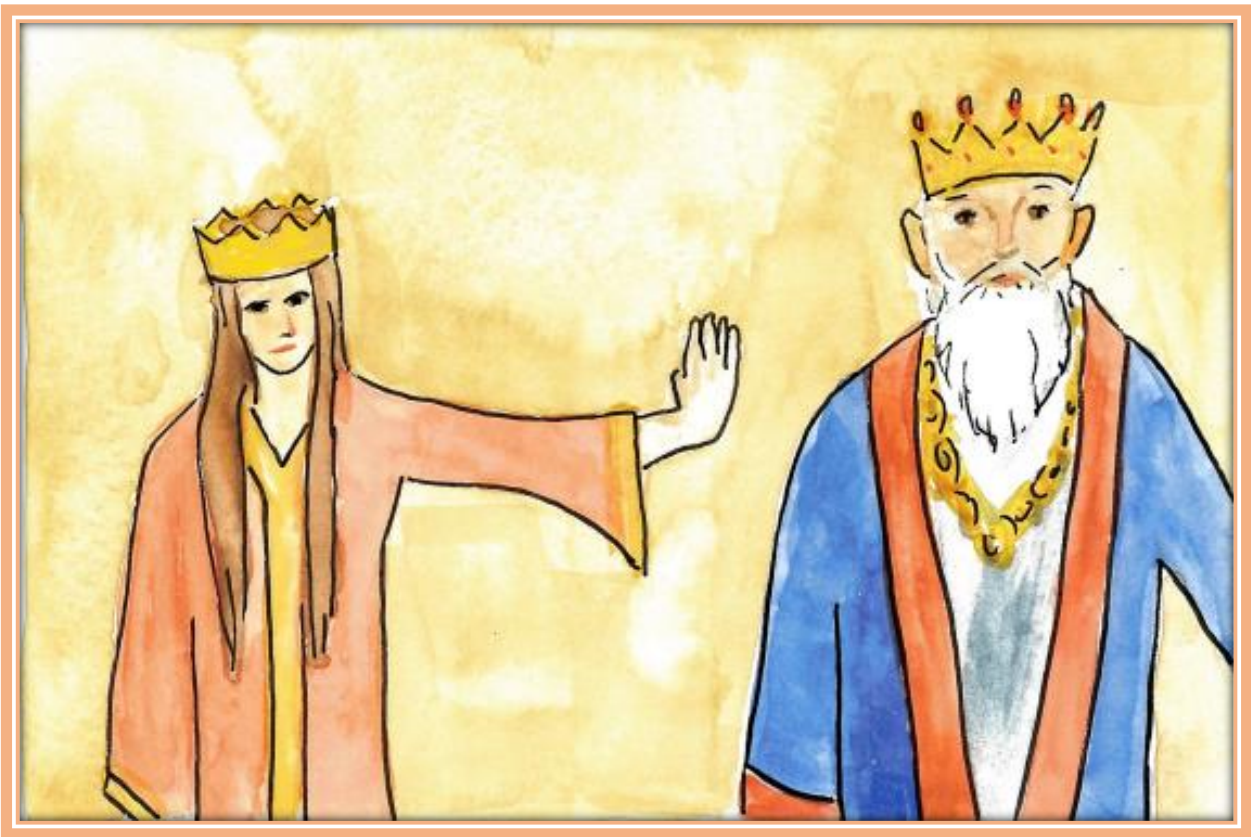
**He wore the clothes,
That the high priest wore,
and he invited the Jews,
But the Jews weren't sure.**

