THE SPIRIT OF HAMAN & THE CRY OF MORDECAL

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The Feast of Purim (an event recorded in the Book of Esther) is celebrated by Jewish people and many of their friends throughout the world at this time of the year (March 13-15th 2025) It recalls an event in Jewish history when, in the 5th century BC, a vicious anti-Semitic leader became the prime minister and chief advisor to the Emperor of Persia (Iran). This man, Haman developed a plan to annihilate the entire Jewish population of the Persian Empire, which at time covered the entire Middle East from Turkey to Pakistan and as far south as Egypt.

One Jewish man, Mordecai, together with his cousin, Esther, who was favored to become the Emperor's wife, resisted Haman's plot. Through their bravery, instead of the Jews being destroyed on the day that Haman had selected by "lots" ('Purim' in Hebrew) Haman himself, and his ten sons were hanged. Furthermore, when Esther exposed Haman's plot to the Emperor and reminded him that years before Mordecai had saved his life, he promoted Mordecai and gave him permission to destroy all those who had plotted against them.

God Turned The Tables

Purim, the day chosen by lot for their destruction, became a day of celebrating the defeat of their enemies. Throughout history this day is celebrated with joy by Jewish people everywhere. This divine turnaround not only liberated the Jews from destruction, but it also liberated the Persian Rulers themselves from the control of the antisemitic spirit of Haman. They became supporters of Israel issuing decrees permitting the Jews to return to their land. Today we pray for Israel's liberation from the plots of those who call for its destruction. We also pray for those nations (and their supporters) who call for Israel's destruction that they too will be liberated themselves from this horrible ideology.

The festival of Purim reminds the world that the Jewish people are chosen by God for His purposes. As they have been chosen by God they also become the object of those who hate God. History bears out that the antisemitic **spirit of Haman** is still at work in the world, as time and time again the Jewish people are targeted by

fanatic despots for annihilation.

In the 1940s Hitler devised what he thought was a "final solution" to the Jewish people and systematically plotted their extermination. Though the Nazis and their allies succeeded in killing six million Jewish people (within the most Christian and cultured continent in the world) their plot to destroy the Jewish people was turned around by God and led to the creation of the State of Israel.

Here We Go Again

In Iran today the Ayatollah and his minsters once more call for the annihilation and complete destruction of Israel and of the Israeli people. Their strategy is to obtain a nuclear bomb that will be capable of carrying out their insane plan. Since the Islamic revolution came into power in 1978 it has ceaselessly worked directly and through its funded surrogates (Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon) to harass Israel and call for its removal from the River Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea. Many are unaware that the extreme terrorist group Hamas (the elected government of Gaza) also enjoy the overwhelming support of the Palestinian people. Knowing that Israel must retaliate to defend itself, they spread the false narrative throughout the media that Israel is the aggressor, and that Hamas and Hezbollah are therefore justified in their efforts to destroy Israel.

It is hard to believe that the governments of several "civilized" countries (including Ireland, Spain, Norway & South Africa) believe this lie and support Hamas. The message of Purim is that the evil of antisemitism will not prevail, but it can only be stopped when it is exposed and resisted by the truth. It is important that believers today hear and respond to the Mordecai Cry and expose the worldwide demonic antisemitic spirit of Haman calling once again for Israel's destruction. Many Christians say, "We don't want to take sides or be involved." However, this is no time for spineless neutrality. It is time for us to SPEAK UP, STAND UP AND PRAY, PRAY, PRAY for God's eternal plan for Israel.