

## Apathy and Investment in the Book of Esther

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### Structure of Megillat Esther, R' Yonatan Grossman

- A. Introduction – Achashverosh's kingdom
- B. Two private feasts – one for the princes of the provinces (180 days), and the other, a special feast for the inhabitants of Shushan (seven days)
- C. Esther appears before the king and is chosen as queen
- D. Description of Haman's stature: "...King Achashverosh promoted (*gidal*) Haman, son of Hamedata, the Agagite, and advanced him (*va-yenaseihu*)"
- E. Casting of the lot: War on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Adar
- F. Giving the ring to Haman; Haman's letters; Mordechai rending his clothes; fasting of the Jews
- G. Esther's first feast
- H. Haman's consultation with his associates
- I. THE KING CANNOT SLEEP; EPISODE OF THE HORSE**
- H. Haman's consultation with his associates
- G. Esther's second feast
- F. Giving the ring to Mordechai; Mordechai's letters; dressing of Mordechai in royal garments; feast for the Jews
- E. War on the 13<sup>th</sup> of Adar
- D. Description of the stature of the Jews and of Mordechai: "All the princes of the provinces... were favoring (*menase'im*) the Jews... for the man Mordechai was becoming increasingly powerful (*gadol*)"
- C. Esther comes before the king to request an additional day of battle in Shushan
- B. Two feasts for the Jews: one for the Jews of all the provinces (14<sup>th</sup> of Adar), and the other, a special feast for the Jews of Shushan (15<sup>th</sup> of Adar)
- A. Conclusion – Achashverosh's kingdom

### חודש ניסן

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ז"ד צום	ו"ג	ה"ב	ד"א	י	ט	ח
ז"א	ו	ה"ט	ד"ח	ג"ז	ב"ז צום	א"ו צום
				ככה יעשה לאיש אשר המלך הפץ ביקרו אם מזרע היהודים מרדכי... עודם מדברים... משתה #2 ויתלו את המן על העץ ביום ההוא...	ותלבש אסתר מלכות משתה #1 ויעש העץ בלילה ההוא...	

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