**Should they go to the party?
It looked like lots of fun.
But Mordechai, their leader, said
"this must not be done!"**



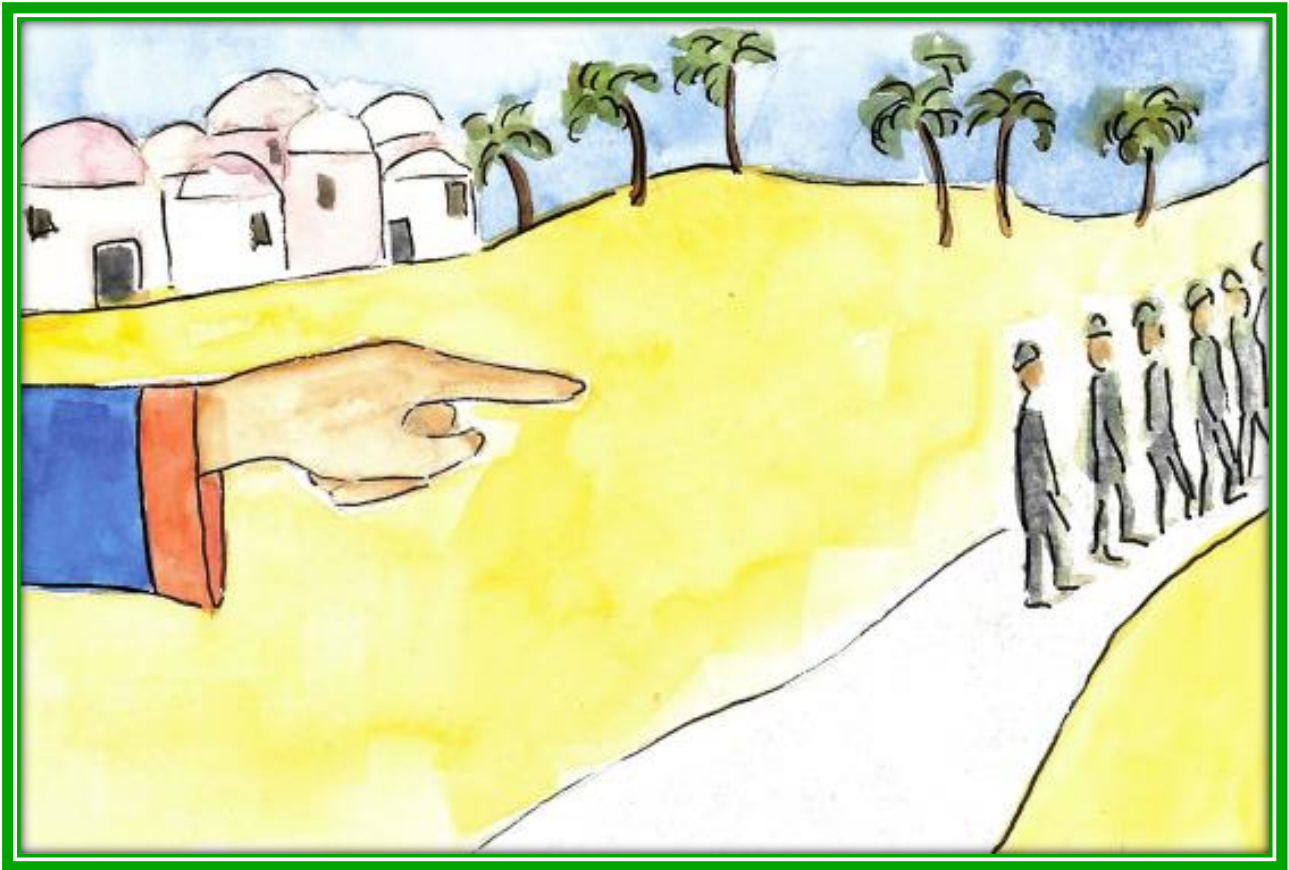
**Some listened to Mordechai,
and stayed away,
But many enjoyed the party,
On that very sad day.**

**His wife, Vashti
Was so very unkind.
She forced the Jewish girls to work,
Even on Shabbat, our special time!**



**Achashverosh was proud
And he wanted a good show,
So he told Vashti to appear,
But her answer was "No!"**

**"Off with her head!"
He screamed, he was so annoyed!
The very next day,
He regretted being so bold.**



**He was so lonely,
without a good wife.
So he sent out soldiers,
To find someone nice.**

**Esther was chosen,
To be the new queen.
She was very modest,
And her inner beauty gleamed.**



**Mordechai was her uncle,
And he told her to be quiet.
Not to tell the king,
About her kosher diet.**

**She didn't tell him,
That she was a Jew.
She kept the Torah privately,
And made sure to be a good queen too.**



**One day, two servants plotted,
To poison the king.
Mordechai was at the palace gates,
And heard everything.**

**He told Esther to warn Achashverosh,
Not to drink his wine.
The king was so grateful,
And wrote it in his diary at the time.**



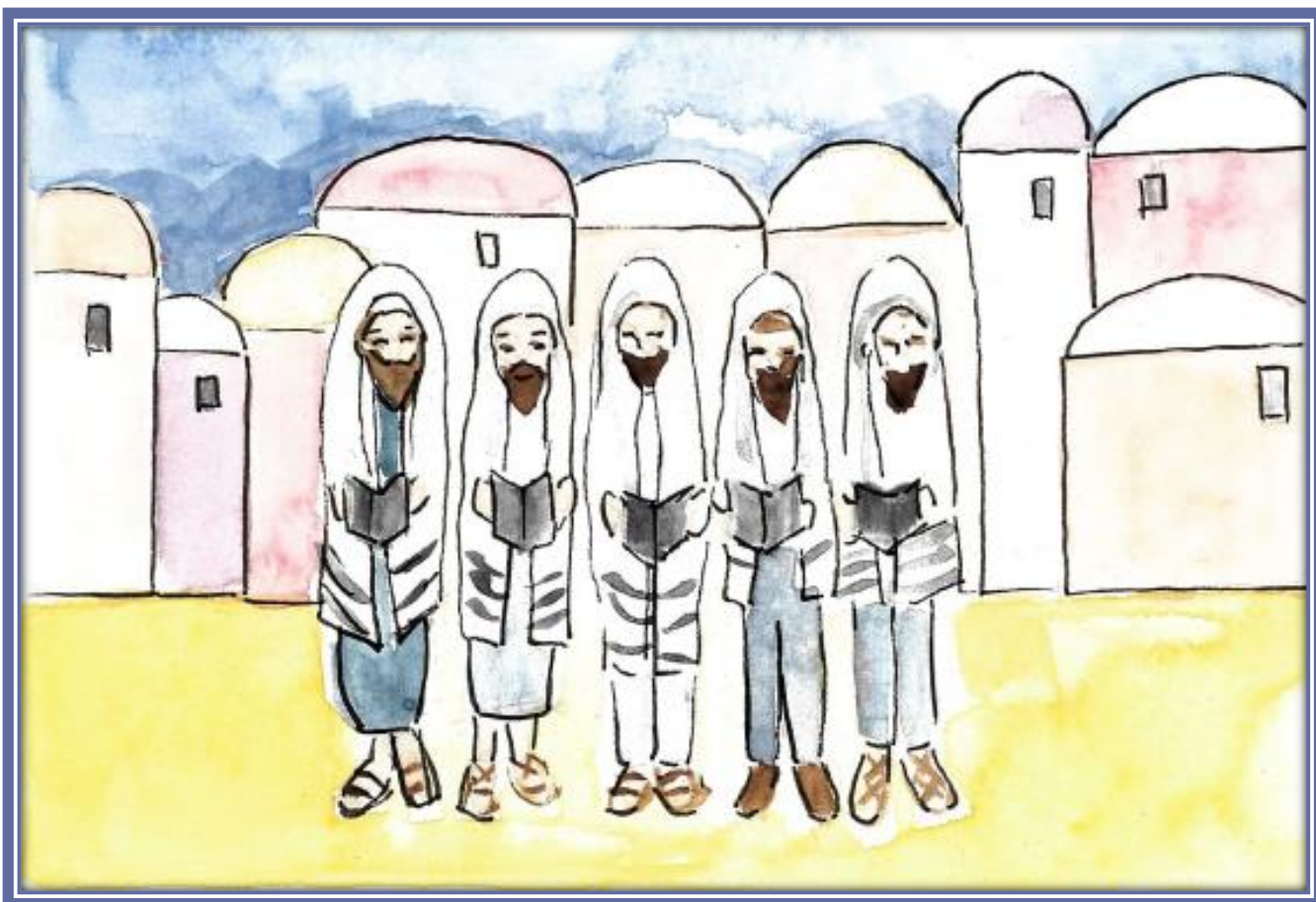
**Meanwhile, Haman became Prime Minister,
He was one of the most wicked men.
He told everyone to bow down to him,
but Mordechai said "I only bow to Hashem."**

**Haman was furious,
And plotted to kill the Jews.
He planned a date on the calendar,
And then spread around the news.**



**News travelled quickly,
and the Jews were so afraid.
Who would come to help them,
and save them from Haman's evil ways?**

**Mordechai told Esther,
"Now, the time has come –
Go to King Achashverosh
And try to save everyone!"**



**But Esther could not just visit,
She had to wait for the king to call.
One had to get permission,
Before entering the king's hall.**

**She told the Jews to daven,
and fast for three whole days.
They all prayed to Hashem,
Whilst Esther prepared for that day.**



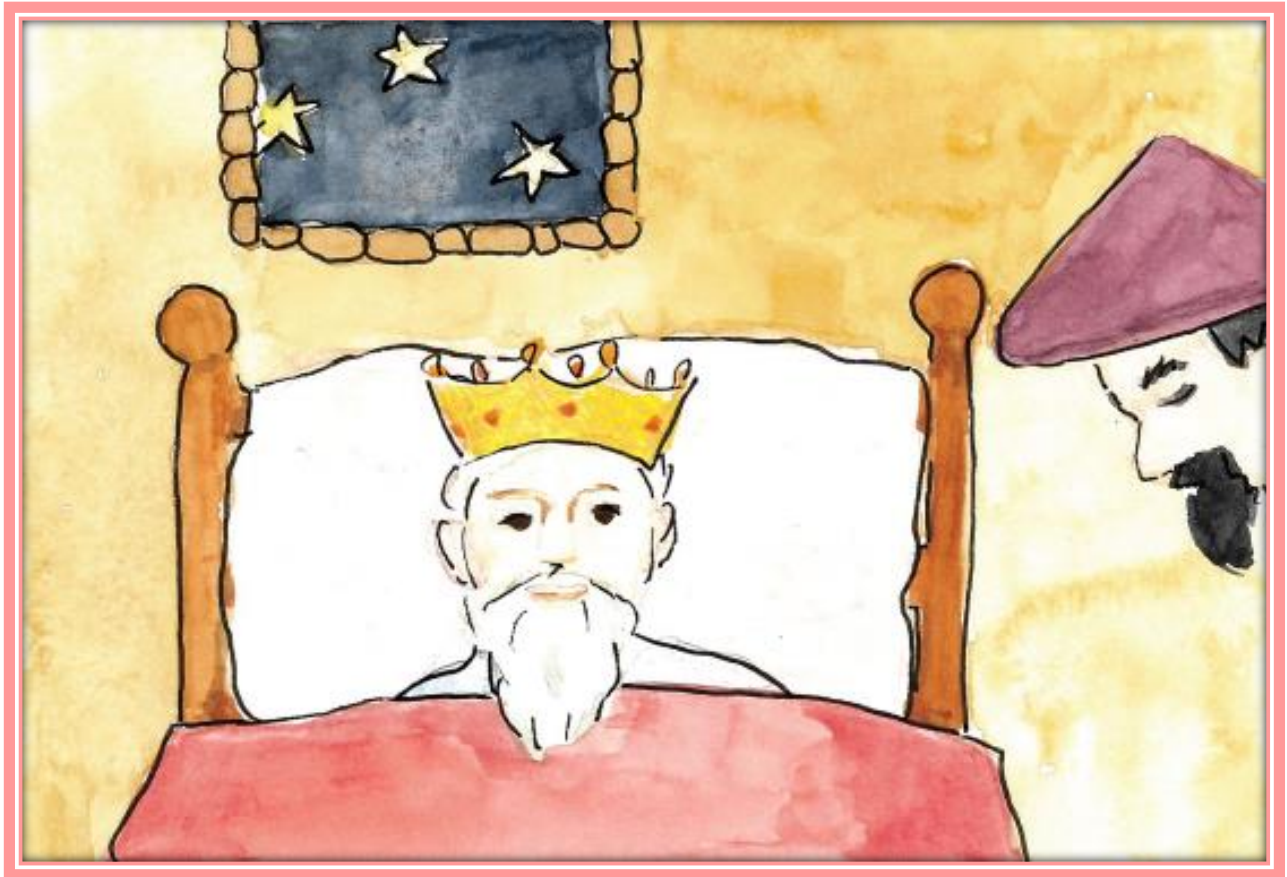
**She summoned all her courage,
And walked up to the king.
To her great surprise, he said,
"Can I get you anything?"**

**She invited him to a feast,
And Haman could come too.
Ahashverosh offered half his kingdom,
If she would tell him what she knew.**



**But instead, she told him "come again..
To another lovely party,
Then I will tell you,
What's really bothering me."**

**That night, the king couldn't sleep,
He worried about Haman.
He asked his servants to read to him,
from the diary of days long gone.**



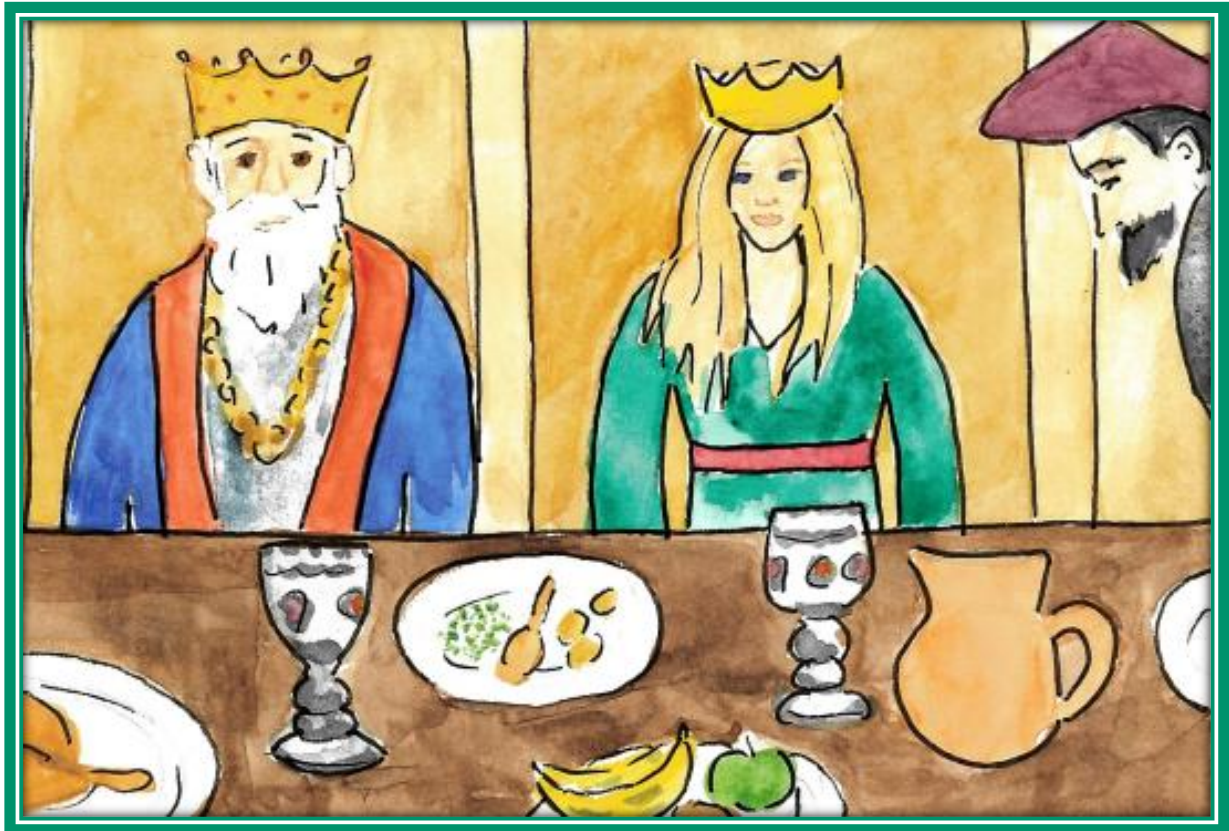
**They read about how Mordechai,
saved the king's life.
He asked "was he rewarded?"
Not yet, came the reply.**

**Just then, Haman came visiting,
And saw the king wide awake.
"Haman, my dear friend,
I have made a mistake!"**



**'What do you think I should do
To someone who deserves a reward?'
Haman thought that the king meant him,
"I have an idea, my lord!"**

**"Let the person parade on the king's horse,
wearing the king's own crown."
Achashverosh said "great idea..
Take Mordechai the Jew all around town!"**



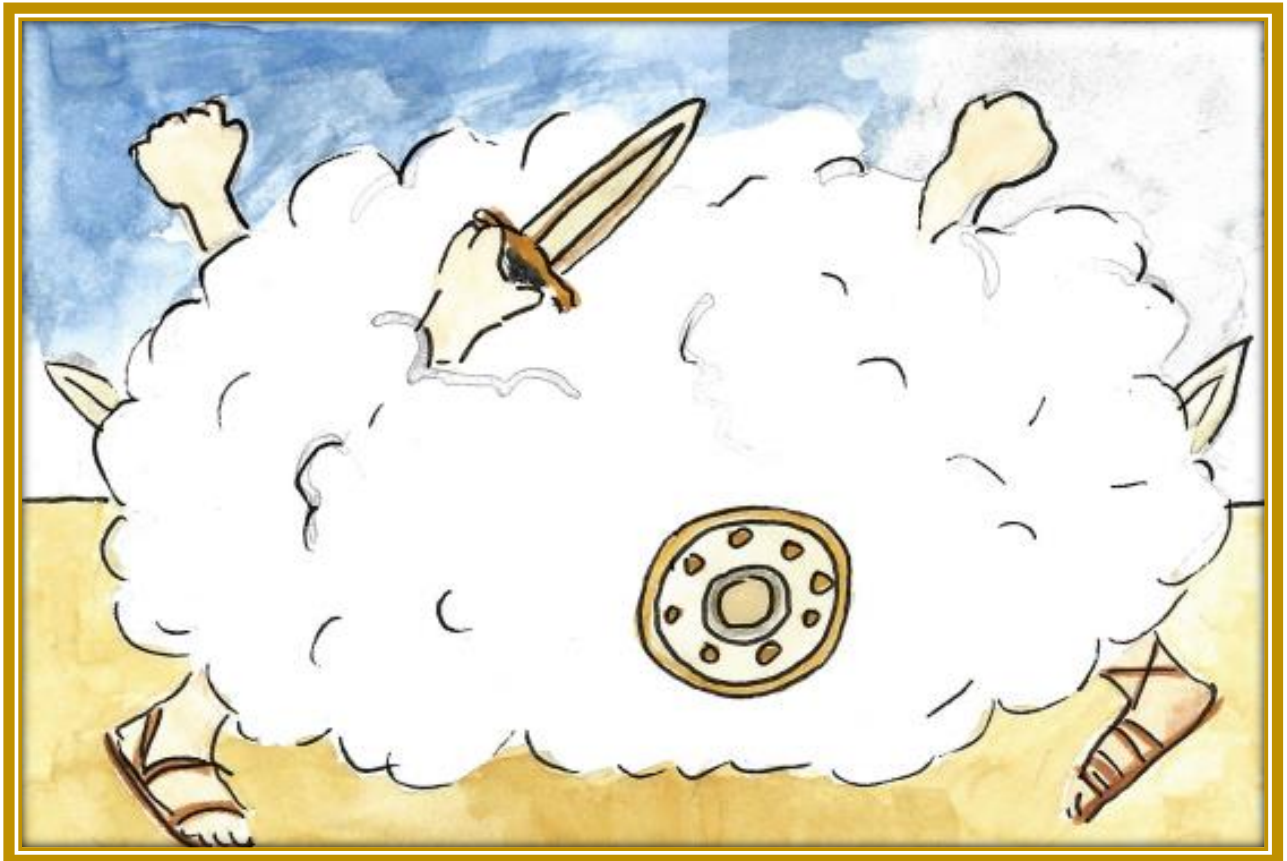
**Haman was shocked,
He'd planned Mordechai's demise.
And instead he had to lead him,
In front of all the people's eyes.**

**Meanwhile, Haman had to rush off,
To join the party with the king and queen.
Again, Achashverosh asked her,
'What is it that you need?'**



**"I am asking for my people,
for I am really a Jew.
This wicked Haman,
Plans to kill them (and me too!)"**

**Achashverosh was shocked,
And they took Haman away.
He was hung on the gallows,
he'd made for Mordechai that day.**



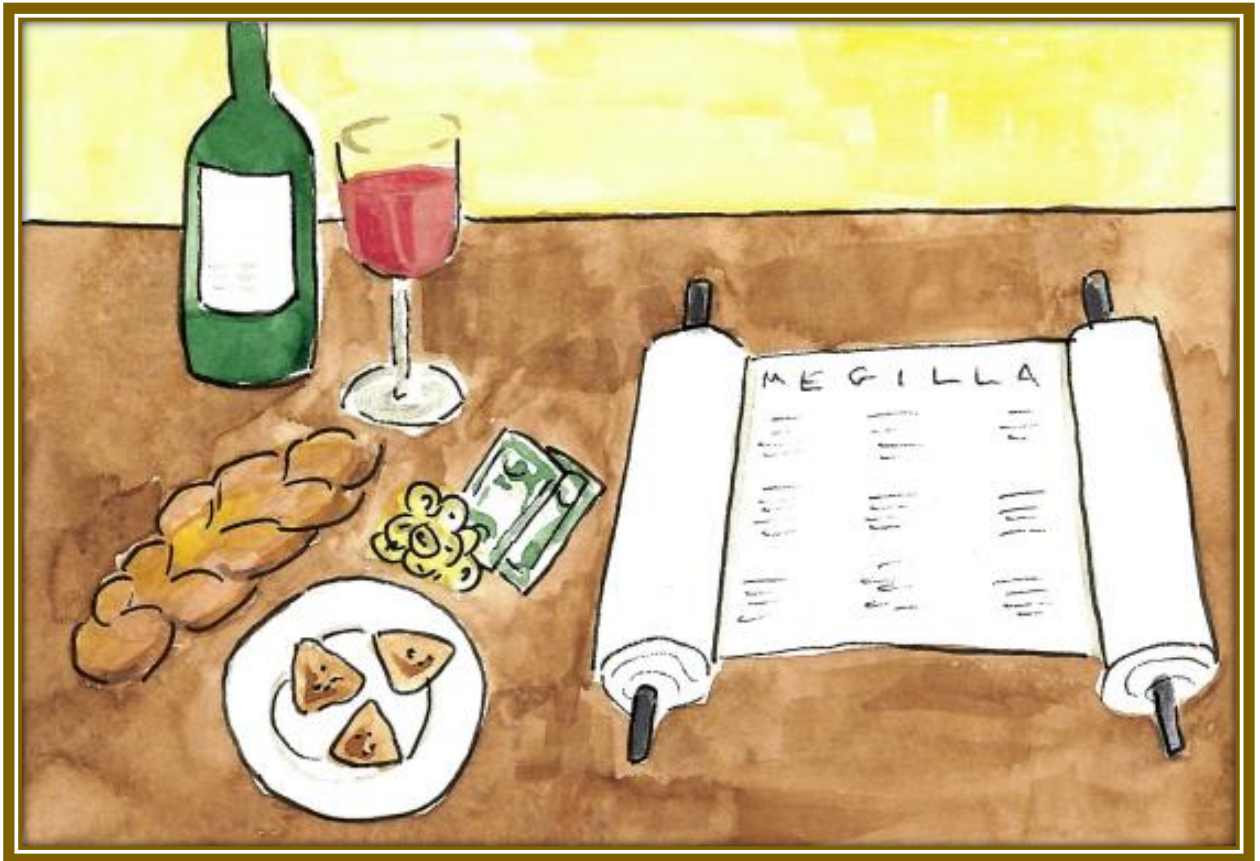
**New messengers were sent,
To share the good news.
Achashverosh gave permission,
To give strength to the Jews.**

**A great battle took place,
And the Jews won the fight.
They were now safe and sound,
The future looked bright.**



**They sang and they danced,
Thanked Hashem for their lives.
They made feasts and gave charity,
So grateful to be alive.**

**Every year on Purim,
There are 4 mitzvot we do.
To remember what happened,
And how Hashem saved the Jews.**



**We eat a special feast,
With challa and wine.
We give money to the poor,
So they can also dine.**

**We read the megillah,
That tells the story of Esther.
We give food presents to others,
So we can celebrate together.**



**Now, I know the reason,
We celebrate today.
All along the story,
Hashem helped in a hidden way.**

**Esther means "I will hide",
Hashem's intervention could not be seen.
If we look back at the story,
Lots of coincidences, it seems.**

**Esther "happened" to be chosen,
And Mordechai "happened" to overhear.
Ahashverosh "randomly" couldn't sleep,
And Haman just "happened" to be near.**



**In our own lives, we can't always see,
How Hashem watches and He cares.
He hides Himself behind the world,
But it's true, He is always there.**

**Throughout our everyday life,
Remember this, if you could!
Everything that happens to us,
Is only for our good.**

HAPPY

PURIM



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